

Inter Canyon League
Minutes of the General Meeting
Tuesday, December 3, 2019 at 7:00 PM Silverado Community Center

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by President Sarkissian.

II. General Announcements

Geoff Sarkissian will be singing at Christmas in the Canyons December 14. Decorating for this event will begin Saturday “rain or shine” according to Mary Schreiber.

Anthony Mack has GMRS radios available for \$40, with programming for canyon communications thrown in for free.

III. Discussion

a. Street Lights & Post Office Lights

Pat Buttress from Supervisor Wagner’s office reported that Southern California Edison (SCE) would remove Silverado’s Grundy and Anderson street lights if residents signed the petition that Geoff created. She said that nobody knew that these two lights were on a private road. Although the lights were dark for many years, they recently became active when SCE replaced all Silverado street lights with LED versions, prompting complaints. Melanie Flegal and Paul Dixon began gathering signatures.

As to the new Post Office lights which have also drawn complaints, Pat suggested asking the Post Office about installing a Field Adjustable Module to reduce their brightness.

SCE will not use Field Adjustable Modules on its new street lights, however, because neither SCE nor the County wants to accept liability for accidents if a statewide standard is not followed. Mary Schreiber said that the new “welding” lights are a safety issue because drivers cannot adjust their eyesight as easily as with the previous yellowish lights. Pat mentioned ICL accepting liability as one alternative. But Paul questioned the liability argument, noting that the road from Orange to Silverado has no street lights.

Sherry Meddick wondered why we couldn’t have a dark sky ordinance like some other places around the country have. Pam Ragland asked what recourse we would have if the new lights violated the restrictions specified in the Silverado Modjeska (Sil-Mod) Specific Plan. Pat suggested forwarding the Sil-Mod wording to John King at SCE and asking him about San Diego Gas & Electric’s handling of the Mount Palomar area: could SCE use a similar tariff designation for our canyons?

b. Communications During Blackout

See Canyon Watch.

c. SCE & CPUC & Cox & Verizon

No report.

d. GMRS Radio Rollout---Anthony Mack

See General Announcements and Canyon Watch.

IV. Director Reports

a. President---Geoffrey Sarkissian

No report.

b. Vice President---Dion Sorrell

Work is ongoing to try to send Modjeska's Shakespeare acting troupe on a visit to Poland (Madame Modjeska's birthplace). Dion could use some advice on fundraising.

c. Secretary---Scott Breeden

1. Nominations for ICL Director

ICL voting members will elect two people to the board of directors next month. Geoff nominated Francesca Duff for another term.

The minutes of the November ICL meeting were approved 4-0.

d. Treasurer---Francesca Duff

After distributing about \$11,000 from Country Fair proceeds, ICL should have about \$3,000 left for the year. Joanne Hubble requested \$378 to renew her Constant Contact license (500 to 2500 contacts). This was approved 4-0.

The month's financial report was also approved 4-0.

V. Advisory Committee Reports

a. Santa's Helpers---Pam Rass

One nomination and no donations have been received so far for this holiday neighbors-helping-neighbors program: see the ICL web site for more information. Pam and Francesca are working on automating parts of the process that are still handled manually.

b. History---Melody McWilliams

Fran Williams said that computerizing information continues, and volunteers are welcome.

c. Country Fair: Distribution of Proceeds---Geoffrey Sarkissian

Geoff spoke with committee chair Jane Bove about the distribution amounts. He would like to authorize paying the recommended \$1,500 to Evan Crocker now, but defer deciding on other donations such as to Canyon Watch where he would like to see a proposed budget first. Geoff is also interested in funding a "pet project" where he has some knowledge—improved acoustics at the Modjeska Community Center. This might require \$2,000 to \$4,000 and some volunteer labor.

d. Canyon Watch / Fire Watch---Anthony Mack, Emily Graham

Anthony recommended not relying on cell phones in a power outage. A month ago, a cell company said they were going to "try to get backup," but Anthony urged everyone to get a \$40 GMRS radio, battery, and charger instead. Normally these work up to two miles away from the Silverado or Modjeska repeater antenna. A family license costs \$7 a year, and Anthony will be giving lessons on how to use the radios about every two months.

Canyon Watch will concentrate on providing base station radios for block captains.

Emily reported that the Irvine Ranch Conservancy donated safety vests and signs.

e. Emergency Preparedness---Joanne Hubble

No report.

f. Land Use---Scott Breeden

The county Board of Supervisors will vote December 17 on approving ordinances implementing a new septic tank Local Area Management Program (LAMP).

g. Friends of the Library---Fran Williams

Next year will mark the 50th anniversary of the Silverado Country Fair, where Friends of the Library will have a boutique.

Jennifer Todd is going to be the new children's librarian, and the library has wonderful programs aimed at kids, such as the next nature story time on Thursday, December 19 at 11am. Adults are welcome, too.

h. Communications---Francesca Duff, Dion Sorrell
No report.

VI. New Business

A motion to approve donating \$1,500 to the Evan Crocker fund was approved 4-0. Mary said that donations to the Fire Safe Council could be used to provide signs on private roads to help emergency responders. These are brown and white, installed with permission—some examples are now on Sleepy Hollow and Shadybrook Drive in Silverado.

Pam said that when she asked the Silverado postmaster “If we could get you a different solution [for outside lighting], would you be open to it?” he replied “Yes.” Mary also said that she has been helped in the past by someone from Post Office public relations. Geoff favored working with the local postmaster first.

VII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:16pm.

***** The next ICL meeting will be held January 7, 2020 at the Silverado
Community Center *****