

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

October 29, 2012

1. Call to order.

The 393th joint meeting of the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy Advisory Committee was called to order by Chairperson Elizabeth A. Cheadle, at 7:36 p.m. on October 29, 2012 at King Gillette Ranch, Calabasas, California.

2. Administration of Oath of Office to David Szymanski.

The Oath of Office was administered by the Chief Deputy Director.

Comments were made by Mr. Szymanski.

Members of the Conservancy and Advisory Committee introduced themselves individually.

3. Roll Call of Conservancy.

The Conservancy roll was called and the following members were present: Richard Bloom; David Szymanski; Jerome C. Daniel; Linda Parks; Craig Sap; Irma Muñoz, Vice Chairperson, and Elizabeth Cheadle, Chairperson. A quorum was present. The following member was absent: Bryan Cash.

4. Roll Call of Advisory Committee.

The Advisory Committee roll was called and the following members were present: Sean Anderson; Dave Brown; Illece Buckley-Weber; Michael Cacciotti; Elaine Freeman; Richard Gould; Alan Kisbaugh; Mary Sue Maurer; Paul Rabinov; Roseann Mikos; David Ross; Paul Rockenstein; Wendy-Sue Rosen; Effie Turnbull Sanders; Donald Voss; George Lange, Vice Chairperson, and Don Robinson, Chairperson. A quorum was present. The following members were absent: Allison-Claire Acker; Sean Arian; Caroline Brown; Anita Fromholz; Jeffrey Jennings; Nancy Stephens; Timothy Wendler, and Garen Yegparian. Staff present: Rorie Skei, Chief Deputy Director; Christina Arndt, Supervising Deputy

Attorney General; Paul Edelman, Deputy Director of Natural Resources and Planning; Melissa Cartelli, Associated Government Program Analyst, and James Yeramian, Board Secretary.

5. Introduction of Legislative Participants or their staff.

The Chair announced that the following legislative participants were present: Rebekah Rodriguez-Lynn; Louise Rishoff, and Senator Fran Pavley.

6. Approval of Minutes.

The minutes of September 24, 2012 were submitted for approval.

The minutes of September 24, 2012 were approved as submitted.

7. Reports.

The Conservancy received oral reports from the Chief Deputy Director; Mr. Sap, and Mr. Lange, representing the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority.

8. Members comments on matters not on the agenda.

Comments were made by Ms. Maurer; Mr. Lange; Mr. Anderson; Senator Fran Pavley; Ms. Freeman, and Mr. Gould.

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

The following members of the public addressed the Conservancy:

- Mr. Anthony Portantino, Assemblymember, on item 13.
- Mr. Jess Thomas, representing Old Agoura Homeowners Association, on item 12.
- Mr. Phil Ramuno, member of the public, on item 12.
- Ms. Liz Blackwelder, member of the public, on matters not on the agenda.
- Mr. Richard Lawsen, member of the public, on item 12.
- Mr. Toby Keeler, representing Old Topanga Homeowners, Inc., on item 12.
- Ms. Mary Ellen Strote, representing Las Virgenes Homeowners Federation, on item 12.
- Ms. Kathy Berkowitz, representing Las Virgenes Homeowners Federation, on item 12.
- Mr. Jeremy Wolf, representing Save Open Space, on item 12.
- Ms. Cynthia Maxwell, representing Las Virgenes Homeowners Federation, on items 12 and 17.
- Mr. Larry Brown, member of the public, on item 12.

Ms. Robyn Britton, member of the public, on item 12.
Ms. Jill Dobrowitsky, member of the public, on item 12.
Mr. Michael Mulqueen, member of the public, on item 12.
Mr. Bill Jeffrey, member of the public, on item 12.
Ms. Joan Kay, member of the public, on item 12.
Ms. Mary Weisbrock, representing Save Open Space, on item 12.
Mr. Don Wallace, representing Equestrian Trails, Inc., Corral 36, on items 12 and 17.
Ms. Tara Farkash, member of the public, on item 12.
Mr. George Coleman, member of the public, on item 12.
Mr. Kevin Austin, member of the public, on item 12.
Ms. Jan Austin, member of the public, on item 12.

10. Consent Calendar:

- (a) Consideration of resolution authorizing comment letter to the City of Los Angeles on the Curtis School Project at 15800 West Mulholland Drive and its Mitigated Negative Declaration (ENV-2012-836-MND).**
- (b) Consideration of resolution authorizing a comment letter to the County of Los Angeles on the six proposed projects comprising the Silverado Power West Los Angeles County project, Antelope Valley, County of Los Angeles.**

Item 10(a) was removed from the Consent Calendar.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Kishbaugh, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 12-56.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Muñoz, duly seconded, the Conservancy unanimously adopted Resolution No. 12-56.

- 10(a). Consideration of resolution authorizing comment letter to the City of Los Angeles on the Curtis School Project at 15800 West Mulholland Drive and its Mitigated Negative Declaration (ENV-2012-836-MND).**

Questions were propounded by Mr. Daniel.

