

SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY

LOS ANGELES RIVER CENTER AND GARDENS
570 WEST AVENUE TWENTY-SIX
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90065
PHONE (323) 221-8900 FAX (323) 221-9001



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

January 27, 2003

1. Call to order.

The joint meeting of the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy Advisory Committee was called to order by Conservancy Chair Michael Berger, at 7:32 p.m. on January 27, 2003 at Franklin Canyon Park, Sooky Goldman Nature Center, 2600 Franklin Canyon Drive, Beverly Hills, California.

2. Administration of oath of office to new Conservancy member.

The oath of office was administered to Conservancy member Jody Cook.

3. Roll Call of Conservancy.

The Conservancy roll was called and the following members were present: Elizabeth Cheadle, Woody Smeck, Hayden Sohm, Hal Ross, Jonathan Zasloff, Jody Cook, Jerome C. Daniel, Vice Chair, and Michael Berger, Chair. Quorum present. The following members were absent: Ed Begley, Jr., David Allgood, and Steve Horn.

The following Legislative member designees were present: Laura Plotkin, Mary Sue Maurer, and Carolyn Kraft. The following Legislative member designee was absent: George Magallanes. The following Legislative member designees were present subsequent to roll call: Henry Lo and Susan McEntire.

4. Administration of oath of office to new Advisory Committee member.

The oath of office was administered to Advisory Committee member Alyse Lazar.

5. Roll Call of Advisory Committee.

The Advisory Committee roll was called and the following members were present: Colleen Briner-Schmidt, Caroline Brown, Ed Corridori, Alyse Lazar, Terre Hirsch, Mark Johnson, Barry Read, Roseann Mikos, Richard Gould, Alan Kishbaugh, Paul Rockenstein, Thomas

Seifert, Charles Beatty, Nancy Stephens, Kenneth Warner, Timothy Wendler, Don Robinson, Vice Chair, and George Lange, Chair. Quorum present. The following members were absent: Lesley Devine, Jeff Jennings, and Marc Stirdivant. The following members were present subsequent to roll call: Dave Brown, Michael Cacciotti, and Linda Palmer.

Staff present: Joseph T. Edmiston, FAICP, Executive Director; Rorie Skei, Chief Deputy Director; Laurie Collins, Chief Counsel; MRCA staff: Reva Concoff, Deputy Executive Officer and Chief of Operations; Katherine Chew, Staff Counsel; Gary Lysik, Chief of Finance; Stephanie Landregan, Chief of Landscape Architecture and Design; Tim Miller, Chief of Construction; Dan Tholund, Deputy Chief Ranger; Cara McLane, Project Analyst; Chuck Arnold, Project Analyst; Jan Wolterstorff, Public Outreach Coordinator and Project Analyst, Tracy Dockery, Staff Services Manager, and James Yeramian, Board Secretary.

Representing the Office of the Attorney General was Nedra Austin, Deputy Attorney General.

6. Election of Conservancy Officers.

On motion of Ms. Cheadle, duly seconded, Michael Berger was nominated as Chairperson.

On motion of Mr. Zasloff, duly seconded, Jerome C. Daniel was nominated as Vice Chairperson.

Mr. Berger and Mr. Daniel were elected respectively as Chairperson and Vice Chairperson.

7. Election of Advisory Committee Officers.

On motion of Mr. Kishbaugh, duly seconded, George Lange was nominated as Chairperson.

On motion of Ms. Briner-Schmidt, duly seconded, Don Robinson was nominated as Vice Chairperson.

Mr. Lange and Mr. Robinson were elected respectively as Chairperson and Vice Chairperson.

8. Minutes.

The minutes of March 25, 2002 and December 16, 2002 were submitted for approval.

The minutes of March 25, 2002 and December 16, 2002 were approved as submitted.

9. Reports.

Comments were made by the Chair and Mr. Daniel.

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

The Conservancy received a verbal report from the Executive Director.

[Ms. McEntire arrived at 7:44 p.m.]

The Conservancy received a verbal report from Mr. Miller.

[Mr. Lo arrived at 7:50 p.m.]

Questions were propounded by Mr. Daniel.

Comments were made by Mr. Miller.

The Conservancy received a verbal report from Ms. Lethbridge.

Questions were propounded by the Chair.

Comments were made by Mr. Daniel and Ms. Lethbridge.

The Conservancy received a verbal report from Mr. Tholund.

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

10. Members comments on matters not on the agenda.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Zasloff.

Comments were made by the Executive Director.

