

**SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY**

THE LOS ANGELES RIVER CENTER AND GARDENS  
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MINUTES OF THE JOINT MEETING  
*of the*  
SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY  
*and the*  
SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE

February 25, 2002

**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 Chair Michael Berger at 7:36 p.m. on February 25, 2002 at Franklin Canyon Park, Sooky Goldman Nature Center, 2600 Franklin Canyon Drive, Beverly Hills, California.

**2. Administration of oath of office to Advisory Committee Member Lee T. Bycel.**

The Executive Director administered the oath of office to Mr. Bycel as appointee of the speaker of the assembly.

**3. Roll Call of Conservancy.**

The Conservancy roll was called and the following members were present: Elizabeth Cheadle, Russell Guiney, Hal Ross, Woody Smeck, Steven Treanor, Jonathan Zasloff, Jerome C. Daniel, Vice Chair, and Michael Berger, Chair. The following member was absent: Steve Horn. Quorum present. The following member was present subsequent to roll call: David Allgood.

The following Legislative member designees were present: Mary Sue Maurer and Scott Svonkin. The following Legislative member designees were absent: Susan McEntire, and Michael Miiller. The following member was present subsequent to roll call: Kevin Rudiger.

**4. Roll Call of Advisory Committee.**

The Advisory Committee roll was called and the following members were present: Dave Brown, Ed Corridori, Lesley Devine, Terre Hirsch, Barry Read, Roseann Mikos, Linda Palmer, Anthony Portantino, Richard Gould, Don Robinson, Paul Rockenstein, Lee Bycel, Thomas Seifert, Nancy Steele, Marc Stirdivant, Kenneth Warner, George Lange, Vice Chair, and Alan Kishbaugh, Chair. Quorum present. The following members were absent: Colleen Briner-Schmidt, Bruce Crow, and Timothy Wendler. The following members were present subsequent to roll call: Michael Cacciotti, Mark Johnson, and Nancy Stephens.

Staff present: Joseph T. Edmiston, AICP, Executive Director; Rorie Skei, Acting Chief Deputy Director; Reva Concoff, Deputy Executive Officer and Chief Operations Officer; Paul Edelman, Deputy Director of Natural Resources and Planning; Walt Young, Chief Ranger; Elsa Luna, Chief of Finance and Administration; Laurie Collins, Chief Counsel; Katherine Chew, Staff Counsel; Juliet Chung, Associate Governmental Program Analyst; Jan Wolterstorff, Public Outreach Coordinator and Project Analyst; Tracy Dockery, Staff Services Manager, and James Yeramian, Board Secretary.

Representing the Office of the Attorney General was Nedra Austin, Deputy Attorney General.

**5. Election of Conservancy Officers.**

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, Michael Berger was nominated as Chairperson.

On motion of Ms. Cheadle, duly seconded, nominations for Chairperson were closed.

On motion of Mr. Berger, duly seconded, Jerry Daniel was nominated as Vice Chairperson.

On motion of Mr. Berger, duly seconded, nominations for Vice Chairperson were closed.

Mr. Berger and Mr. Daniel were elected respectively as Chairperson and Vice Chairperson.

**6. Election of Advisory Committee Officers.**

On motion of Mr. Kishbaugh, duly seconded, George Lange was nominated as Chairperson.

On motion of Ms. Palmer, duly seconded, nominations for Chairperson were closed.

On motion of Ms. Devine, duly seconded, Dave Brown was nominated as Vice Chairperson.

On motion of Mr. Kishbaugh, duly seconded, Don Robinson was nominated as Vice Chairperson.

On motion of Mr. Kishbaugh, duly seconded, nominations for Vice Chairperson were closed.

A role-call vote was administered. Mr. Robinson received 11 votes, Mr. Brown received 4 votes, and there were 3 abstentions.

Mr. Lange and Mr. Robinson were elected respectively as Chairperson and Vice Chairperson of the Advisory Committee.

[Mr. Rudiger, Mr. Allgood, and Mr. Cacciotti arrived at 7:40 p.m.]

**7. Minutes.**

The minutes of January 28, 2002 were submitted for approval.

