

**CITIZENS OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE OF THE SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS OPEN
SPACE PRESERVATION ASSESSMENT DISTRICT NUMBER ONE**

**MINUTES
of the**

**CITIZENS OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE OF THE SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS OPEN
SPACE PRESERVATION ASSESSMENT DISTRICT NUMBER ONE**

I. Call to Order.

The special meeting of the Citizens Oversight Committee Meeting of the Santa Monica Mountains Open Space Preservation District Number One was called to order by the Chair, Melvin J. Remba, at 7:24 p.m. on November 10, 2004 at the Sooky Goldman Nature Center in Franklin Canyon Park, 2600 Franklin Canyon Drive, Beverly Hills, California, 90210.

II. Roll Call.

The roll was called and the following members were present: Melvin J. Remba, Chair; Roberta Cummings, Vice Chair; Cassandra Barrere; Karen Brooks; Pam Cooke; Beth Dymond; Orrin Feldman; Ginny Kruger; Joan Luchs; Art Pollyea; Ruth Weiss, and Pat Welch. Quorum present.

Members absent: none.

Staff present: Paul Edelman, Chief of Natural Resources and Planning; Jeff Maloney, Staff Counsel and Melissa Chigaridas, Project Assistant.

Public members included: Jerome C. Daniel, Wendy Dytman, Donald Loze, David Neelin, Andrew Sugerman, Edward Stieg, and MaryAnn Musico.

III. Approval of Minutes from the meeting of August 18, 2004.

On motion of Ms. Kruger, duly seconded, the minutes were approved as submitted. The motion was approved by the Chair, Ms. Cummings, Ms. Barrere, Ms. Brooks, Ms. Cooke, Ms. Dymond, Mr. Feldman, Ms. Kruger, Ms. Luchs, Mr. Pollyea, and Ms. Weiss. Ms. Welch abstained.

IV. Chairperson's report.

The Chair requested more timely updates of the website. The Chair also called for each member to commit to another year on the Committee. All replied affirmative except for Ms. Welch. Ms. Welch resigned from her seat on the Committee.

Ms. Welch left at 7:32 p.m.

Ms. Luchs requested the election of officers on next meeting's agenda.

V. Public testimony on all agenda items and public comment on matters not on the agenda.

Wendy Dytman, Briar Summit Homeowner's Association, requested posting a sign at the Briar Summit Open Space Preserve requiring hikers to clean up after their dogs. She also commented on the fast speed of vehicle along the DWP access road.

David Neelin spoke on the pending developments in the Benedict and Stone Canyons area.

VI. Reports from staff:

Mr. Edelman summarized the protocol for adding properties to the Engineer's Report. Discussion followed.

(a) Updates on Area A acquisitions;

Mr. Edelman gave a report.

(b) Updates on Area B acquisitions;

Mr. Edelman gave a report.

(c) Updates on Area C acquisitions;

Mr. Edelman gave a report.

Mr. Feldman commented on speaking with the Torreyson Homeowner's Association regarding Menaldi developments.

(d) Updates on Area D acquisitions;

Mr. Edelman gave a report.

Ms. Luchs commented on the oak tree demolition on the Hayashi property.

(e) Updates on Area E acquisitions.

Mr. Edelman gave a report.

Ms. Dymond requested staff follow up on the potential Fryman Canyon donation.

Mr. Remba inquired about the Committee's limitations and abilities to discuss potential acquisitions with the property owners. Discussion followed.

VII. Designation of an Independent Auditor for the District revenues and expenditures.

Jeff Maloney gave a report.

On motion of Ms. Kruger, duly seconded, the Committee approved Moss, Levy & Hartzheim as the auditor and appointed a secondary auditor to review the audit.

VIII. Consideration of resolution determining that the expenditure of Assessment District funds to acquire APN 2272-002-028 in Acquisition Area A (Fossil Ridge Park adjacent) is consistent with the criteria and requirements established in the Final Engineer's Report.

On motion of Ms. Kruger, duly seconded, Resolution No. 04-09 was approved. The motion was approved by the Chair, Ms. Cummings, Ms. Barrere, Ms. Brooks, Ms. Cooke, Ms. Dymond, Mr. Feldman, Ms. Kruger, Ms. Luchs, Mr. Pollyea, and Ms. Weiss.

IX. Consideration of resolution determining that the expenditure of Assessment District funds to acquire APNs 2386-003-003 and 004, 2386-006-001 and 002, 2386-010-009, 2386-011-002 in Acquisition Area A (Ventura Canyon) is consistent with the criteria and requirements established in the Final Engineer's Report.

Edward Stieg, Andrew Sugerman, and Steven Ziel spoke in favor of agenda item IX. Mr. Ziel requested staff to look into the parcels between the subject properties and Dixie Canyon Park.

Discussion followed regarding benefits of conservation easements versus fee simple acquisitions. Ms. Cummings requested a letter regarding conservation easements to provide to potential donors.