11. Presentation of donation by BFI Sunshine Canyon Landfill for the Michael D. Antonovich Open Space Preserve, East Canyon, Santa Clarita Woodlands Park.

Comments were made by Mr. Aidukus.

Comments were made by Mr. Daniel, Ms. Cheadle, Ms. Skei, and the Chair.

12. 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:

Jess Thomas, representing the Old Agoura Homeowners Association, on item 16.
Dorian Keyser, representing the Sierra Club, on items 13(b), 13(e), 17, and 20.
Betsey Landis, representing the California Native Plant Society, on item 19.
Travis Longcore, representing the Urban Wildlands Group, on items 16 and 19.
Don Mullally, representing the Santa Clarita Woodlands Park Consortium, on items 13(c) and 13(e).
Steve Kaufmann, representing Mandalay Properties, LLC, on item 19.
George Coleman, member of public, on item 16.

Comments were made by the Executive Director.

[Mr. Brown arrived at 8:44 p.m.]

13. Consent Calendar:

- (a) **Consideration of resolution authorizing waiver of first right of refusal on approximately 50 acres of Los Angeles County surplus properties located between Topanga State Park and Topanga Canyon Boulevard (Sylvia Park-Hillside Drive area) to allow their acquisition by the California Department of Parks and Recreation.**
- (b) **Consideration of resolution authorizing an extension to grant agreement SMM-889 (Pico Canyon–Robinson), Santa Clarita Woodlands.**
- (c) **Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant of Proposition 40 funds to the Mountains Restoration Trust to acquire APN 2826-025-007, unincorporated Newhall Pass area.**
- (d) **Consideration of resolution recommending that the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority accept an approximately 1 acre parcel (APN 4438-001-022) in Red Rock Canyon from the Mountains Restoration Trust, unincorporated Topanga Canyon.**

- (e) **Consideration of resolution recommending that the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority authorize a grant to the Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation to conduct a feasibility study for a regional county open space park in Browns/Devil Canyon Watersheds.**
- (f) **Consideration of resolution recommending that the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority authorize an agreement with Harvard University Graduate School of Design for work on the Los Angeles River and Arroyo Seco Confluence.**
- (g) **Consideration of resolution recommending that the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority amend the grant agreement with the Trust for Historic Preservation by reducing the amount of the grant not more than \$100,000 and re-granting such funds to the Center for Preservation, Education and Planning in order to better carry out the the Scenic Byways Corridor Management Plan for the Arroyo Seco Parkway.**
- (h) **Consideration of resolution amending Resolution No. 02-142 and authorizing a grant of Proposition 40 funds to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority to refund Proposition A expenditures thereby increasing available capital outlay funds in the amount of \$109,000.**
- (i) **Consideration of resolution amending Resolution 02-178 for the purchase of approximately 1,518 acres (APNs 2292-014-009, 4490-011-002, 003, 4490-017-002, 4490-019-001, 011, 4491-001-001, 002, 4491-002-001, and 4491-009-010), Tucker Land Co. property, Los Angeles.**

Item 13(a) was removed from the Consent Calendar.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Gould, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution Nos. 03-02, 03-03, 03-04, 03-05, 03-06, 03-07, 03-08, and 03-09.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Zasloff, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution Nos. 03-02, 03-03, 03-04, 03-05, 03-06, 03-07, 03-08, and 03-09.

(The full text of these resolutions are attached.)

13(a). Consideration of resolution authorizing waiver of first right of refusal on approximately 50 acres of Los Angeles County surplus properties located between Topanga State Park and Topanga Canyon Boulevard (Sylvia Park-Hillside Drive area) to allow their acquisition by the California Department of Parks and Recreation.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Zasloff.

Comments were made by the Executive Director.

Questions were propounded by Ms. Mikos.

Comments were made by Messrs. Edelman and Brown.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Brown, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 03-01 as amended.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Zasloff, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 03-01 as amended.

14. Presentation by the UCLA Extension Landscape Architecture Program on Whitney Canyon Park.

Comments were made by Ms. Landregan.

The Conservancy received an oral presentation from the UCLA Extension Landscape Architecture Program.

Questions were propounded by Messrs. Brown, and Gould.

Comments were made by the UCLA Extension Landscape Architecture Program and Ms. Skei.

15. Presentation by the MRCA River Team on River Projects.

Comments were made by Ms. Soghor.

Questions were propounded by Ms. Palmer.

