



SANTA MONICA CANYON CIVIC ASSOCIATION

Board Minutes January 8, 2019

Recorded by: Melissa Campos

Attending: Steve Boyers, Melissa Campos, Deborah Castleman, Elizabeth Daniels, Amy Hopper, Wesley Hough, Sharon Kilbride, Emile Levisetti, Scot McIntosh, Isabelle Mizrahi, Marise Relfe, Natalie Schaefer, Debbie Warfel, Marilyn Wexler, Cynthia Winter, George Wolfberg

Excused: Lisa Bittan, Bob Doblinski, Nancy Frey

Absent: A.C. Chaudhry, Carrie Frazier, Henry Lichstein, Cathy Russell, Julie Silliman, Ron Staake

Guests: Joan Kramer, Craig Wallentine

Meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm by President Marilyn Wexler.

Minutes November 2018.

Minutes from November were deemed approved.

Treasurer's Report:

Scot McIntosh submitted the following report.

Checking	\$ 6,823.82
Savings	\$ 21,650.65
Total	<u>\$ 28,474.47</u>
Grove balance	<u>\$ 6,006.87</u>
Aircraft noise	<u>\$ 3,044.97</u>
Courtyard	<u>\$ 757.90</u>

CD-11 Report – no updates from Lisa Cahill.

Park Update – no updates from Park Director Paige Barnes.

Boca Report – Sharon Kilbride provided an update. Boca split expenses with SMCCA for cleaning the tunnels as it has in the past. The amount paid by each organization was ~\$1,400 in 2018.

Committee Reports

- **PCH Taskforce** – George Wolfberg said there was no new business to report.
- **Homelessness Task Force** – Sharon Kilbride provided an update. The annual homeless count will take place this year on Wednesday, January 23, 2019 at 8 PM. Volunteers interested in attending will meet up at the Corpus Christi Parish Hall in the Pacific Palisades. The LAPD will be holding a safe parking presentation by Scott Sills to discuss the rise in vehicle dwelling and how people can deal with it safely. Officer Rusty Redican will also receive a commendation from Representative Ted Lieu's office for his work in the community, particularly his support of the PPTFH.

For the latest monthly homeless report, six chronically homeless individuals have been living in the Palisades for over a year that are service resistant, three of which reside in the canyon. The PPTFH has interacted with 75 people passing through, down from 100+ in the previous month. There are two occupied RVs that have been there for over 1 year. There were 2 sites with evidence of fire, the LAPD issues 32 warnings and 1 citation, and cleaned 20 encampments.

- **PPCC Report** – Steve Boyers provided updates from the latest PPCC meeting. They held the annual holiday gala at Gladstone's which Steve did not attend but George Wolfberg did and shared additional details. The event was successful overall, with several guests in attendance including Caruso and the Fire Department. Miriam Schulman was recently appointed the Wildfire Safety Advisor.

Sharon mentioned that the fire roads leading into the Via Bluffs area have sunk in and are not accessible by fire trucks. She reported trying to get in touch with the LA Fire Department but was informed that it was a parks issue. A board member recommended next steps for reaching out to additional city officials to make sure the issue was presented to the relevant parties.

Marilyn Wexler also informed the board that she and Cathy Russell would both serve as alternates for PPCC and each attend every other meeting.

- **School Report** – Scot McIntosh mentioned that the teachers were still planning to strike but that the school sent out an email indicating that attendance affects the funding that the school receives. Teachers are complaining about the ratio of students to teachers. In the meantime, substitute teachers are filling in along with those teachers who are starting out and under a probationary contract.
- **Aircraft noise** – Debbie Warfel provided an update. The SMCCA lost its legal challenge against the FAA. The ruling said the FAA did everything they needed to in their environmental impact report. The aircraft noise committee remains undeterred and is working with local representatives to produce action. The last few months have diverted attention from the air fight given the recent wildfires and holidays, but they have talked with LA Mayor Garcetti and will schedule a meeting to see if the city attorney can get involved.

Steve Boyers asked if the committee had considered alternatives like trying to write something for representatives to add as a rider on a larger bill. Debbie mentioned that that was a great idea and that they will continue to work with local representatives and see if they can draft a document to help.

A board member asked if there were any plans to get more media attention to illuminate the issue, or efforts to get something published in local publications. Debbie said that she and Wes will work on writing something to update the community on the ongoing efforts to resolve aircraft noise.

If you would like to support the ongoing litigation with the FAA, please donate today by mail or online. Please specify that the contribution is for the “No Aircraft Noise Legal Fund” in the check memo line or in the online form’s purpose section.

- Mail a tax-deductible donation to the address below:
SMCCA
P.O. Box 3441,
Santa Monica, CA 90408-3441
- Donate online using PayPal at www.smcca.org

If you are affected by the aircraft noise, register your complaints using any of the following methods:

- Download the LAX app <http://www.lawa.org/laxanc>
- Fill out the complaint form on the LAWA website <http://www.lawa.org>
- Call LAX’s Noise Complaint hotline at 424.64.NOISE

You can also contact the following government representatives and officials directly:

- Congressman Lieu's representative: Joey Apodaca, 323 651-1040, joey.apodaca@mail.house.gov
 - Senator Feinstein's representative: Jeanette Cheng, 310 914-7300, jeanette_cheng@feinstein.senate.gov
 - Senator Harris’ representative: Brent Robinson, 310 231-4494, brent_robinson@harris.senate.gov
 - Senator Harris’ staff assistant: Morgan White, 310 231-4494, morgan_white@harris.senate.gov
 - Councilman Bonin's representative: Geoff Thompson, 310 568-8772, geoffthompson@lacity.org
 - LAWA, Dir. of Planning & Environmental Affairs: Kendrick Okuda, 424-646-7357, kokuda@lawa.org
 - LAWA, Noise Management: Kathryn Pantoja, 424 646-6501, kpantoja@lawa.org
- **School Construction** – George Wolfberg provided an update on the latest events regarding the school construction project. He mentioned that they requested a small group meeting between our board-community group and LAUSD.

Old Business.

- **Fire Alert System.** Elizabeth Daniels provided an update on the research she was conducting regarding a fire alert system. She has initiated the process of talking with experts and companies who operate in this space; she is waiting to hear back from various groups and will provide an update as soon as she has more details.

In relation to the fire alert system, George shared with the board that the city had recently released a new earthquake app called Shake Alert LA. The app is available for download in the app store.

New Business.

- **CERT Training.** Cynthia Winter mentioned that the city is offering CERT training again. The training requires weekly attendance over several weeks. There is a waitlist for the current training but it is offered twice a year. For more information, visit the LAFD website: <https://www.lafd.org/join/volunteer/cert>.
- **Annual Newsletter.** Marilyn Wexler is working on the newsletter and will send to George. Amy Hopper volunteered to ask Vesh about an update about the Park Advisory Board.

Joan Kramer suggested that it would be interesting in researching if someone has the right permits. Marilyn suggested Joan write an article on that for the upcoming site. Joan agreed and George said he could help provide relevant resources on the topic.

Meeting adjourned at 7:55 pm.

Next meeting, February 12th.