

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

May 22, 2006

1. Call to order.

The 311th 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 7:44 p.m. on April 24, 2006 at the Los Angeles River Center and Gardens, 570 West Avenue Twenty-Six, Los Angeles, California.

2. Roll Call of Conservancy.

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

3. Roll Call of Advisory Committee.

The Advisory Committee roll was called and the following members were present: Dave Brown, Michael Hurley, Alan Kishbaugh, George Lange, Roseann Mikos, Linda Palmer, Barry Read, Paul Rockenstein, Wendy-Sue Rosen, Lorraine Slattery, Marc Stirdivant, Garen Yegparian, and Don Robinson, Chairperson. Quorum present. The following members were absent: Claudia Bill De La Peña, Caroline Brown, Michael Cacciotti, Barry Groveman, Richard Gould, Mark Johnson, Dennis Seider, Harry Schwarz, Nancy Stephens, Rich Toyon, Timothy Wendler, Liane Weintraub, and Anthony Portantino, Vice Chairperson. A quorum was present.

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.

4. Introduction of Legislative Participants or their staff.

The Chair announced that the following legislative participant was present: Louise Rishoff.

5. Approval of Minutes.

The minutes of April 24, 2006 were submitted for approval.

The minutes of April 24, 2006 were approved as submitted.

Mr. Yegparian was noted as abstaining.

6. Reports.

The Conservancy received a verbal report from the Chair; Woody Smeck, representing the National Park Service; George Lange, representing the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority; and Walt Young, representing the Ranger Services division of the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority.

Questions were propounded by Ms. Rishoff and Mr. Lange.

Comments were made by Messrs. Smeck and Brown.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Yegparian.

Comments were made by Mr. Smeck and Ms. Noiron.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Lange.

Comments were made by the Chief Ranger and Chief of Operations.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Kishbaugh.

Comments were made by the Executive Director.

7. Members comments on matters not on the agenda.

No comments were made.

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. Albert Rosen, representing Friends of Chumash Mountains, on matters not on the agenda.

Ms. Joyce Dillard, member of the public, on item 13.

Ms. Betsey Landis, representing the California Native Plant Society, on item 11.

Ms. Patricia Hearst, representing the Federation of Hillside and Canyon, on item 11.

Mr. Eric Edmunds, representing Save Our Mountains, Inc., on item 11.

Mr. Michael Gordon, member of the public, on item 11.

Mr. Bryan Gordon, member of the public, on item 11.

Mr. Jeff Klinger, representing CORBA, on item 11.

Ms. Judith Fischer, member of the public, on item 12.

Mr. Charlie Bogusz, representing the Woodland Hills Neighborhood Council, on item 12.

9. Consent Calendar:

- (a) Consideration of resolution authorizing a comment letter to City of Simi Valley on Mitigated Negative Declaration for CUP-S-591/TP-S-626, proposed recreational vehicle storage yard, 744 West Los Angeles Avenue, confluence of Alamos Canyon and Arroyo Simi.**
- (b) Consideration of resolution authorizing a comment letter to the California Department of Transportation regarding the Sepulveda Pass - 405 Freeway HOV North-bound Widening Project, City of Los Angeles.**
- (c) Consideration of resolution authorizing a comment letter to County of Los Angeles on Notice of Consultation and Negative Declaration for RENV T200600028 (TR 38931), modifications to conditions of recorded tract map, Piuma Road, Dark Canyon Creek.**

Item 9(a) was removed from the Consent Calendar.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Mikos, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution Nos. 06-36 and 06-37.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Cash, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution Nos. 06-36 and 06-37.

9(a). Consideration of resolution authorizing a comment letter to City of Simi Valley on Mitigated Negative Declaration for CUP-S-591/TP-S-626, proposed recreational vehicle storage yard, 744 West Los Angeles Avenue, confluence of Alamos Canyon and Arroyo Simi.

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

Questions were propounded by Ms. Mikos.

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

Questions were propounded by Mr. Yegparian.

Comments were made by the Executive Director.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Mikos, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 06-35.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Zasloff, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 06-35.

10. Presentation of “*A Linkage Design for the Santa Monica-Sierra Madre Connection*” plan by the South Coast Wildlands Project.

Comments were made by Kristeen Penrod, representing Southcoast Wildlands.

Questions were propounded by Ms. Parks.

Comments were made by Ms. Penrod.

Questions were propounded by Ms. Palmer.

Comments were made by Ms. Mikos.

Questions were propounded by Ms. Mikos.

Comments were made by Mr. Smeck.

11. Consideration of resolution authorizing a comment letter to the City of Los Angeles on proposed Mountaingate development (VT Map No. 53072).

Comments were made by Messrs. Yegparian and Brown.

Questions were propounded by Ms. Parks.

Comments were made by the Chief Deputy Director and Mr. Smeck.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Rosen, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 06-38.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Zasloff, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 06-38.

12. Consideration of resolution confirming exercise of first right of refusal pursuant to Public Resource Code Section 33207 for properties declared excess by the California Department of Transportation in and around the Valley Circle-101 Freeway Interchange and designating authority to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority to acquire and improve said properties, City of Los Angeles.

Comments were made by Mr. Lange and Ms. Palmer.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Kishbaugh, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 06-39.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Zasloff, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 06-39.

13. Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant of Proposition 50 funds to the Social and Public Art Resource Center for the planning and development of "Revising the Forgotten History of Los Angeles: The Los Angeles River, the Great Wall of Los Angeles and the Heritage Parkscape" project.

Comments were made by the Executive Director.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Rosen, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 06-40.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Zasloff, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 06-40.

- 14 Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant of Proposition 40 grant funds to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for trails restoration and resource protection at parks operated and maintained by the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority.**

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Yegparian, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 06-41.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Smeck, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 06-41.

- 15. Consideration of resolution amending the application to the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District for Competitive grant funds for urban tree planting, and granting said funds to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority.**

Comments were made by the Executive Director.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Robinson.

Comments were made by the Executive Director.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Read, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 06-42.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Smeck, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 06-42.

16. Consideration of resolution authorizing agreement with Antelope Valley Resource Conservation District pursuant to Government Code Section 6502.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Zasloff.

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. 06-43.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Zasloff, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 06-43.

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

No closed session was held.

18. Announcement of future meetings and adjournment.

The Chair announced that the next meeting would be held on June 26, 2006. There being no further business, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 9:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Approved:

JOSEPH T. EDMISTON, FAICP
Executive Director

ELIZABETH A. CHEADLE
Chairperson