

SANTA MONICA CANYON CIVIC ASSOCIATION

**MINUTES**

**November 1, 2005**

**Attending:** Elizabeth Bradshaw, Bob Bronstein, Mike Deasy, Shirley Fischer, Judy Golden, Joan Graves, Leslie Hope, Babs Lebowsky, Lucinda Mittleman, Steve Richards, Cynthia Winter, George Wolfberg. Elizabeth Zaillian.

**Excused:** Jill Baldauf, Quentin Fleming, George Ghiz, Marilyn Wexler

**Guests:** John Flynn, Timothy Johnson

**Meeting was called to order at 7:06 by President George Wolfberg.**

**Introductions:**

**Minutes October 11, 2005.** The minutes from October 11 were approved.

**Treasurer's report:** No change from October report.

**President's report**

George Wolfberg attended a meeting last Friday of the PCH Task Force, a committee formed several years ago by Senator Sheila Kuehl to encourage all agencies to cooperate to enhance safety on the coast highway. The specific incident precipitating the meeting was the death in August of two bicyclists in Malibu who were struck by a catering truck while cycling in an area where "K" rails had been placed because of construction, forcing them to ride in the traffic lane in an area with less than perfect visibility. A similar danger was reported at the Bel Air Bay Club that George has reported to task force members and also mentioned was a problem created because of a slide in the Tramonto area that George also will follow up.

**Membership:** There are currently 317 paid members

**Proposition "O" Call for Projects**

A thorough discussion of options for local benefit projects to be funded from the \$500M bond issue took place. George Wolfberg and Elizabeth Zaillian attended

a meeting of the Citizen Oversight Advisory Committee (COAC) to learn more about the program. The COAC advises the Administrative Oversight Committee (OAC) and has issued the call for projects to learn of proposals from community groups for capital projects to be funded from the bond issue. A series of workshops will be held throughout the City beginning next Wednesday evening, November 9 in Rancho Park. George reported to the COAC that the LA Times listed our beach as the most polluted along the coastline from Santa Barbara County to the Mexican border. Potential projects to benefit our beach water quality were identified as follows:

- Capital enhancements to the SM Canyon diversion project needed to implement year-around dry-weather diversion including remote sensing and monitoring to assure the improved project is working to maximum efficiency and effectiveness
- Replacement of all septic tanks within 300' of our creeks and channels with connection to the nearest sewer with Prop O funding for necessary extensions of mainline sewers, but not sewer laterals which should be the responsibility of the property owner
- Trash Rack / Diversion at Paul Revere Middle School
- Purchase of state of the art testing equipment if needed
- Installation, if feasible, of wetlands/filtering plantings from the diversion dam to the mean high tide line. This includes removal of the concrete bottom of channel.
- Removal of all concrete bottoms to provide a similar habitat to that proposed for the LA River.

The board also agreed that testing should be performed at various locations to determine where any "hot spots" exist and the components that are causing the pollution and their source. Samples would be taken by trained volunteers and tested in the City's state of the art lab. This idea would be coordinated with local colleges, the City and Heal the Bay. This proposal was presented by Lucinda Mittleman, and seconded by Betty Bradshaw and includes the commitment to spend association funds if necessary. The committee to follow up includes, Lucinda Mittleman, Mike Deasy, Shirley Fischer and Elizabeth Zaillian. Persons interested in attending the Rancho Park briefing should contact George Wolfberg or Elizabeth Zaillian. It was suggested to notify the Association email list of the project funding opportunity.

#### **Status Report from Committees for 2005-2006.**

- **Community Infrastructure**, Steve Richards reported that the committee will next meet on Sunday night at Mike Deasy's house.
- **Community Planning**, Marilyn Wexler was unable to attend the meeting and informed George Wolfberg that she is awaiting a response from Councilman Rosendahl's Planning Deputy Grieg Asher.

**Old business.**

- **ZA Hearing report update – 367 Sumac Lane.** Applicant withdrew variance request after it was opposed by the Pacific Palisades Community Council and the Council office. Applicant has announced he will build within required setbacks and original proposed footprint.
- **Canyon Storm Drain Diversion Project.** The new larger Trash Rack has been installed. Diversion is not currently mandated between October 15 and April 15.
- **Prop. K Project, Rustic Canyon Park.** Council office has met with and is continuing to follow up with City staff to move the project. Promised cost reports have not been delivered. John Flynn noted that additional railing had been delivered to be installed adjacent to the sand play area at the foot of the handicap access ramp, apparently to meet some legal requirement. Mr. Flynn inquired as to the status to revised cost estimates promised to be delivered in October. George Wolfberg is meeting on this and a related matter with Council staff at City Hall on November 2.
- **Canyon Service Station.** Mr. Prentice has received most of his requested approvals including from ZA and November 6 is final date for appeals to be filed.

**New Business.**

- **Undergrounding Power Lines.** Tim Johnson, a resident of Mesa Road announced that he was investigating undergrounding the power lines on Mesa. George stated that Jan Chatten-Brown, a Palisades resident, has done extensive research on this issue and will put Mr. Johnson in touch with her so he will not have to reinvent the wheel.

**Meeting Adjourned at 8:19 pm.**

**Next Board meeting, Tuesday, December 6.**