

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

August 25, 2003

1. Call to order.

The two hundred eighty fourth joint meeting of the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy Advisory Committee was called to order by Conservancy Chairperson Jerome C. Daniel at 7:35 p.m. on August 25, 2003 at the Agoura Hills/Calabasas Community Center, Calabasas Hills, California.

2. Roll Call of Conservancy.

The Conservancy roll was called and the following members were present: Heather Barnett, Jody Cook, Hal Ross, Ronald P. Schafer, Woody Smeck, Jonathan Zasloff, Elizabeth Cheadle, Vice Chair, and Jerome C. Daniel, Chair. Quorum present. The following members were absent: Ed Begley, Jr., and Linda Parks.

3. Roll Call of Advisory Committee.

The Advisory Committee roll was called and the following members were present: Dave Brown, Michael Cacciotti, Ed Corridori, Heinz Ellersieck, Richard Gould, Mark Johnson, Roseann Mikos, Linda Palmer, Dennis Seider, Thomas Seifert, Nancy Stephens, Marc Stirdivant, Don Robinson, Vice Chair, and George Lange, Chair. Quorum present. The following members were absent: Dave Brown, Terre Hirsch, Paul Rockenstein, Lorraine Slattery, and Ken Warner. The following members were present subsequent to roll call: Lesley Devine, Anthony Portantino, Barry Read, and Timothy Wendler.

Staff present: Rorie Skei, Acting Executive Director; Laurie Collins, Chief Counsel; Paul Edelman, Deputy Director of Natural Resources and Planning; MRCA staff: Reva Feldman, Deputy Executive Officer and Chief Operating Officer; Amy Lethbridge, Deputy Executive Officer for Education, Interpretation, and Urban Programs; Walt Young, Chief Ranger and

Chief of Operations; Tim Miller, Chief of Construction; Lisa Soghor, Chief of Premier Parks; Gary Lysik, Finance Director; Katherine Chew, Staff Counsel; Deborah Lambe, Staff Counsel; Juliet Chung, Government Program Analyst; Jan Wolterstorff, Public Outreach Coordinator and Project Analyst, Simon Macguire, PC Support Technician; Melissa Chigaridas, JPA Secretary, and James Yeramian, Board Secretary.

4. Introduction of Legislative Participants or their staff.

The Chair announced that Laura Plotkin and Carolyn Kraft were present. The following legislative participants were absent: George Magallanes, Mary Sue Maurer, and Susan McEntire.

5. Approval of Minutes.

No minutes were heard.

6. Reports.

The Conservancy and the Advisory Committee received verbal reports from the Chairperson, the Deputy Director of Natural Resources and Planning, the Deputy Executive Officer for Education, Interpretation, and Urban Programs, the Chief Ranger, the Chief of Operations, and the Chief of Construction.

7. Members comments on matters not on the agenda.

Comments were made by Advisory Committee member Lesley Devine and the Chair.

8. 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:

- Mr. Steve Bennett, as an individual, on items 10 through 13.
- Mr. Michael Harrison, Mayor Pro Tem, City of Calabasas, on item 10.
- Mr. Dan Kuperburg, Mayor Pro Tem, City of Agoura Hills, on items 9 through 13.
- Ms. Marianne King, representing Councilman Dennis Zine, on items 9 through 13.
- Mr. Zev Yaroslavsky, representing Los Angeles County, on items 10 through 13.
- Ms. Leslie Moss, representing the Malibu Homeowners Association, regarding the Trancas Water Pollution Plant.
- Mr. Edward Erskime, as an individual, regarding an item not on the agenda.
- Ms. Alicia Seamen, representing the Office of Assemblymember Lloyd Levine, on items

12 through 13.

Mr. Michael Tou, representing Congressman Brad Sherman, on item 10.

Mr. Joe Behar, representing the West Valley Community Coalition, on items 10 through 13.

Ms. Mary Ann Webster, representing Sierra Club Los Angeles, on item 10.

Ms. Rosemarie White, representing Endangered Species Task Force Angeles Chapter, on item 10.

Mr. Jess Thomas, representing the Old Agoura Homeowners Association, on items 10 through 12.

Mr. Dennis Washburn, representing the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission, SCAG, and RCDSMM, on items 10 through 12.

Ms. Mary Weisbrock, representing Save Open Space, on item 10.

Ms. Tsila Burman, representing Rally To Save Ahmanson Ranch, on item 10.

Mr. Steve Rishoff, as an individual, on item 10.

Mr. Steve Hess, representing the Las Virgenes Homeowners Federation, on item 10.

Ms. Linda Piera-Avila, as an individual, on item 10.

Mr. Don Mullally, representing the Santa Clarita Woodlands Park Consortium, on items 10 through 13.

Jack Soloman, representing the City of Calabasas Planning Commission, on item 10.

Ms. Susan Cashman, representing the West Hills Neighborhood Council, on item 10.

Mr. Steve Craig, representing the City of Calabasas Community Development, on items 10 through 13.

