



## SANTA MONICA CANYON CIVIC ASSOCIATION

### Board Minutes

August 12<sup>th</sup>, 2014

**Recorded by:** Rachael Kuhnert

**Attending:** Sharon Kilbride, Rachel Kuhnert, Marilyn Wexler, Cynthia Winter, George Wolfberg, Dawn Forrester, Sara Boyers, Deborah Castleman, Dan Seaver, Sanford Panitch, Julie Silliman

**Excused:** Lisa Bittan, Bob Bronstein, Mike Deasy, Wesley Hough, Marla Mayer, Reese Relfe, Nico Vilgiate

**Absent:** Andrew Bergman, Stone Douglass, Nina Houghton, Isabelle Mizrahi, Lori Todd, David Wang, Ron Staake

**Guest:** Doug Suisman, Steve Boyers

**Meeting was called to order at 7:10 pm by Marilyn Wexler, President.**

#### Introductions

#### Minutes 2014.

Minutes from June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2014. Minutes deemed approved.

#### Treasurer's Report:

Ron Staake submitted report prior to meeting.

Checking	\$12,050.72
Savings	14,964.76
Total	<u>\$27,015.48</u>
Grove balance	<u>\$2,541.79</u>

#### Committee Reports

**CD-11:** No report given.

**Park update:** Feedback was given for the Rustic Nights evening. Suggestions were simple and included a follow-up email reporting success of the fundraising efforts, a Save the Date for next year to be sent out to the Community, and nametags for easier mingling at the event.

Trash overflow in the park is an ongoing issue this summer. A representative of Rec & Parks maintenance will be invited to the next SMCCA meeting to discuss potential solutions.

**CPAB:** No update given.

## **BOCA Report**

**Tunnels:** Thanks were given by BOCA to SMCCA for sharing the cost of painting the two beach tunnels and new signage. Curious readers will notice both BOCA and SMCCA are noted on them. A personal thanks to both Sharon Kilbride and Wes Hough who cleaned the shifting sands and painted the rails. In addition, thanks to Senior Lead Officer Moore who has upped patrols in the tunnels. A decline in transient misuse has been noted.

**Perry's Beach Café** has opened close to the Roosevelt tunnel. They have been proactive in supporting our community efforts to keep the tunnels safe for everyone, and in thanks we ask everyone to frequent them. They are eyes on the beach for us all. Not to mention they make a good cappuccino.

The tunnels are currently overseen by three separate jurisdictions. This bureaucracy makes their maintenance hard to achieve. As such BOCA is lobbying for Beaches and Harbors to take over their maintenance.

## **School Report**

**Canyon School** is back in session. The new principal, Nicole Sheard, has the reins and they are excited for the year.

Traffic and parking around the school has been burdensome to the neighborhood for its opening week, but it is expected to calm in the following week.

The conversion of the school verges to native grass and shrub will occur this winter. This will prevent die-off of the new plantings.

## **PPCC Report**

Steve Boyers represented Cathy Russel for this meeting.

A PARKLET pilot program is currently being debated in the Palisades. This site is one of seven city-wide, where a single parking space has been given over to pedestrian use in the form of seating. The location is 15231 La Cruz.

At the recent PPCC meeting a proposal was backed to create a parallel pedestrian path to separate pedestrians and bicyclists on the beach.

Also, PPCC put in substantive proposals regarding the DWP ground replacement proposal.

## **Grove Update**

Three rainbow eucalyptus trees have been planted. Rec and parks have put in a sprinkler line to keep them happy.

## **Traffic**

A Canyon Traffic Task force has been put in place to deal with the ever-growing burden of Canyon Traffic. Mitigation is the goal – suggestions include LAPD patrolling on bikes, and or more LADOT traffic aides helping with the congestion.

SMCCA was disappointed at the no-show of a promised LADOT traffic person on day one of Canyon School last week. The situation has since been rectified and a traffic aide is now present for both the beginning and end of the school day.

A Mabery/ Ocean Way Crosswalk has been requested. Additionally, a “Neck-Down” from Ocean onto Mabery has also been requested.

The Cal-Incline project has now been delayed until January. While final approval has been received from CalTrans, they now need complete funding for the project. The CIRS project finishes in April, so overlap is minimized. The Moomat Ahiko Closure has also been pushed until late September.

## **Old Business**

**Clubhouse Restoration:** No update given. The committee is talking to the Parks Advisory Board.

**DWP Sylmar ground replacement project:** A 60 day extension has been given to the Public Comment Section of the EIR. It will now close on September 2<sup>nd</sup>. Residents of the Canyon are encouraged to have their say. Please visit the DWP website or email Marilyn Wexler directly ([mcwexler@sc.com](mailto:mcwexler@sc.com)). SMCCA will send a letter of comment to DWP later this week. SMCCA is deeply concerned that the DWP be fully informed and educated about the environmental impact that this project will have on our community and local businesses.

Member of the board, Deborah Castleman, voiced concern over SMCCA’s position. Marilyn Wexler assured Deborah that a position had not yet been taken. SMCCA is asking DWP if they have conducted due diligence in assessing the impact this project will have on the Canyon community as well as the viable alternative options available for routing this grounding wire. It is noted that the Canyon has taken a burden of infrastructure projects benefiting the greater community in the past few years which have had severe negative impacts upon our local community. Our topography makes us vulnerable and it is thus the role of SMCCA to protect our community from being taken advantage of.

Meeting adjourned at 8:40pm

**NEXT MEETING-SEPTEMBER 9, 2014**