The minutes of January 28, 2002 were approved as submitted.

**8. Reports.**

The Conservancy received a verbal report from the Executive Director.

Comments were made by the Chair.

The Conservancy received a verbal report from Mr. Edelman.

Questions were propounded by Messrs. Brown and Svonkin, and Ms. Devine.

Comments were made by the Executive Director.

[Mr. Johnson arrived at 7:47 p.m.]

The Conservancy received a verbal report from Mr. Young.

Comments were made by Messrs. Daniel and Kishbaugh.

Questions were propounded by the Chair.

**9. 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:

Mr. Don Mullally, representing the North Valley Coalition, on item 10(e).

Mr. Ted Steinberg, member of the public, on Deep Canyon Overlook.

**10. Consent Calendar:**

- (a) **Consideration of resolution recommending that the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority apply for two California Heritage grants from the Office of Historic Preservation for funding restoration and repair activities to**

**the historic structure of Mentryville, and developing interpretive displays, signs, and publications to convey the historic significance of Mentryville to the visiting public.**

- (b) Consideration of resolution recommending that the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Healthy Start program, for programs and services at the Los Angeles River Center and Gardens.**
- (c) Consideration of resolution recommending that the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority accept an open space conservation easement for portions of APNs 615-0-130-220, 230, and 615-0-160-400, 420 in Simi Valley, Ventura County, from Sand Canyon Partnership, a California General Partnership.**
- (d) Consideration of resolution authorizing the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority to augment the FY 2001-2002 budget by the amount derived from the Benedict Canyon property (APNs 4383-001-021, 022,023, 024, 025; 4383-002-001,004, 005; 4383-004-019, 021, 023, 025; 4384-007-025, 034; 4384-010-010, 011; 4384-011-001, and 4382-014-003), Los Angeles, and appropriating all income derived from the property for the operation and maintenance of the subject property.**
- (e) Consideration of resolution recommending that the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority convey a trail easement to the County of Los Angeles on and over East Canyon, Santa Clarita Woodlands, Los Angeles County.**
- (f) Consideration of resolution recommending that the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority accept an offer to dedicate approximately 2.5 acres (APN 4453-026-039), near Mildas Drive and Schueren Road, unincorporated Los Angeles County, pursuant to a California Coastal Commission permit.**
- (g) Consideration of resolution recommending that the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority accept a donation of approximately 0.1 acre (APN 4461-010-026), Latigo Canyon Road, unincorporated Los Angeles County.**
- (h) Consideration of resolution authorizing a comment letter to the City of Los Angeles on a proposed subdivision of 18.4 acres into four lots (Parcel Map No. AA-2001-3944-PMLA), located at the end of Mary Bell Avenue, south of Hansen Dam, Shadow Hills.**

- (i) **Consideration of resolution authorizing a comment letter to the City of Santa Clarita on the Draft Environmental Impact Report for Gate-King Industrial Park, Tentative Tract Map No. 50283.**
- (j) **Consideration of resolution authorizing a comment letter to the City of Moorpark on the Notice of Preparation for the North Park Village Specific Plan 11 project, Santa Susana Mountains.**
- (l) **Consideration of resolution authorizing a letter of support for a Conejo Recreation and Park District application to the Wildlife Conservation Board, for a Natural Heritage Preservation Tax Credit Act donation of the Shea Homes property, adjacent to Joel McCrea Ranch, Thousand Oaks.**

[Ms. Stephens arrived at 8:00 p.m.]

Items 10(f), 10(g), and 10(j) were removed from the consent calendar.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Gould, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution Nos. 02-20, 02-21, 02-22, 02-23, 02-24, 02-27, 02-28, and 02-30.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Cheadle, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution Nos. 02-20, 02-21, 02-22, 02-23, 02-24, 02-27, 02-28, and 02-30.

*(The full text of these resolutions is attached.)*

- 10(f). Consideration of resolution recommending that the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority accept an offer to dedicate approximately 2.5 acres (APN 4453-026-039), near Mildas Drive and Schueren Road, unincorporated Los Angeles County, pursuant to a California Coastal Commission permit.**

Questions were propounded by Ms. Cheadle, and Messrs. Brown and Allgood.

