

SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY

RAMIREZ CANYON PARK
5750 RAMIREZ CANYON ROAD
MALIBU, CALIFORNIA 90265
PHONE (310) 589-3200
FAX (310) 589-3207



MINUTES OF THE JOINT MEETING
of the
SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY
and the
SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY
ADVISORY COMMITTEE

February 25, 2008

1. Call to order.

The 328th joint meeting of the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy Advisory Committee was called to order by Conservancy Chairperson Ron Schafer at 7:35 p.m. on February 25, 2008 at the Los Angeles River Center and Gardens, 570 West Avenue Twenty-Six, Los Angeles, California.

2. Administration of Oath of Office to new members.

The Executive Director administered the Oath of Office to Michael Blanton.

3. Roll Call of Conservancy.

The Conservancy roll was called and the following members were present: Sara Wan, Woody Smeck, Elva Yañez, Jerome C. Daniel, Bryan Cash, and Ron Schafer, Chairperson. Quorum present. The following members were absent: Elizabeth Cheadle, James Berkus, Linda Parks, and Antonio Gonzales, Vice Chairperson.

4. Roll Call of Advisory Committee.

The Advisory Committee roll was called and the following members were present: Michael Blanton, Caroline Brown, David Brown, Marc Johnson, Alan Kisbaugh, Lawren Markle, Mary Sue Maurer, Roseann Mikos, Linda Palmer, Barry Read, Wendy-Sue Rosen, Dennis Seider, Marc Stirdivant, Garen Yegparian, George Lange, Vice Chairperson, and Don Robinson, Chairperson. The following members were present subsequent to roll call: Michael Cacciotti, and Paul Rockenstein. A quorum was present. The following members were absent: Claudia Bill De La Peña, Gregory Brown, Anita Fromholz, Richard Gould, William Koehler, Nancy Stephens, and Liane Weintraub.

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; Juliet Chung, Contracts and Fiscal Officer, Government Programs, and James Yeramian, Board Secretary.

5. Introduction of Legislative Participants or their staff.

The Chair announced that the following legislative participants were present: Louise Rishoff, Laura Plotkin, and Sharon Mayer.

6. Election of Advisory Committee Officers.

On nomination of Mr. George Lange, duly seconded, Mr. Don Robinson was elected Chairperson of the Advisory Committee.

On nomination of Mr. Alan Kishbaugh, duly seconded, Mr. George Lange was elected Vice Chairperson of the Advisory Committee.

7. Approval of minutes.

The minutes of January 12, 2007, December 28, 2007, November 26, 2007, July 30, 2007, and January 28, 2008 were submitted for approval.

The minutes of January 28, 2008 were approved as amended.

The minutes of December 28, 2007, November 26, 2007, July 30, 2007 were adopted as submitted.

8. Reports.

The Conservancy received reports from the Chair, the Attorney General, Mr. Smeck, representing the National Park Service, the Executive Director, and Michael Berger, representing the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority.

9. Members comments on matters not on the agenda.

Comments were made by Messrs. Robinson, Lange, Daniel, and Brown, and Ms. Wan, Ms., Plotkin, and Ms. Maurer.

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

The following person addressed the Conservancy:

Tom Labonge, representing the Los Angeles City Council, on items 18 and 19.
Don Mullally, member of the public, on matters not on the agenda.
Robert Garcia, representing City Project, on items 18 and 19.
Jack Unger, member of the public, on matters not on the agenda.
Jan Miller, member of the public, on matters not on the agenda.

11. Consent Calendar:

- (a) **Consideration of resolution authorizing the expenditure of Conservancy Fund to contract with the Santa Clarita Watershed Recreation and Conservation Authority for pre-acquisition services in the Soledad - Angeles Linkage Conceptual Area Protection Plan area, unincorporated Los Angeles County.**
- (b) **Consideration of resolution authorizing a comment letter to Los Angeles County on Notice of Preparation for upper Pacoima Wash Surface Mining Project, Permit No. 01-154, Sylmar.**
- (c) **Consideration of resolution supporting Governor Schwarzenegger's Wildland Firefighting Initiative.**

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Rosen , duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution Nos. 08-11, 08-12, and 08-13.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Smeck , duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution Nos. 08-11, 08-12, and 08-13.

12. Presentation by Community Conservancy International on results of Green Solution Projects study, Phase I.

The Executive Director introduced Ms. Esther Feldman, representing Community Conservancy International.

Comments were made by Ms. Feldman.

Questions were propounded by Ms. Wan, Ms. Maurer, Ms. Palmer, and Ms. Yañez.

Comments were made by the Executive Director and Ms. Feldman.

13. Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant of Proposition 84 funds to Community Conservancy International for Phase II of the Green Solution Projects Study.

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

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Cacciotti, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 08-14.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Cash, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 08-14.

14. Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant of memorial donations in the Conservancy Fund to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for implementing new signage for the Marge Feinberg Rim of the Valley Trail.

Comments were made by the Executive Director.

The staff report for this item was amended to include the correct Public Resources Codes.

Questions were propounded by Ms. Mikos.

Comments were made by the Chief Deputy Director.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Palmer, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 08-15.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 08-15.

15. Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant of memorial donations in the Conservancy Fund to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for implementing Marvin B. Braude Gateway Park interpretive panels.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Kishbaugh, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 08-16.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Smeck, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 08-16.

16. Consideration of resolution authorizing a Proposition 84 grant to the Altadena Foothills Conservancy for a Cal Poly Pomona Studio 606 study of the "Emerald Horseshoe," Upper Los Angeles River Watershed between Eaton Canyon and the Arroyo Seco.

The resolution and staff report for this item was amended to include the correct Public Resources Codes.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Markle, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 08-17.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Smeck, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 08-17.

17. Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant of Proposition 84 funds to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority to produce a new parklands and open space map.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Lange, Ms. Mikos, Mr. Daniel, Mr. Smeck, and Ms. Wan.

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

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Lange, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 08-18.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Smeck , duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 08-18.

18. Consideration of resolution awarding grant to Community Partners on behalf of The City Project for project planning and design for the restoration of a portion of Griffith Park on the east bank of the Los Angeles River, City of Los Angeles.

The staff report for this item was amended to reflect the correct effective date of February 25, 2008.

Questions were propounded by Ms. Mikos.

Comments were made by the Executive Director, Mr. Daniel, Ms. Yañez, and Mr. Cash.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Rosen, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 08-19.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Cash , duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 08-19.

19. Consideration of resolution awarding grant to the Department of Recreation and Parks of the City of Los Angeles for project planning and design of restoration of a portion of Griffith Park on the east bank of the Los Angeles River, City of Los Angeles.

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

Questions were propounded by Mr. Robinson.

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

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Rosen, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 08-20.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Daniel , duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 08-20.

- 20. 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.*; *Robings v. Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority Case No. LC077488*; *Robings v Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority Case No. BC377233*, and *Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy v. City of Malibu*, and related actions.**

No closed session was held.

21. Announcement of future meetings and adjournment.

The Chair announced that the next meeting would be held on March 24, 2008.

There being no further business, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 10:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Approved:

JOSEPH T. EDMISTON, FAICP
Executive Director

RONALD P. SCHAFER
Chairperson