

Inter Canyon League
Minutes of the General Meeting
Tuesday, July 7, 2020 at 7:00 PM Live Streaming

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:10pm by President Sarkissian.

II. General Announcements & Discussion

Ann Yang Hwu of the US Census Bureau said that canyon census response is about 55% now, compared to 70% countywide. She would like to set up a table near the Silverado market or Post Office where people could fill out forms by iPad/iPhone or paper; the date for that was tentatively set as July 31.

III. Special Q&A Session with Orange County Animal Care—Jessica J. Novillo

Jessica, Renee, and Lt. Frager presented guidelines for contacting OCAC, legal rights and remedies concerning dog issues, and OCAC's role during evacuations.

OCAC handled about 19,000 animals last year; the live release rate is 96% for dogs. Offices are closed to walk-in visitors now, but open by appointment for adoptions and rescues; more information is online. Only essential field services are available, but a monthly drive-through pet food pantry will be open July 11, 8-11am; donations are welcome.

OCAC can be called in case of any dog bite, aggressive or stray dogs, animal abuse, or barking dog concerns. Found dogs should be reported if the owner cannot be found after 24 hours. Currently, OCAC will ask whoever found the dog if they can hold it longer.

Dogs should be on a six-foot leash where required. This may not apply in the National Forest, where walking sticks or loud horns are suggested for dealing with problem animals; pepper spray is "not fun" especially when there is backspray.

In an evacuation, residents or first responders can call OCAC to get animals out.

IV. Director Reports

a. President---Geoffrey Sarkissian

No report.

b. Vice President---Dion Sorrell

No report.

c. Secretary---Scott Breeden

Monthly recycling for the first six months of 2020 raised \$223 for ICL.

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

d. Treasurer---Francesca Duff

The only significant expense was about \$4,000 for Canyon Watch radios, batteries, etc.

The financial report was approved 4-0.

V. Advisory Committee Reports

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

Anthony said that Canyon Watch is now preparing for fire season. Ten base station radios are deployed, and Keith Edwards and Joe fixed repeater batteries. Bic Edwards scheduled patrols for July 4. About 25 people called in to the most recent Thursday 7pm radio roll call. "Mack Mutes" were activated during this week's fire; Cle Robinson will get more of those from Anthony to distribute.

Combined Silverado and Modjeska Block Captain meetings will be held this Friday and next Tuesday at 7:30pm. A Block Captain Handbook has been created—the mission statement is “Prepare, watch, communicate.” Francesca Duff now has a radio enabling her to be a Block Captain at the far end of Modjeska in an emergency.

b. Emergency Preparedness---Joanne Hubble

Joanne will meet with representatives of several government agencies to develop a large animal evacuation plan. The plan will specify who to contact in an emergency. Animal Care, the Fire Authority, the Sheriff’s Department, Highway Patrol, and Public Works are expected to provide input at a mid-August meeting, followed by plan implementation. Joanne will report back to ICL about the result.

c. History---Melody McWilliams

No report.

d. Country Fair---Jane Bove

It’s not clear if the Silverado-Modjeska Park and Recreation District’s insurance carrier will cover events of more than 10 or so people. It’s a “waiting game” for now, but the odds of holding a regular fair this year are “not looking good.” The end of August will be too late to start preparations. Jane is open to ideas for an alternative, such as an online event.

e. Land Use---Scott Breeden

No report.

f. Friends of the Library---Fran Williams

Geoff relayed Fran’s reminder that the annual summer reading program is online this year.

VI. New Business

Pam White and Candy Perez asked what could be done about increased traffic and speeding in the canyons. Joanne felt that the amount of traffic couldn’t be changed--it’s a public road. But maybe signs showing how fast people are going would help. She will ask when she meets with county agency representatives.

Geoff suggested forming an ICL committee for traffic issues. Wendy Esteras has videos of traffic. Geoff added that he thought leaving the Maple Springs gate open during the July 4 weekend was "unacceptable."

Would recording license plate numbers would be illegal? Would circulating a petition help? Sheriff deputies respond to violations—are there more violators now, compared to before? Joanne said that a traffic study would be needed to collect data.

Francesca cautioned against unintended consequences: would complaints lead to roads being widened?

Anthony said that law enforcement cannot park on private property without permission, but perhaps owners could invite officers to park there for improved safety/enforcement.

Dion suggested contacting bike and car clubs to spread the word about the concern among residents.

VII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:33pm.

***** The next ICL meeting will be held August 4, 2020 via live streaming *****