



SANTA MONICA CANYON CIVIC ASSOCIATION

Board Minutes September 13, 2011

Recorded by: Marilyn Wexler

Attending: Andrew Bergman, Lisa Bittan, Sara Jane Boyers, Bob Bronstein, Quentin Fleming, Leslie Hope, Isabelle Mizrahi, Chris Moore, Sanford Panitch, Reese Relfe, Ron Staake, Marilyn Wexler, George Wolfberg

Excused: Chris Casady, Norman Cowie, Mike Deasy, Dawn Forrester, Judy Golden, Joan Graves, Wesley Hough, Steve Richards, Cynthia Winter, Elizabeth Zaillian

Guests: Jacqueline Koci (Rec and Parks), Lani Cutting, Patricia Dowling, Roger Heaton, Kara Seward (Sen. Fran Pavley's Deputy), Linda Renaud, Doug Suisman

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

Introductions:

Minutes June 14, 2011.

Isabelle Mizrahi moved to approve minutes from the June meeting; seconded by Sara Jane Boyers, and approved.

Treasurer's report: (5/31/11)

Checking	\$ 3,733.90
Savings	20,860.43
Total	<u>\$24,594.33</u>

Membership: Currently there are 322 paid/voting members.

Greetings from Kara Seward. Kara is Fran Pavley's deputy for the Westside, covering the area South of Mulholland Drive. George pointed out the excellent work Kara is doing staffing the PCH Taskforce which coordinates all participating agencies along Route 1 (PCH) from the McClure Tunnel to the Ventura County line. The staff has helped Caltrans set priorities for highway safety and traffic facilitating projects such as the recently completed 300-foot extension of the left-turn pocket for vehicles turning left from the highway onto the California Incline. There will be follow

up to encourage early completion of a traffic improvement at the intersection of West Channel Road and PCH to increase sightlines for traffic turning right (up) Chautauqua Blvd. Kara passed out her business cards. George thanked her for attending and supporting some association objectives.

Committee reports.

- **Eucalyptus Grove.** No new update. Randy Young has been requested to expedite the process for right of entry to work in the grove.
- **Website / blog.** Sara Boyers will be getting together with Mike Deasy.

Other Business.

- **Prop. K Project.** Jackie reports that project completion has been delayed to November 23. The delay is the result of failure of the City to bid out the mandated irrigation for the refurbished ball field and the need for the hydroseeded grass to take root. An arborist has been brought in to inspect the trees near the children's play area. Poles have been delivered for the park road reinforcement and concrete work to repair the uplifted sidewalks. George reminded Jackie of the need to tie in the irrigation for the corner planter area with the automated system.
- **Park tennis courts.** Chris Moore reports that about \$63,000.00 is needed and one half has already been committed privately. The project is planned to include resurfacing and fencing, nets and screening.
- **Incline project.** George reported that the EIR/EA has been released and is under review. A public workshop has been scheduled for October 12 at 5:00 PM in the Community Room of the main Santa Monica Library. Written public comments due by October 28. The document can be found at the Pacific Palisades Community Library, several Santa Monica libraries and at <http://www.smgov.net/Departments/publicworks/contentciveng.aspx?id=9673>
- **PCH sewer work.** The City Engineer has announced that the K-rails should be removed by the end of the month, restoring the blocked lane. Completion of the CIRS project will involve work in the parking lots and some night work in PCH between the Beach Club and the Annenberg Beach House. Each morning the night work will be cleaned away in time for morning commute.
- **Emergency Preparedness Month.** October is Emergency Preparedness Month. The Great California Shake-out is scheduled for October 20 at 10:20 AM.
- **Safe Streets/Sidewalks Needs.** The City has over \$600,000 dedicated safety and sidewalk improvements near the school. We are again applying for a Safe Streets grant to complete work not funded in the current project.
- **Beach Bike Path.** George was at the "Town Hall" meeting with the Mayor last night. He spoke with him about the need to get Federal funds to complete the Beach Bike Path. The Mayor asked his Westside deputy, Joseph Hari, to follow up.
- **Chen/Dolbinski Excavation on Vance/E. Rustic Rd.** Marilyn reported receiving an email regarding this project. It is coming up for review with the Coastal Commission on October 5.

New Business.

- **160 Ocean Way residential project.** Doug Suisman presented a summary of the proposed new home project at 160 Ocean Way (Betty Bradshaw,s former home). It is large: three stories plus roof deck with an elevator. Neighbors have raised concerns about the scope and size of the project. They have come to the Board to ask that we draw up a letter of support for their concerns which would go to the California Coastal Commission. Doug stressed that they are not asking for SMCCA to take a position on the project. The Neighbors, instead, are requesting that the board express its support for application of the recently enacted Los Angeles Baseline Hillside Ordinance (BHO) to all unbuilt projects in the canyon. The BOCA community organization has adopted such a position. The Coastal Commission is meeting November 2, in Oceanside, CA. Motion made by Chris Moore, seconded by Marilyn, unanimously approved. The motion authorizes the drafting of a letter to the Coastal Commission requesting that the Commission use the BHO as a guideline in determining community character when considering otherwise “grandfathered” projects in our canyon. Doug will forward a digital copy of the BOCA letter.
- **Halloween at the Park.** Jackie announced that there are plans for a haunted house and other events at the park for a Halloween event on October 29.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Next Meeting is scheduled for October 11.

