

Inter Canyon League
Minutes of the General Meeting
Tuesday, March 5, 2024 at 7:00 PM Live Streaming

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:04pm by President Sarkissian.

II. General Announcements

From the ICL History Committee’s archives, Scott Breeden shared two photos from the 1970 county fire department annual report which showed the “new” Modjeska and Silverado fire stations. The previous Modjeska station is now the community center, and the previous Silverado station was destroyed by a mudslide in the 1969 flood.

Ted Wright reported that the Silverado Modjeska Recreation and Park District (SMRPD) has hired Alexa Dixson-Griggs of Silverado as its General Manager, and that over 25 people showed up despite rain for a district-sponsored hike with Joel Robinson on Sunday.

III. Save our Cougars—Julie Williams

Julie reported that the Environmental Nature Center (ENC) will present “Coexisting with Cougars” talks at the Tucker Wildlife Preserve on March 19 and at the ENC Newport Beach site on March 21. Cost is \$5 per person.

Linda May will also feature “Save Green Space/Save the Cougars” at the March 9 Great American Write-In.

Joel Robinson sponsored a memorial for Uno, the mountain lion killed recently on Santiago Canyon Road. One way to reduce lion fatalities there might be to construct an overpass for the cats.

IV. Country Fair 2024—Gerin Klein & Geoffrey Sarkissian

This year’s Silverado fair will take place October 12 and 13, with Gerin taking over from Jane Bove. Geoff would like to focus more on family/kid entertainment earlier in the day—one suggestion was to have an “open mike” activity for kids, reportedly popular elsewhere.

Work on lining up well-known bands for later has also begun, as has seeking donated beer.

V. Canyon Watch & Safety Issues

Joanne Hubble reported that installation of rumble strips on Modjeska Grade Road to discourage speeding should be completed by Thursday. But one strip has already been destroyed by burnouts. OC Public Works will “wait and see” how this pilot program goes.

Bic Edwards has noticed an increase in racing in Silverado, and burnouts in the Maple Springs parking lot. To report dangerous situations, call 911 and alert Canyon Watch.

VI. Dogs on the Loose—Rich Pfeiffer

Due to aggressive behavior by someone with a dog on the Irvine Mesa, the landowner has put up a gate to bar anyone from hiking there anymore. Rich also reported dog bites in his neighborhood. What to do? The recommended action is to report incidents to OC Animal Care.

VII. GSOB and Other Invasive Pests—Mike Boeck

Francesca Duff said that March and April are when gold spotted oak borer (GSOB) larvae emerge from infected oak trees. When they do, the bugs make tiny D-shaped holes in the bark. Look for those, especially if you have oaks near the Cleveland National Forest.

Francesca recommended annual inspection and treatment, if necessary—getting rid of GSOBs locally will be a years-long project.

For more information about detecting and eliminating these pests, see the ad in the Foothills Sentry. If neighbors pool money to spray their trees, the cost can be reduced.

VIII. Friends of the Library—Andrew Tonkovich

Librarian Marisa Saam reported that the library is gearing up for its summer reading program, to include locally-produced as well as paid presentations.

IX. Director Reports

a. President—Geoffrey Sarkissian

No report.

b. Vice President—Celeste Veerkamp

No report (absents).

c. Secretary—Scott Breeden

The minutes of the February meeting were approved 3-0.

d. Treasurer—Francesca Duff

The chipper grant is finished. Friends of the Library spent some of its money on a wildlife presentation. ICL will probably need to spend some general fund money on Canyon Watch.

The February financial report was approved 3-0.

X. New Business

Geoff and Joanne spoke at the recent California Public Utilities Commission meeting in Lake Forest, asking that AT&T not be allowed to abandon its copper wire (traditional) phone system.

XI. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40pm.

***** The next ICL meeting will be held April 2, 2024 *****