

SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY

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MINUTES OF THE MEETING
of the
SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY

February 23, 2009

1. Call to order.

The meeting of the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy was called to order by Conservancy Chairperson Ronald Schafer at 11:00 a.m. on February 23, 2009 at the following locations: (a) Los Angeles River Center and Gardens, 570 West Avenue Twenty-Six, Los Angeles, CA; (b) California Department of Parks and Recreation, Malibu Creek State Park, 1925 Las Virgenes Road, Calabasas, CA; (c) Ventura County 2nd District Supervisor's Office, 2967 Thousand Oaks Boulevard, Thousand Oaks, CA; (d) National Park Service, 401 West Hillcrest Drive, Thousand Oaks, CA; (e) California Natural Resources Agency, 1416 9th Street, Sacramento, CA, and (f) UCLA School of Law, 405 Hilgard Avenue, Law Building, Room 1224, Los Angeles, CA.

2. Roll Call of Conservancy.

The Conservancy roll was called and the following members were present: Elizabeth Cheadle, Woody Smeck, Elva Yañez, Jerome C. Daniel, Linda Parks, Bryan Cash, and Ronald Schafer, Chairperson. A quorum was present. The following members were absent: James Berkus and Antonio Gonzalez.

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

3. Roll Call of Advisory Committee:

The Advisory Committee roll was called and the following members were present: Holly Larue, Roseann Mikos, Marc Stirdivant, George Lange, Vice Chairperson, and Donald Robinson, Chairperson. A quorum was not present.

4. Introduction of Legislative Participants or their staff.

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

5. Election of Conservancy Officers.

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, Ronald Schafer was re-elected as Chairperson.

On motion of Ms. Cheadle, duly seconded, Antonio Gonzalez, we re-elected as Vice-Chairperson.

6. Election of Advisory Committee Officers.

Due to a lack of quorum, this item was removed from the agenda.

7. Public testimony on all agenda items and public comment on matters not on the agenda.

No public comment was made.

8. Consent Calendar:

- (a) **Consideration of resolution authorizing comment letters to the City of Los Angeles and the California Department of Fish and Game regarding the transfer of Big Tujunga Wash open space dedication from the Angeles National Golf Club, 9401 Foothill Boulevard, Sunland-Tujunga.**
- (b) **Consideration of resolution authorizing a Draft Environmental Impact Report comment letter to the California Department of Transportation regarding Santa Clarita Woodlands Park mitigation measures for the I-5 HOV and Truck Lane Widening Project (SR-14 to Parker Road), Santa Clara River Watershed.**

A roll call vote was administered.

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, Resolution No. 09-01, and 09-02 were unanimously adopted.

9. Review and discussion of implementation of SB 1595 (Stats. 2008, Ch. 366) with regard to fuels management and brushing on Conservancy owned and managed land.

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

Questions were propounded by Mr. Smeck.

Comments were made by the Executive Director, Ms. Parks, and the Chair.

10. Consideration of resolution approving the proposed parking fee increase by the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for Wilacre Park.

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

Questions were propounded by Ms. Cheadle, and Ms. Yañez.

Comments were made by the Chair, the Executive Director, the Chief Deputy Director, and Chief Ranger.

A roll call vote was administered.

In motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, Resolution 09-03 was adopted.

Ms. Parks was noted as abstaining from this item.

11. Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant of deposited mitigation funds (Alamos Canyon ILF-Corps No. 200400766-MDC) from the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy Fund to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for implementation of the Gopher Canyon riparian habitat restoration and creation project in the Brown's Canyon watershed, unincorporated Los Angeles County, Chatsworth area.

Comments were made by the Chief Deputy Director, the Deputy Director of Natural Resources and Planning, the Executive Director, and Ms. Parks.

This item was postponed to a later date.

12. 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.

13. Adjournment.

The Chair announced that the next meeting would be held on March 23, 2009.

There being no further business, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 12:11 p.m. in memory of David Abrams.

Respectfully submitted:

Approved:

JOSEPH T. EDMISTON, FAICP
Executive Director

RONALD P. SCHAFER
Chairperson