

**Inter Canyon League  
Minutes of the General Meeting  
Tuesday, February 2, 2021 at 7:00 PM Live Streaming**

**I. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 7:05pm by President Sarkissian.

**II. General Announcements & Discussion**

**a. General Announcements**

Joanne Hubble announced that Monday will be the last day for putting fire debris into the dumpsters that were dropped off at the Silverado Riviera and in Williams Canyon. Andy Bain said that the Williams dumpsters are full now, and need to be emptied.

**b. Generator Safety**

Chris Bickley gave a presentation on home generator safety. Some recommendations: keep the generator and surrounding area clean, away from heat, spilled fuel, rags and debris; do not store the generator near fuel; match fuel can size to generator size; and avoid cord tripping hazards. Mary Schreiber added that generators do not necessarily have to run 24/7, and perhaps could be only for a refrigerator and freezer. Chris said that he did not even plug in the full freezer in his garage for five days—it was cold enough.

Chris plans on making a video covering generator safety in more depth, which he thinks should be useful for Canyon Watch block captains. YouTube release is also planned.

**III. Following the Fire: Update From the Field**

**a. Canyon Watch---Canyon Watch Committee**

Keith Edwards described his work on getting the Franklin radio repeater operational, which is running better than ever now. He poured foundations for new equipment to improve reception in Mine Tract, and will need to reprogram radios to reach the Mine Tract extender, but he anticipates wrapping up installation of the new gear in about a week.

**b. Emergency Preparedness---Joanne Hubble**

Joanne was glad that she could get requested flood and erosion control materials ordered and delivered before the rain hit. This included 19 palletes of wattles, silt fencing and jute netting, and 536 wheat bales—all gone now. Geoff thanked her for going around and asking different groups what they needed, waiting for the delivery truck, and meeting everyone who arrived to pick up supplies.

Joanne said that removal of debris or mud from private roads is a “tricky situation.” OC Public Works is not supposed to work on private property. They apparently allowed debris to be brought to Black Star Canyon, but that is expected to stop. Things “seem to keep changing.” But Joanne is grateful for any help from the county since she thinks they’ve already gone above and beyond what was required. In the future, we may need to ask volunteer groups for more help with debris removal.

**c. Team Rubicon---Danny Graham**

Team Rubicon was standing by, but was not called out to help during the last rain since there did not appear to be any major complications. Team Rubicon is always ready to help in other ways, though. An example is weed abatement, for people who are elderly or otherwise unable to do the required work themselves.

**d. SMRP---Isabell Kerins**

Isabell said that after the county removes the extra debris dumpsters, Waste Management will allow private homeowners to rent dumpsters for the same discounted price that Waste Management charged the county, for the duration of the current emergency situation.

SMRPD will sponsor one more opportunity for fire victims to choose from donated items at the Silverado Community Center. Anything left over will be offered to the public at a February 27 swap meet, or donated to a thrift store after that.

IRWD and USDA are looking into identifying possible watershed-related projects that could qualify for grant funds.

Isabell also called attention to some light bulbs useful in power outages due to each containing its own 8-hour power source. She said that they cost about \$25 for three.

**e. Canyon Regrowth---Bret Green**

No report.

**f. Fire Safe Council---Mary Schreiber**

Applications for tree removal are still being accepted, but things are moving a bit slowly now partly because of the weather and partly due to arborist availability.

**g. Wildcat and Other Neighborhoods---Yolanda and Chay**

Yolanda Nowicki said that six block captains were chosen for the fifty residences, and emergency contact lists were created along with associated Nextdoor and Facebook groups. Twenty-one GMRS radios were sold, along with reflective tape, megaphones and air horns.

Chay Peterson said that getting barricades up was “a feat” since upper Wildcat residents (or cars) evacuated before the expected big rain. In the end, they were “faring well, so far.”

**h. Williams Canyon**

Andy Bain held a community meeting at his house, and people with heavy equipment organized to clear the road. Although the last storm did not generate debris flow, a large catch basin was dug where mud had collected during the previous storm.

**i. ICL---Geoffrey Sarkissian**

Geoff described the Bond Fire relief application process, sharing the application form via Zoom chat. Grants to individuals will be for fire damage, based on need, with lost residences prioritized. Any mud and erosion control aid will be disbursed on a community-wide basis, as available.

Applications will be processed by a Distributions Advisory Committee consisting of Andy Bain, Tom Barnett, Scott Breeden and Phil McWilliams, with a goal of mid-March for sending out checks. To comply with IRS regulations, grant recipients and amounts will be public information.

Chay Peterson suggested that anyone interested in purchasing erosion control material themselves contact OC Sandbagger, where Jason will give 20% off to canyonites.

Jenny Scott recommended that anyone with California FAIR Plan insurance contact them directly about submitting a claim, especially if affected by a mandatory evacuation order.

**IV. Fund Raising, Distribution and Treasurer’s Report---Francesca Duff**

**a. Treasurer’s report**

Activity this month included allocating donations of \$50,000 for Bond Fire reconstruction, \$5,000 for repeater expenses, and \$6,566.75 for erosion control materials (paid for by ICL, contrary to what was stated in Supervisor Wagner’s town hall meeting). Francesca

would like to rebuild the fire relief fund for next time, but we have not had a fundraiser in a long time. If we can't hold an event this year, she'd like people to brainstorm ideas for raising funds without having a crowd at a community center.

The financial report was approved 4-0.

#### V. **Secretary---Scott Breeden**

##### a. Resolutions passed during special ICL Board Meetings

Scott summarized the two resolutions adopted by the ICL board at three special meetings in January. "A Resolution Approving the Procedures for Grants Distribution" cites ICL's community benefit purpose and available funds, and establishes a Distributions Advisory Committee (DAC) to recommend grants for residents who submit fire relief applications. "A Resolution Establishing a Distributions Advisory Committee" cites qualifications for DAC membership, and names the four people mentioned earlier by Geoff as members.

##### b. Minutes

Francesca asked that the draft minutes of the regular January meeting show that ICL received donations of \$45,000 for home reconstruction and \$5,000 for rebuilding the repeater in 2020, and that ICL received another \$5,000 donation for home reconstruction in 2021.

The minutes of the regular meeting, as amended, plus those of the three January special meetings were approved 4-0.

#### VI. **Vice President---Dion Sorrell**

Dion is working with UCI theater professor and Silverado resident Annie Loui on adapting Mme. Helena Modjeska's fairy tale book as a dance piece. UCI owns the book, which was hand written and illustrated by Mme. Modjeska. The adaptation is a video featuring live dancers, animation and narration, and will be released on YouTube, Vimeo and elsewhere when completed in April. A full scale play is envisioned for the future.

Dion is also working on a certificate in Emergency Management at UCI, which includes consideration of "social capital" as a factor in community resilience after a disaster. A video featuring Mme. Modjeska's work can be viewed as improving the community of Modjeska's resiliency by increasing the community's visibility to the outside world.

#### VII. **Advisory Committee Reports**

##### a. **Friends of the Library---Fran Williams**

No report.

#### VIII. **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30pm.

**\*\*\* The next ICL meeting will be held March 2, 2021 via live streaming \*\*\***