Ms. Frances Alet, representing the Malibu Canyon Community Association, on items 10 and 13.

Mr. Siegfried Othmer, representing Save Open Space, on item 10.

Ms. Shelley Luce, representing Heal the Bay, on item 10.

Mr. Gordon Murley, representing the San Fernando Valley Federation and Woodland Hills Homeowners Association, on item 10.

Ms. Mary Ann Rush, as an individual, on items 10 through 13.

Mr. James Bozajian, representing the City of Calabasas, on item 12.

9. Consent Calender:

- (a) **Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant of Proposition 40 funds to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for education and interpretation programs FY 03/04.**
- (b) **Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant of Proposition 40 funds to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for unfunded deferred maintenance costs.**

- (c) **Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant of Proposition 40 funds to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for minor capital outlay FY 03/04.**
- (d) **Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant of Proposition 40 funds to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for Temescal Master Plan Phase II.**
- (e) **Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant of Proposition 50 funds to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for Ramirez Streambed Improvements.**

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Gould, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution Nos. 03-128, 03-129, 03-130, 03-131, and 03-132.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Cheadle, duly seconded, Resolution Nos. 03-128, 03-129, 03-130, 03-131, and 03-132 were unanimously adopted.

- 10. Consideration of resolution approving project plan pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 33209 in connection with possible acquisition of approximately 2773 acres (APNs 685-0-060-040, 685-0-060-360, 685-0-070-040, 685-0-070-080, 685-0-070-090, 685-0-070-120, 685-0-070-140, 685-0-070-160), Ventura County, commonly known as the Ahmanson Ranch.**

The Staff Report was presented by the Acting Executive Director.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

The Chief Deputy Director answered questions propounded by Advisory Committee members Lesley Devine and Ed Corridori, and Legislative Participant Laura Plotkin.

On motion of Ms. Devine, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 03-133.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Smeck, duly seconded, Resolution No. 03-133 was unanimously adopted.

The Chair announced that items 12 and 13 would be heard next.

- 12. Consideration of resolution authorizing the Executive Director to apply for and accept any and all grants necessary to acquire approximately 2773 acres (APNs 685-0-060-040, 685-0-060-360, 685-0-070-040, 685-0-070-080, 685-0-070-090, 685-0-070-120, 685-0-070-140, 685-0-070-160), Ventura County, commonly known as the Ahmanson Ranch, including an application to the Wildlife Conservation Board for a grant pursuant to Section 79572(a)(2) and Section 79572(b) of the Water Code.**

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Seifert, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 03-135.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Cheadle, duly seconded, Resolution No. 03-135 was unanimously adopted.

- 13. Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant of Proposition 50 funds to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for use in connection with the possible acquisition of approximately 2773 acres (APNs 685-0-060-040, 685-0-060-360, 685-0-070-040, 685-0-070-080, 685-0-070-090, 685-0-070-120, 685-0-070-140, 685-0-070-160), commonly known as the Ahmanson Ranch.**

The Staff Report was presented by the Acting Executive Director.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Read, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 03-136.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Cheadle, duly seconded, Resolution No. 03-136 was unanimously adopted.

- 11. Consideration of resolution authorizing the Executive Director to negotiate and enter into purchase and sale agreement and/or option or other agreements and authorize the Executive Director to consummate the transaction contemplated by such agreement to purchase approximately 2773 acres (APNs 685-0-060-040, 685-0-060-360, 685-0-070-040, 685-0-070-080, 685-0-070-090, 685-0-070-120, 685-0-070-140, 685-0-070-160), Ventura County, commonly known as the Ahmanson Ranch. *(This item may be heard in closed session pursuant to Section 11126 Subdivision (c)(7)(A) of the Government Code.)***

The Staff Report was presented by the Chief Counsel.

The Chair announced that this item would be heard in Closed Session.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Devine, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 03-134.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Zasloff, duly seconded, Resolution No. 03-134 was unanimously adopted.

14. Consideration of resolution endorsing Proposition 53.

The Staff Report was presented by the Government Program Analyst.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

The Acting Executive Director and the Government Program Analyst answered questions propounded by the Chair, Conservancy members Ron Schafer, and Heather Barnett and Advisory Committee member Don Robinson.

This item was tabled.

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: *Parker v. Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority; City of Malibu v. California Coastal Commission, Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy et al.; Ramirez Canyon Preservation Fund v. California Coastal Commission; Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority v. Soka University of America, and related cross-complaint: Soka University of America v. Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy.*

The Chair called a closed session at 9:40 p.m. pursuant to Government Code Section 11126 Subdivision (c)(7)(A) to discuss agenda item 11.

The Chair reconvened the open session at 9:55 p.m. and announced that the Conservancy received a report on agenda item 11.

16. Announcement of future meetings and adjournment.

The Chair announced that the next meeting would be held on September 22, 2003. There being no further business, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 10:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Approved:

JOSEPH T. EDMISTON, FAICP
Executive Director

JEROME C. DANIEL
Chairperson