

SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY

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MINUTES OF THE JOINT MEETING
of the
SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY
and the
SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY
ADVISORY COMMITTEE

April 4, 2005

1. Call to order.

The joint meeting of the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy Advisory Committee was called to order by Conservancy Chairperson Elizabeth Cheadle at 7:43 p.m. on April 4, 2005 at Temescal Gateway Park, 15601 Sunset Boulevard, Pacific Palisades, CA 90272.

The Chief Deputy Director swore in Bryan Cash the new Designee of Secretary for Resources, Resources Agency of California.

2. Roll Call of Conservancy.

The Conservancy roll was called and the following members were present: Bryan Cash, Ed Begley, Linda Parks, Hal Ross, Ron Schafer, Jerome Daniel, and Chairperson Elizabeth Cheadle. Quorum present. The following member was absent: Woody Smeck and Vice-Chairperson Jonathan Zasloff.

3. Roll Call of Advisory Committee.

The Advisory Committee roll was called and the following members were present: Claudia Bill De La Pena, Caroline Brown, Ed Corridori, Lesley Devine, Rick Gould, Alan Kishbaugh, George Lange, Roseann Mikos, Barry Read, Paul Rockenstein, Bruce Saito, Dennis Seider, and Garen Yegparian. Quorum present. The following members were absent: Dave Brown, Heinz Eilersieck, Michael Hurley, Mark Johnson, Linda Palmer, Lorraine Slattery, Nancy Stephens, Marc Stirdivant, Liane Weintraub, Vice-Chair Anthony Portantino, and Chair Don Robinson. The following members were present subsequent to roll call: Michael Cacciotti, and Timothy Wendler.

A vote of the Advisory Committee was taken to elect George Lange to Chair pro-tem in the absence of Chairperson Don Robinson.

Staff present: Joseph T. Edmiston, FAICP, Executive Director; Rorie Skei, Chief Deputy Director; Laurie Collins, Chief Staff Counsel; Reva Feldman, Assistant Financial Officer; Paul Edelman, Deputy Director for Natural Resources and Planning; Chuck Arnold, Project Analyst II; Cara McLane, Deputy Chief of Natural Resources and Planning; Walt Young, Chief Ranger, and Tracy Dockery, Staff Services Manager.

4. Introduction of Legislative Participants or their staff.

The following legislative participants were present: Laura Plotkin, and Louise Rishoff. The following legislative participants were absent: Ernestine Moore, Gloria Romero, George Magallanes, and Chi Mui.

5. Approval of Minutes.

The minutes of February 28, 2005 were submitted for review.

The minutes of February 28, 2005 were adopted as submitted.

6. Reports.

The Conservancy and the Advisory Committee received verbal reports from Elizabeth Cheadle, Chairperson; Michael Berger, Chairperson of the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority; Paul Edelman, Deputy Director for Natural Resources and Planning, and Joseph Edmiston, Executive Director.

7. Special recognition of Lesley Devine.

The Executive Director presented Ms. Devine with two commemorative plaques for her contribution to the organization and made comments.

Comments were made by Ms. Devine.

8. Special recognition of Reva Feldman.

The Executive Director presented Ms. Feldman with two commemorative plaques for her contribution to the organization and made comments.

Comments were made by Ms. Feldman.

9. Special recognition of Chuck Arnold.

The Executive Director presented Mr. Arnold with two commemorative plaques for his contribution to the organization and made comments.

Comments were made by Mr. Arnold.

10. Presentation of staff photo awards.

The Executive Director shared the photos submitted by staff and rewarded the winners of the contest.

11. Members comments on matters not on the agenda.

The following members made comments on matters not on the agenda: Linda Parks; Jerome Daniel, and Timothy Wendler.