Comments were made by Mr. Edelman.

On motion of Ms. Cheadle, duly seconded, this item was postponed.

**10(g). Consideration of resolution recommending that the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority accept a donation of approximately 0.1 acre (APN 4461-010-026), Latigo Canyon Road, unincorporated Los Angeles County.**

Mr. Edelman presented the staff report on this item.

This item was removed from the agenda.

**10(j). Consideration of resolution authorizing a comment letter to the City of Moorpark on the Notice of Preparation for the North Park Village Specific Plan 11 project, Santa Susana Mountains.**

Comments were made by Ms. Mikos.

Questions were propounded by the Chair.

Comments were made by Mr. Edelman.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Mikos, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 02-29 as amended.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Zasloff, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 02-29 as amended.

*(The full text of these resolutions is attached.)*

**11. Consideration of resolution recommending that the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority accept monetary donations for the Westridge/Mandeville overlook parking lot and trailhead improvements and authorizing any budget amendments necessary.**

Ms. Landregan presented the staff report on this item.

Comments were made by the Executive Director.

This item was postponed.

12. **Consideration of resolution recommending that the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority adopt a resolution establishing an employment compensation policy for exceptional performance, to provide compensation to two Conservancy employees for exceptional performance, and to augment the budget for such compensation as necessary, which policy will supercede the employee bonus program adopted on January 22, 2001. *(This item may be heard in closed session pursuant to Section 11126 Subdivision (a)(1) of the Government Code.)***

This item was heard in closed session.

13. **Review of acquisition status of highest rated projects on Conservancy 2000 workprogram. *(This item may be heard in closed session pursuant to Section 11126 Subdivision (a)(1) of the Government Code.)***

Mr. Edelman and Ms. Skei presented the staff report on this item.

Comments were made by Messrs. Guiney, and Brown.

Comments were made by Ms. Skei.

Questions were propounded by Ms. Devine.

Comments were made by Mr. Edelman.

Comments were made by Messrs. Edelman, Guiney, and Brown, and Ms. Skei.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Lange.

Comments were made by Ms. Skei.

Questions were propounded by Ms. Plotkin.

Comments were made by Ms. Skei.

Questions were propounded by Ms. Steele.

Comments were made by Messrs. Zasloff and Portantino.

Questions were propounded by Ms. Devine.

Comments were made by the Executive Director and the Chair.

- 14. 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: *Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy v. City of Los Angeles, a charter city and Department of Water and Power; Save Open Space v. County of Ventura (Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority, Real Parties in Interest); Tucker v. Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy et al.; Tucker v. Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority et al.; City of Malibu v. Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy; City of Malibu v. California Coastal Commission, Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy et al.; Ramirez Canyon Preservation Fund v. California Coastal Commission, Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy et al.; Mirharooni v. Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy et al. ; Malibu-Encinal Home Owners Association, Inc. v. Lechuza Villas West, LLP, Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, State Coastal Conservancy et al.; Los Amigos de Caballero Canyon v. Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy et al.; Nervik v. State of California; Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority v. Soka University of America; Sierra Club et al. v. County of Los Angeles; State of California, ex rel. Andrea Tuttle, Director of Department of Forestry and Fire Protection v. Southern California Edison Company.*

The Chair called a closed session at 10:00 p.m. pursuant to Government Code Section 11126 Subdivision (a)(1) to discuss agenda item 12 and MRCA item 8.

The Chair reconvened the open session at 10:19 p.m. and announced that the Conservancy received a report on agenda item 12 and MRCA item 8.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Devine, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 02-32.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Zasloff, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 02-32.

*(The full text of these resolutions is attached.)*

- 15. Members comments on matters not on the Agenda.**

Comments were made by Messrs. Lange, Robinson, Zasloff, and Ms. Mikos.

**16. Announcement of future meetings and adjournment.**

The Chair announced that the next meeting would be held on March 25, 2002.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Approved:

JOSEPH T. EDMISTON, AICP  
Executive Director

MICHAEL BERGER  
Chairperson