

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

February 27, 2006

1. Call to order.

The 308th joint meeting of the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy Advisory Committee was called to order by Acting Conservancy Chairperson Jerome C. Daniel at 7:36 p.m. on February 27, 2006 at the Rancho Santa Susuana Community Center, 5005C Los Angeles Avenue, Simi Valley, California.

2. Roll Call of Conservancy.

The Conservancy roll was called and the following members were present: Ed Begley, Jr., Bryan Cash, Woody Smeck, Ron Schafer, and Jerome C. Daniel, Acting Chairperson. Quorum present. The following members were absent: Linda Parks, Jim Berkus, Jonathan Zasloff, Vice Chair, and Elizabeth A. Cheadle, Chairperson.

3. Roll Call of Advisory Committee.

The Advisory Committee roll was called and the following members were present: Dave Brown, Richard Gould, Mark Johnson, Alan Kishbaugh, George Lange, Roseann Mikos, Harry Schwarz, Lorraine Slattery, Marc Stirdivant, Garen Yegparian, and Don Robinson, Chairperson. A quorum was present upon the arrival of Barry Read at 7:43 p.m. The following members were present subsequent to roll call: Claudia Bill De La Peña, Michael Cacciotti, Barry Groveman, Barry Read, and Dennis Seider. The following members were absent: Caroline Brown, Michael Hurley, Linda Palmner, Paul Rockenstein, Nancy Stephens, Rich Toyon, Timothy Wendler, Liane Weintraub, and Anthony Portantino, Vice Chair.

Staff present: Joseph T. Edmiston, FAICP, Executive Director; Rorie Skei, Chief Deputy Director; Laurie Collins, Chief Staff Counsel; Paul Edelman, Deputy Director of Natural Resources and Planning; Walt Young, Chief Ranger; Dan Tholund, Chief of Facilities and Maintenance; Amy Frazier, Executive Secretary, and James Yeramian, Board Secretary.

On motion of Mr. Smeck, duly seconded, Jerome C. Daniel was elected Acting Chairperson of the Conservancy, in the absence of Chairperson Elizabeth Cheadle.

4. Introduction of Legislative Participants or their staff.

The Acting Chair announced that the following legislative participant was present: Laura Plotkin.

5. Approval of Minutes.

The minutes of January 23, 2006 were submitted for approval.

The minutes of January 23, 2006 were approved as amended.

6. Reports.

The Conservancy received verbal reports from Woody Smeck, from the National Park Service; Ron Schafer, from State Parks; the Executive Director; Mike Berger, Chairperson of the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority, and Richard Gould from the Santa Clarita Watershed Recreation and Conservation Authority.

Questions were propounded by Ms. Plotkin.

Comments were made by Mr. Berger.

[Mr. Read arrived at 7:43 p.m.]

[Ms. Bill De La Peña arrived at 7:48 p.m.]

7. Members comments on matters not on the agenda.

Comments were made by Ms. Mikos.

[Mr. Cacciotti arrived at 8:00 p.m.]

Comments were made by Messrs. Yegparian and Brown.

8. 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. John Freidman, member of the public, on item 13.
Mr. Jan Miller, President of the Santa Susana Mountains Park Association, on item 12.
Ms. Kathy Gregory, representing the Guy Williams Fan Club, on item 12.
Mr. Don Wallace, member of the public, on item 12.
Ms. Sue Boecker, representing Save Open Space, on item 10.

[Mr. Seider arrived at 8:17 p.m.]

Ms. Mary Weisbrock, representing Save Open Space, on item 10.

[Mr. Barry Groveman arrived at 8:20 p.m.]

Ms. Bonnie Brooks, member of the public, on item 12.
Ms. Pearl G. Turbush, representing the Foundation for the Preservation of the Santa Susanas, on item 12.
Mr. Pearl Courtney, member of the public, on item 12.

9. Consent Calender:

- (a) **Consideration of resolution approving comment letter to City of Los Angeles regarding Mitigated Negative Declaration, Case MND-084-06-PL, 2400 Allesandro Avenue, Semi-Tropical Spiritualist's Tract, near Elysian Park and Los Angeles River.**
- (b) **Consideration of resolution approving Santa Clarita Watershed Recreation and Conservation Authority FY 05-06 budget.**

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Johnson, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution Nos. 06-12 and 06-13.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Smeck, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution Nos. 06-12 and 06-13.