Comments were made by Ms. Soghor, Ms. Skei, and the Executive Director.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Cacciotti.

Comments were made by the Executive Director.

21. Consideration of resolution adopting criteria for the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy Proposition 40 Local Government and Non-Profit Matching Funds Grant Program and authorizing a call for proposals from local government and non-profit entities.

Comments were made by the Executive Director and Messrs. Gould and Wendler.

A motion to amend the criteria was made by Mr. Wendler.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Smeck.

Comments were made by the Executive Director.

Questions were propounded by Ms. Mikos.

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

Questions were propounded by Mr. Smeck.

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

Questions were propounded by Mr. Gould.

Comments were made by the Executive Director.

Questions were propounded by Ms. Mikos.

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

Questions were propounded by Ms. Palmer.

Comments were made Mr. Gould.

Questions were propounded by the Chair.

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

Questions were propounded by the Chair.

Comments were made by the Executive Director, and Messrs. Wendler and Corridori.

Mr. Wendler withdrew his motion and made a new motion to amend the criteria.

Questions were propounded by Ms. Mikos.

Comments were made by Mr. Cacciotti.

On motion of Mr. Wendler, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 03-15 as amended.

Comments were made by Ms. Cheadle.

Questions were propounded by the Chair.

Comments were made by Ms. Cheadle.

Questions were propounded by the Chair.

Comments were made by the Executive Director.

Questions were propounded by the Chair.

Comments were made by Ms. Cheadle, Mr. Zasloff, the Executive Director, and the Chair.

Mr. Daniel made a motion to postpone this item to a later date.

Comments were made by the Executive Director, Mr. Zasloff, and the Executive Director.

Mr. Daniel withdrew his motion to postpone this item to a later date.

On motion of Mr. Smeck, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 03-15.

16. Consideration of resolution authorizing a comment letter to Los Angeles County on the Draft Environmental Impact Report for Heschel School, unincorporated Agoura Hills.

Comments were made by Mr. Corridori, Ms. Palmer and the Executive Director.

This item was postponed to a later date.

17. Consideration of resolution authorizing a comment letter to the City of Simi Valley on the Notice of Preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Report for the Runkle Canyon Specific Plan Project, Simi Valley.

Comments were made by Mr. Brown, the Executive Director, and Ms. Lazar.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Johnson.

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

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Brown, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 03-11.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 03-11.

- 18. Consideration of resolution recommending that the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority authorize acceptance of an offer to dedicate approximately 70 acres in Dark Canyon pursuant to California Coastal Commission Permit No. 5-83-4, Tract No. 38951 (Quaker-Ross dedication), unincorporated Calabasas area.**

Comments were made by the Executive Director.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Palmer, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 03-12.

Comments were made by Mr. Brown, Ms. Palmer, and the Executive Director.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Sohm, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 03-12.

- 19. Consideration of resolution recommending that the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority accept transfer of title of approximately 28 acres (APN 138-080-055), adjacent to McGrath Beach, Ventura County, and recommending transfer of said parcel to the California Department of Parks and Recreation at the option of the Department.**

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

Questions were propounded by the Executive Director.

Comments were made Mr. Kaufmann.

Questions were propounded by Ms. Mikos.

Comments were made by Ms. Collins, the Executive Director, and Mr. Rockenstein.

Questions were propounded by Ms. Lazar.

Comments were made by Messrs. Kaufmann and Sohm.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Briner-Schmidt, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 03-13.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Cheadle, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 03-13.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Zasloff.

Comments were made by the Executive Director.

20. Consideration of resolution authorizing renewal of the Memorandum of Understanding between the United States Forest Service, the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, and the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for Cooperative Trail Planning and Coordinated Management in and near the Rim of the Valley Trail Corridor.

Comments were made by the Executive Director.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Seifert, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 03-14.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Ross, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 03-14.

Comments were made by Ms. Cook.

22. 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: *Parker v. Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority; Tucker v. Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority et al.; City of Malibu v. Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy; City of Malibu v. California Coastal Commission, Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy et al.; Ramirez Canyon Preservation Fund v. California Coastal Commission, Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy et al.; Albert Allen, Marilyn Stefano, Gloria Tregurtha and BadTax, Inc. v. Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority, and Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority v. Ram's Manufacturing, Inc.*

No closed session was heard.

23. Announcement of future meetings and adjournment.

The Chair announced that the next meeting would be held on February 24, 2003.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Approved:

JOSEPH T. EDMISTON, FAICP
Executive Director

JEROME C. DANIEL
Chair