12. Comments from members of the public on items not on the agenda and public testimony on all agenda items.

The following persons addressed the Conservancy:

Chris Olsen, representing Councilmember Wendy Gruehl, on item 22.
Ave Butensky, representing himself, on item 22..
Ron Recasner, representing himself, on item 22.
Terri Binder Koschitzki, representing Conserve Our Rural Environment, on item 18.
Chip Bolcik,, representing Lynn Ranch Property Owners Association, on item 18.
Lloyd Thaxton, representing Briarcliff Improvement Association, on item 22.
Dorothy Clemen, representing Conserve Our Rural Environment, on item 18.
Clancy Brown, representing himself, on item 22.
Beth Dymond, representing Studio City Residents Association, on item 22.
Tiffany Petroc, representing Studio City Residents Association, on item 22.
John Budny, representing himself, on item 18.
Ethel Haydon, representing herself, on Penny Road access.
Laura Bateman, representing herself, on Penny Road access.
MaryAnne Cradeur, representing herself, on item 18.
Bob Hollingsworth, representing himself, on item 18.
Bill Buerge, representing himself, on Penny Road access.

13. Consideration of resolution establishing procedure for setting time limits for Advisory Committee and Conservancy deliberation.

Comments were made by the Chair, the Executive Director, and Mr. Yegparian.

Comments were made by the Chair, Mr. Read, Ms. Devine, Mr. Lange, and Ms. Bill De La Pena.

Comments were made by the Chair and Ms. Ms. Parks.

This resolution for this item was not adopted.

14. Consent Calendar:

- (a) Consideration of resolution granting a Public Access Easement Deed to the City of Los Angeles for APN 5442-017-902 for the Los Angeles River Bikeway.**
- (b) Consideration of resolution authorizing a comment letter to the City of Thousand Oaks on the Draft Environmental Impact Report for the Mont Clef Ridge project (SCH# 2004041074).**
- (c) Consideration of resolution authorizing a comment letter to the City of Los Angeles on the Final Environmental Impact Report for the Mountaingate project, Brentwood.**
- (d) Consideration of resolution authorizing a comment letter to the City of Calabasas on the Draft Environmental Impact Report for Malibu Valley Inn & Spa project, Malibu Creek watershed.***

At the request of Ms. Devine, item 14(d) was pulled from the consent calendar.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Devine, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution Nos. 05-019, 05-020, and 0-021.

Comments were made by Ms. Devine.

Comments were made by the Executive Director.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, Resolution Nos 05-019, 05-020, and 0-021 were unanimously adopted.

14. (d) Consideration of resolution authorizing a comment letter to the City of Calabasas on the Draft Environmental Impact Report for Malibu Valley Inn & Spa project, Malibu Creek watershed.

Comments were made by Ms. Devine and the Executive Director, and the Deputy Director of Natural Resources and Planning.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Corridori, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 05-022.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Parks, duly seconded, Resolution No. 05-022 was unanimously adopted.

15. Presentation by The Nature of Wildworks.

The Conservancy received an oral report from Molly Hogan.

16. Presentation by the U.S. Geological Survey on the geological, hydrological, and biological issues related to the proposed development of a park at the confluence of the Los Angeles River and the Arroyo Seco.

The Conservancy received an oral report from Eric G. Reichard.

17. Consideration of resolution authorizing amendments to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority FY 2004/2005 budget.

The Conservancy received an oral report from the Assistant Financial Officer.

Questions were propounded by the Chair.

Comments were made by the Assistant Financial Officer.

Questions were propounded by the Executive Director.

Comments were made by the Assistant Financial Officer.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Seider, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 05-023.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Schafer, duly seconded, Resolution No. 05-023 was unanimously adopted.

- 18. Consideration of resolution authorizing adding the following projects in Los Angeles and Ventura counties to the Conservancy Acquisition Workprogram: Arroyo Conejo-Rockwell; Las Lajas Creek Channel Daylighting and Restoration; Arroyo Simi-Industrial Park Restoration; Moorpark-Hidden Creek-Lower; 118 Freeway-Los Angeles Avenue Connector; Browns Canyon-118 Freeway South; Plummer-Variel Restoration; Plummer-Topanga (sr-27) Restoration; Dry Canyon Creek-101 Freeway Restoration; Aliso Wash-Los Angeles River Confluence Restoration; Calabasas Creek-Fallbrook Restoration; Canoga Avenue-MTA right of way; Bell Creek-Lederer Ranch; Fryman Canyon-8701-8715 Mulholland; Vista Hermosa Park Restoration, and Pacoima Wash Greenway.**

Comments were made by the Deputy Director of Natural Resources and Planning.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Mikos, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 05-024.