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

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Kishbaugh, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 12-55.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, the Conservancy unanimously adopted Resolution No. 12-55.

11. Presentation by Community Conservation Solutions on status update of Phase III of Green Solutions project, Upper Los Angeles River Watershed.

This item was postponed to a later date.

12. Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant application to the Wildlife Conservation Board for the acquisition of Liberty Canyon wildlife corridor expansion parcels on the north and south side of the 101 Freeway, unincorporated Los Angeles County.

The staff report for this item was presented by the Chief Deputy Director.

Comments were made by Ms. Maurer.

Questions were propounded by Ms. Mikos.

Comments were made by the Deputy Director of Natural Resources and Planning, Mr. Bloom, Mr. Anderson, and Ms. Buckley Weber.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Maurer, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 12-57.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Parks, duly seconded, the Conservancy unanimously adopted Resolution No. 12-57.

Comments were made by Ms. Parks and Senator Pavley.

13. Consideration of resolution authorizing a Proposition 84 grant to the City of La Cañada Flintridge for Flint Wash Trail improvements.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Voss, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 12-58.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, the Conservancy unanimously adopted Resolution No. 12-58.

14. Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant from the Conservancy Fund to Community Partners for the VerdeXchange /ULI FutureBuild Conference.

The staff report for this item was presented by the Chief Deputy Director.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Daniel and Ms. Muñoz.

Comments were made by the Chief Deputy Director.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Freeman, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 12-59.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, the Conservancy unanimously adopted Resolution No. 12-59.

15. Consideration of resolution adopting findings regarding the Pacoima Wash Mountain Bikeway Project.

The staff report for this item was presented by the Chief Deputy Director.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Robinson.

Comments were made by Messrs. Lange and Brown.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Rosen, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 12-60.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Muñoz, duly seconded, the Conservancy unanimously adopted Resolution No. 12-60.

- 16. Consideration of resolution authorizing the Chairperson to appoint a committee comprised of one member of the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and one member of the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy Advisory Committee to recommend a policy concerning naming of properties in honor of specific individuals.**

The staff report for this item was presented by the Chief Deputy Director.

Comments were made by Mr. Robinson.

Conservancy Vice Chairperson Muñoz and Advisory Committee member Kishbaugh were appointed to the committee.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Gould, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 12-61.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Muñoz, duly seconded, the Conservancy unanimously adopted Resolution No. 12-61.

- 17. Consideration of resolution designating Conservancy's rights to apply for 3rd District Specified Excess Funds to (a) the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for the Summit Valley – Mulholland Gateway Gap Closure Project; (b) the National Park Service for the Backbone Trail Project; (c) the City of Agoura Hills for the Agoura Hills Recreation Center Trailhead Project; (d) the City of Westlake Village for the Ridgford Trail Development Project, and (e) to Los Angeles County Parks and Recreation for the Don Wallace Trail Project.**

The staff report for this item was presented by the Deputy Director of Natural Resources and Planning.

Questions were propounded by Ms. Rosen.

Comments were made by Mr. Robinson, Ms. Buckley Weber, and Mr. Szymanski.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Rosen, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 12-62.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Szymanski, duly seconded, the Conservancy unanimously adopted Resolution No. 12-62.

- 18. 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 – *Kruells v. La Vina Homeowners Association, Case No. GC035668; Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy v. City of Whittier, Matrix Oil Co. and related entities, Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District and the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors; Morris v. Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority; Ramirez Canyon Preservation Fund v. Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority, Case No. BS127089; Ramirez Canyon Preservation Fund v. California Coastal Commission, Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority, Case No. BS129503; City of Malibu v. Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority and California Coastal Commission, Case No. BS129222 Ramirez Canyon Preservation Fund v. California Coastal Commission, et al. Case No. BS 121820; City of Malibu v. California Coastal Commission, Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority Case No. BS121650, Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy v. City of Malibu, and related actions.*

Initiation of litigation. Number of cases: 1. Parties: *Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy v. Mulholland Estates Homeowner's Association, Bartlein & Company, Inc., et al.* The Conservancy may refer the following matter to the Department of Justice for

potential initiation of litigation: Action to enforce public access rights to Fossil Ridge Park as recorded in the “Declaration of Covenants, Conditions & Restrictions for Mulholland Estates” recorded on August 29, 1988 as Instrument No. 88-1372488 in the Office of the Los Angeles County Recorder.

Discussion with legal counsel regarding consideration of initiation of litigation: *Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy v. City of Malibu* regarding enforcement of parking and use deed restriction at Bluffs Park (this item may be heard in closed session pursuant to Government Code Section 11126(e)(2)(C)(I).

No closed session was held.

18. Announcement of future meetings and adjournment.

Comments were made by the Chairperson and Mr. Lange.

The Chairperson announced that the next meeting would be held December 3, 2012.

There being no further business, the Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 9:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Approved:

RORIE A. SKEI
Chief Deputy Director

ELIZABETH A. CHEADLE
Chairperson