

Inter Canyon League
Minutes of the General Meeting
Tuesday, August 3, 2021 at 7:00 PM Live Streaming

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:03pm by President Sarkissian.

II. General Announcements & Discussion

a. Zoom vs. Live Meetings—Geoffrey Sarkissian

Geoff anticipates another month or so of Zoom meetings.

b. General Community Announcements

Bruce Newell will lead this year's "Fire and Ice" community meeting next Sunday, August 18, which will provide tips on how to prepare for wildfires. Vendors will be there, along with Dion Sorrell to live stream the event.

Christmas in the Canyons is set for December 11.

c. SCE: SUPPORT FOR A HARD LINE—Kelly Lee, Local Public Affairs.

Southern California Edison (SCE) is seeking approval from the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) and us for a rate increase to finish installing fully jacketed (insulated) power lines to reduce risk of sparking wildfires. SCE estimates that this will reduce Public Safety Power Shutoffs (PSPSs) by 47%, but they don't have the funds to do this by the end of August, traditionally just before the start of fire season.

The proposed rate increase is expected to raise customer bills about two dollars a month.

Since the new power lines are heavier than the current (ha-ha) ones, some poles will be replaced as well. Undergrounding power lines would be eight times more expensive.

Geoff moved that the ICL write a letter to the PUC supporting SCE's rate increase request.

This passed 3-0, Scott abstaining.

d. Non-Permitted Grading: What's to be done?

A recent grading operation in Williams Canyon led to dirt being dumped over the edge into Silverado's Wildcat Canyon. Wildcat residents, victims of debris flows from the Bond Fire, were alarmed that this additional "moon dust" could make the current situation even worse by washing through their property, through Hazel Bell, and into Silverado Creek.

Bear Bridges reported that it was his understanding that two county enforcement officers were working on cases opened for two parcels involved. Bear estimated that around 650 yards of earth were moved. No grading permit was issued for at least one of the parcels. Josh Malpass said that Fish and Wildlife was coming Friday. Bear also contacted the Regional Water Board about the threat to the creeks, but hasn't heard back. He has some "before" photos and an online map showing property boundaries in the disturbed area.

Bear, Josh, and Keith Edwards said that it was worth keeping an eye on the location, and recommended contacting them first about any further incidents there, since they are there a lot. Geoff suggested making other county offices, such as that of the Supervisors, aware of the situation, and Joanne Hubble said that she would call.

e. Canyon Cleanup—Steve Kerrigan et al

On September 18, 9am to 3pm, Silverado's Riviera will be the location for dropping off green waste, e-waste, mattresses, household hazardous waste, and "all but nuclear waste." The

Fire Safe Council will have a chipper. OC Coastkeepers will organize trash pickup volunteers. Isabell Kerins said that dumpsters will also be in Williams Canyon.

f. Emergency Preparedness---Joanne Hubble

Joanne said that she is “half way there” as far as getting backup power for telephone service.

g. Anderson Way creek cleanout—Rich Pfeiffer

No report.

h. Country Fair—Jane Bove

Jane said that this year’s fair will be more open, like the summer concerts. Two food booths are signed up so far. Isabell has arranged for liquor donations. Cody Mileham will set up the jail. Volunteers are welcome at Sunday’s 10am meeting next to the Silverado market. Volunteers will be needed for the admission booth, beer booth, and parking. Joanne wondered if Canyon Watch could handle parking again.

i. Canyon Watch Update—Bic & Keith Edwards

Radio interference has been noticed recently, mostly from 6 to 12. Not interfering, though, were the 30 to 60 people who have been participating in the regular Thursday radio call-ins. Francesca Duff said that Pam White enjoyed taking a turn as Net Control.

j. Friends of the Library—Fran Williams

The summer reading program is under way.

III. Director Reports

a. President—Geoffrey Sarkissian

In keeping with ICL’s mission to protect the canyons’ unique way of life, it joined the Green Vision Coalition in signing a letter to the California Natural Resource Agency asking that it consider various undeveloped Orange County land parcels for eligibility in a statewide conservation program (as yet unfunded).

b. Vice President—Dion Sorrell

No report.

c. Secretary—Scott Breeden

The minutes of the July meeting were approved 4-0.

d. Treasurer—Francesca Duff

Income included recycling, and expenses included a post office box bill. A \$9,500 bill for radio equipment and licenses is coming up. The July financial report was approved 4-0.

The Environmental Nature Center finally got the keys to Tucker and is working on the bathrooms. Volunteers will continue feeding the birds through August.

ICL received a \$10,000 grant from SCE for emergency medical aid supplies and training (but not radios). One distribution possibility might be through block captains.

IV. New Business

Rusty Morris would especially like someone from Modjeska or Williams Canyon to consider running for the Silverado Modjeska Recreation and Park District Board of Directors next year when one of the current directors leaves at the end of his term.

V. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:13pm.

***** The next ICL meeting will be held September 7, 2021 via live streaming *****