Questions were propounded by Ms. Mikos.

Comments were made by Mr. Yegparian.

Comments were made by the Deputy Director of Natural Resources and Planning.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Begley, duly seconded, Resolution No. 05-024 was unanimously adopted.

- 19. Consideration of resolution authorizing adding the following projects in Los Angeles and Ventura counties to the Conservancy Improvement Project Workprogram: Conejo Creek-North Fork-Wildflower Park De-channelization; Las Lajas Creek Channel Daylighting and Restoration; Arroyo Simi-Industrial Park Restoration; Aliso Wash-**

Limekiln Creek Restoration; Plummer-Variel Restoration; Plummer-topanga (sr-27) Restoration; Dry Canyon Creek-101 Freeway Restoration; Aliso Wash-Los Angeles River Confluence Restoration; Calabasas Creek-Fallbrook Restoration; Canoga Avenue-MTA right of way; Vista Hermosa Park Restoration, and Pacoima Wash Greenway.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Kishbaugh, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 05-025.

Comments were made by Mr. Yegparian.

Comments were made by the Executive Director.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, Resolution No. 05-025 was unanimously adopted.

- 20. Consideration of resolution authorizing adding the following projects to the conservancy's Workprogram fo the Safe Neighborhood Parks Act of 1996 (Proposition A): Elysian Valley-Masrsh Street Park; Browns Canyon-118 FreewaySouth; Aliso Wash-Los Angeles River Confluence Restoration; Aliso Wash-Limekiln Creek Restoration; Plummer-Variel Restoration, and Pacoima Wash Greenway.**

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Brown, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 05-026.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, Resolution No. 05-026 was unanimously adopted.

- 21. Consideration of resolution authorizing entering into agreements with the City of Los Angeles, the County of Los Angeles, the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority, and other parties to participate in an Integrated Regional Water Management Group for the Los Angeles River, Santa Monica Bay, Ballona Creek and Dominguez Channel Watersheds.**

Comments were made by the Deputy Director of Natural Resources and Planning and the Executive Director.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Mikos, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 05-027.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Daniel.

Comments were made by Mr. Edelman, Deputy Director of Natural Resources and Planning.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, Resolution No. 05-027 was unanimously adopted.

22. Consideration of amendment to Parking Fee Policy regarding Wilacre Park.

Comments were made by the Executive Director.

Comments were made by Mr. Young, Chief Ranger.

Questions were propounded by Ms. Mikos.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Seider.

Comments were made by Mr. Schafer.

Comments were made by Mr. Gould.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Yegparian.

Comments were made by the Executive Director.

Questions were propounded by Ms. Brown.

Comments were made by Mr. Corridori.

Comments were made by Ms. Parks.

Comments were made by the Executive Director.

Questions were propounded by Ms. Mikos.

Comments were made by Mr. Begley, the Chair, Ms. Parks, and the Executive Director.

Comments were made by Ms. Mikos.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Yegparian, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended withdrawal of this item.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Parks, duly seconded, this resolution was unanimously withdrawn.

- 23. Closed Session: (The Conservancy may hold a closed session on the following items pursuant to Section 11126 Subdivision (c)(7)(A), Section 11126.3(a), and Section 11126 Subdivision (e) of the Government Code. Confidential memoranda related to the following items may be considered during such closed session discussions.) Discussion and possible action regarding pending and/or potential litigation: Potential litigation – *Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority: Nervik v. State of California; Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority v. Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy et al. Ramirez Canyon Preservation Fund v. California Coastal Commission, and Conference with legal counsel - potential litigation.***

Closed session was called to order at 11:09 pm.

Open session was re-opened at 11:27 pm.

The Chair reported that the Board had met in closed session to discuss *Nervik v. State of California*. The Board took action during closed session.

- 24. Announcement of future meetings and adjournment.**

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The Chair announced that the next meeting would be scheduled and noticed in the future. There being no further business, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 11:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Approved:

JOSEPH T. EDMISTON, FAICP
Executive Director

ELIZABETH CHEADLE
Chairperson