10. Presentation on status of Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy Land Acquisition Workprogram top 50 projects and Park Improvements Workprogram highest scoring projects.

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

Comments were made by Mr. Brown, the Deputy Director of Natural Resources and Planning, Mr. Yegparian, and the Executive Director.

Questions were propounded by Ms. Claudia Bill De La Peña.

Comments were made by the Chief Deputy Director.

Questions were propounded by Ms. Claudia Bill De La Pena.

Comments were made by the Chief Deputy Director.

11. Presentation of “Critical Habitat Linkages Lost Unless Funding Provided to Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy”.

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

Questions were propounded by Mr. Seider.

Comments were made by the Executive Director.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Brown.

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

Questions were propounded by Mr. Seider.

Comments were made by the Deputy Director of Natural Resources and Planning, the Executive Director, and Messrs. Brown, Smeck, and Seider.

12. Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant of Proposition 40 funds to the Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District for the acquisition of Zorro's Cabin parcels, approximately 6.1 acres, APN's 648-0-200-101 and 649-0-070-040, Box Canyon area, unincorporated Ventura County.

Comments were made by Mr. Larry Peterson, General Manager of the Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District; Mr. Ed Hayduk, representing the Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District; the Executive Director, and Mr. Brown.

Questions were propounded by Ms. Bill De La Peña.

Comments were made by the Executive Director and Mr. Schafer.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Schafer.

Comments were made by Mr. Peterson and the Executive Director.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Johnson, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 06-14.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Smeck, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 06-14.

- 13. Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant of Proposition 50 funds to the Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District for acquisition of Tapo Canyon/Marr Ranch property, approximately 158.36 acres, portion of APN 620-0-320-075, Simi Valley area, unincorporated Ventura County.**

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Johnson, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 06-15.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Smeck, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 06-15.

- 14. Consideration of resolution recommending designation of Mulholland Highway as a County Scenic Highway.**

Comments were made by the Executive Director and Messrs. Read and Brown.

Comments were made by Ms. Plotkin.

[Mr. Groveman left the meeting at 9:28 p.m.]

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Read, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 06-16.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Begley, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 06-16.

15. Consideration of resolution authorizing a letter to City of Malibu regarding securing trail easements and identifying existing trail easements in the City of Malibu Master Trails Plan.

Questions were propounded by the Acting Chair.

Comments were made by the Executive Director, Mr. Seider, Ms. Mikos, Messrs. Yegparian, Lange, Read, Robinson, Cash, Smeck, Schafer, and the Deputy Director of Natural Resources and Planning.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Lange, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended postponing this item to a later date.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Smeck, duly seconded, this item was postponed to a later date.

16. Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant of Proposition 50 funds to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for project planning and design, Escondido and Ramirez Canyons and Ramirez Creek restoration, Cities of Malibu and Unincorporated County of Los Angeles.

Comments were made by the Executive Director.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Lange, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 06-18.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Smeck, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 06-18.

17. Consideration of resolution authorizing augmentation of SMM-0464 to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for Project Planning and Design services.

Comments were made by the Executive Director.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Cash.

Comments were made by the Executive Director.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Slattery, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 06-19.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Schafer, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 06-19.

18. Consideration of resolution requesting that the City of Los Angeles require easements and trail construction funding for the Mulholland Core Trail as defined in the Mulholland Specific Plan as a condition of revocable permits issued in the Mulholland Drive right-of-way.

Comments were made by the Executive Director, Messrs. Read, Brown, and the Acting Chair.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Kishbaugh, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 06-19.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Begley, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 06-19.

19. 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: Pending litigation – *Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority v. Santa Monica Mountains*

Conservancy et al. and Ramirez Canyon Preservation Fund v. California Coastal Commission, et al.; Conference with legal counsel - potential litigation.

No closed session was held.

20. Announcement of future meetings and adjournment.

The Acting Chair announced that the next meeting would be held on March 27, 2006. There being no further business, the Acting Chair adjourned the meeting at 10:05 p.m. in honor of Ms. Helen Mary Williams.

Respectfully submitted:

Approved:

JOSEPH T. EDMISTON, FAICP
Executive Director

JEROME C. DANIEL
Acting Chairperson