

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

April 27, 2009

1. Call to order.

The 340th joint meeting of the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy Advisory Committee was called to order by Conservancy Chairperson Ronald Schafer at 7:37 p.m. on April 27, 2009 at the Los Angeles River Center and Gardens, Los Angeles, California.

2. Administration of Oath of Office to new members.

The Executive Director administered the Oath of Office to incoming Advisory Committee members Elaine Freeman and Paul Rabinov.

The Conservancy and Advisory Committee members introduced themselves to the new members.

3. 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, and Ronald Schafer, Chairperson. A quorum was present. The following members were absent: James Berkus, Bryan Cash, and Antonio Gonzalez, Vice Chairperson.

4. Roll Call of Advisory Committee.

The Advisory Committee roll was called and the following members were present: Michael Blanton, Caroline Brown, Dave Brown, Elaine Freeman, Anita Fromholz, Richard Gould, Alan Kishbaugh, Holly LaRue, Mary Sue Maurer, Paul Rabinov, Linda Palmer, Paul Rockenstein, Nancy Stephens, Marc Stirdivant, Donald Voss, Timothy Wendler, Garen Yegparian, George Lange, Vice Chairperson, and Donald Robinson, Chairperson. A quorum was present. The following members were absent: Michael Cacciotti, Roseann Mikos, Wendy-Sue Rosen, Dennis Seider, and Harry Schwarz.

Staff present: Joseph T. Edmiston, FAICP, Hon. ASLA, Executive Director; Rorie Skei, Chief Deputy Director; Laurie Collins, Chief Staff Counsel; Paul Edelman, Deputy Director of Natural Resources and Planning, Melissa Cartelli, Executive Assistant, and James Yeramian, Board Secretary.

5. Election of Advisory Committee Officers.

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

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

6. Introduction of Legislative Participants or their staff.

The Chair announced that the following legislative participants were present: Stephanie Molen and Sharon Mayor.

7. Approval of Minutes.

The minutes of December 2, 2008, February 23, 2009, and March 23, 2009 were submitted for approval.

The minutes of December 2, 2008, February 23, 2009, and March 23, 2009 were approved as submitted.

8. Reports.

The Conservancy received oral reports from the Chief Staff Council; Woody Smeck, representing the National Park Service; the Executive Director; George Lange, representing the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA); Jim Hassenauer, representing MRCA, and the Chief Deputy Director for the Wildlife Corridor Conservation Authority.

9. Members comments on matters not on the agenda.

Comments were made by Messrs. Daniel, Brown, and Wendler, the Executive Director, and the Chair.

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

No public comment was made.

11. Consideration of resolution authorizing a comment letter to the City of Santa Clarita on the Vista Canyon Ranch project (Master Case 07-127), Santa Clara River, unincorporated Los Angeles County.

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

Comments were made by Messrs. Brown, Lange, Voss, and Stirdivant.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Palmer, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommendation of adoption of Resolution No. 09-08.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Cheadle, duly seconded, the Conservancy unanimously adopted Resolution No. 09-08.

12. Consideration of resolution authorizing a comment letter to the City of Agoura Hills on proposed Conrad Hilton Foundation office building project, 30440 and 30500 Agoura Road (Ladyface Mountain Specific Plan).

The comment letter was presented by the Deputy Director of Natural Resources and Planning.

Comments were made by Mr. Brown.

Questions were propounded by Ms. Palmer and Ms. Freeman.

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 recommendation of adoption of Resolution No. 09-09.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Parks, duly seconded, the Conservancy unanimously adopted Resolution No. 09-09.

13. Consideration of resolution amending SMM-0615 to add funds from fiscal year 2006 Conservancy Fund.

Comments were made by the Executive Director and Ms. Amy Lethbridge, Chief of Interpretation of MRCA.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Lange, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommendation of adoption of Resolution No. 09-10.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, the Conservancy unanimously adopted Resolution No. 09-10.

14. Consideration of resolution adopting an agency policy on environmental justice.

Comments were made by Messrs. Brown, Yegparian, Rabinov, Smeck, Ms. Fromholz, Ms. Palmer, Ms. Brown, Ms. Maurer, Ms. Cheadle, Ms. Yañez, the Executive Director and the Chair.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Palmer, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommendation of adoption of Resolution No. 09-11.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Yañez, duly seconded, the Conservancy unanimously adopted Resolution No. 09-11.

The Chair announced that upon adoption of this resolution, a sub-committee to be Chaired by Ms. Yañez would convene to expand upon the agency policy on environmental justice.

15. 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; Friends of Temescal Pool v. Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority; Boyajian v. Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy; 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.

16. Announcement of future meetings and adjournment.

The Chair announced that the next meeting would be held on a June 1, 2009.

There being no further business, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 9:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Approved:

JOSEPH T. EDMISTON, FAICP
Executive Director

RONALD P. SCHAFER
Chairperson