On motion of Ms. Brooks, duly seconded, Resolution No. 04-10 was approved. The motion was approved by the Chair, Ms. Cummings, Ms. Barrere, Ms. Brooks, Ms. Cooke, Ms. Dymond, Mr. Feldman, Ms. Kruger, Ms. Luchs, Mr. Pollyea, and Ms. Weiss.

- X. Consideration of resolution determining that the expenditure of Assessment District funds to acquire APNs 4387-020-001, 009; 4387-022-001, 002, 021; and 4387-025-001 in Acquisition Area B (Franklin / Coldwater Canyon) is consistent with the criteria and requirements established in the Final Engineer's Report.**

On motion of Ms. Cooke, duly seconded, Resolution No. 04-11 was approved. The motion was approved by the Chair, Ms. Cummings, Ms. Barrere, Ms. Brooks, Ms. Cooke, Ms. Dymond, Mr. Feldman, Ms. Kruger, Ms. Luchs, Mr. Pollyea, and Ms. Weiss.

- XI. Consideration of resolution recommending that the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) add APN 4383-006-038 in Acquisition Area B (Benedict Canyon) to the District No. 1 Engineer's Report and determining that the expenditure of Assessment District funds to acquire said property and APNs 4383-006-039 and 040 in Acquisition Area B (eastern side of Benedict Canyon) is thereby consistent with the criteria and requirements established in said amended report.**

MaryAnne Musico, Benedict Canyon Association, spoke in favor of agenda item XI.

On motion of Mr. Pollyea, duly seconded, Resolution No. 04-12 was approved. The motion was approved by the Chair, Ms. Cummings, Ms. Barrere, Ms. Brooks, Ms. Cooke, Ms. Dymond, Mr. Feldman, Ms. Kruger, Ms. Luchs, Mr. Pollyea, and Ms. Weiss.

- XII. Consideration of resolution determining that the expenditure of Assessment District funds to acquire APNs 4356-002-005 and 4383-011-003 in Acquisition Area B (Benedict Canyon- Clearview Drive) is consistent with the criteria and requirements established in the Final Engineer's Report.**

MaryAnne Musico, Benedict Canyon Association, spoke in favor of agenda item XII.

On motion of Ms. Kruger, duly seconded, Resolution No. 04-13 was approved. The motion was approved by the Chair, Ms. Cummings, Ms. Barrere, Ms. Brooks, Ms. Cooke, Ms. Dymond, Mr. Feldman, Ms. Kruger, Ms. Luchs, Mr. Pollyea, and Ms. Weiss.

- XIII. Consideration of resolution determining that the expenditure of Assessment District funds to acquire APN 4384-016-001 in Acquisition Area B (Benedict Canyon- Yoakum Drive) is consistent with the criteria and requirements established in the Final Engineer's Report.**

The Committee requested staff to send a letter regarding conservation easements to Paul Allen.

On motion of Ms. Luchs, duly seconded, Resolution No. 04-14 was approved. The motion was approved by the Chair, Ms. Cummings, Ms. Barrere, Ms. Brooks, Ms. Cooke, Ms. Dymond, Mr. Feldman, Ms. Kruger, Ms. Luchs, Mr. Pollyea, and Ms. Weiss.

- XIV. Consideration of resolution recommending that the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) add APN 4356-008-007 in Acquisition Area B (Benedict Canyon- Clearview Drive) to the District No. 1 Engineer's Report and determining that the expenditure of Assessment District funds to acquire said property is thereby consistent with the criteria and requirements established in said amended report.**

On motion of Ms. Cooke, duly seconded, Resolution No. 04-15 was approved. The motion was approved by the Chair, Ms. Cummings, Ms. Barrere, Ms. Brooks, Ms. Cooke, Ms. Dymond, Mr. Feldman, Ms. Kruger, Ms. Luchs, Mr. Pollyea, and Ms. Weiss.

- XV. Consideration of resolution determining that the expenditure of Assessment District funds to acquire APN 5571-010-005 in Acquisition Area D (eastern side of Nichols Canyon) is consistent with the criteria and requirements established in the Final Engineer's Report.**

On motion of Ms. Barrere, duly seconded, Resolution No. 04-16 was approved. The motion was approved by the Chair, Ms. Cummings, Ms. Barrere, Ms. Brooks, Ms. Cooke, Ms. Dymond, Mr. Feldman, Ms. Kruger, Ms. Luchs, Mr. Pollyea, and Ms. Weiss.

- XVI. Discussion and direction to staff on future potential acquisitions in District 1.**

None offered.

- XVII. Members comments on matters not on the agenda.**

The Chair requested more information on the website to inform the community.

Donald Loze, Benedict Canyon Association, commented on the process of the Assessment District's acquisitions and spoke in opposition of asking neighbors to contribute further to the acquisitions.

XVIII. Statements, questions, or directions to staff pursuant to Government Code §54954.2(a).

None offered.

XIX. Announcement of next meeting and adjournment.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by the Chair at 9:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:



Paul Edelman
Chief of Natural Resources and Planning

Approved:



Melvin J. Remba
Chair