

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

May 23, 2011

1. Call to order.

The 380th joint meeting of the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy Advisory Committee was called to order by Conservancy Chairperson Antonio Gonzalez at 7:33 p.m. on May 23, 2011 at the Los Angeles River Center and Gardens, 570 West Avenue Twenty-Six, Los Angeles, California.

2. Roll Call of Conservancy.

The Conservancy roll was called and the following members were present: Irma Muñoz, Elizabeth A. Cheadle, Linda Parks, Craig Sap, Jerome C. Daniel, Vice Chairperson, and Antonio Gonzalez, Chairperson. A quorum was present. The following members were absent: Woody Smeck, James Berkus, and Bryan Cash.

3. Roll Call of Advisory Committee.

The Advisory Committee roll was called and the following members were present: Sean Anderson, Caroline Brown, Dave Brown, Elaine Freeman, Anita Fromholz, Alan Kishbaugh, Mary Sue Maurer, Paul Rabinov, Roseann Mikos, David Ross, Wendy-Sue Rosen, Dennis Seider, Marc Stirdivant, Donald Voss, Timothy Wendler, Garen Yegparian, George Lange, Vice Chairperson, and Don Robinson, Chairperson. A quorum was present. The following members were present subsequent to roll call: Allison-Claire Acker, Michael Cacciotti, and Richard Gould. The following members were absent: John Edelston, Paul Rockenstein, Effie Turnbull-Sanders, Nancy Stephens, and Charles Stringer.

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, Associate Governmental Program Analyst and James Yeramian, Executive Secretary.

4. Introduction of Legislative Participants or their staff.

The Executive Secretary announced that Rebekah Rodriguez-Lynn and Louise Rishoff were present.

5. Approval of Minutes.

The minutes of April 25, 2011 were submitted for approval.

The minutes of April 25, 2011 were approved as submitted.

6. Reports:

The Conservancy received verbal reports from the Executive Director, Ms. Cheadle, Mr. Sap, Mr. Lange and Chief Ranger Walt Young, representing the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority.

Comments were made by the Chair, Mr. Brown, and Mr. Seider.

7. Members comments on matters not on the agenda.

Questions were propounded by Ms. Maurer.

Comments were made by the Executive Director, Ms. Brown, Ms. Rosen, and Messrs. Daniel and Anderson.

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

The following members addressed the Conservancy:

Jim Smith, representing Serra Retreat Homeowners Board, on matters not on the agenda.

Errol Ginsberg, representing Serra Canyon Property Owners Association, on matters not on the agenda and item 19.

Jim Mencies, member of the public, on matters not on the agenda and item 19.

Steven Clark, member of the public, on matters not on the agenda and item 19.

Candace Brown, member of the public, on matters not on the agenda.

Stanley Lamport, representing Mulryan Properties LLLP, on matters not on the agenda.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Yegparian and Ms. Rosen.

Comments were made by the Executive Director.

9. Consent Calendar:

- (a) Consideration of resolution confirming a comment letter to Los Angeles County Regional Planning Commission on Mission Village Project (SCH No. 2005051143), Newhall Ranch.**
- (b) Consideration of resolution authorizing an initial comment letter to Los Angeles County on the Draft 2035 General Plan.**
- (c) Consideration of resolution authorizing a comment letter to the City of Calabasas on the Notice of Preparation for the proposed 77-acre Messenger Development located at 4790 Las Virgenes Road, Malibu Canyon watershed.**
- (d) Consideration of resolution confirming comment letter to City of Santa Clarita Planning Commission on One Valley One Vision General Plan Final Environmental Impact Report (SCH No. 2008071133), Santa Clarita.**
- (e) Consideration of resolution authorizing final advance of funds to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority from CF-0907 for Browns Canyon restoration project, unincorporated Chatsworth.**

Item 9(a) was removed from the agenda.

Item 9(c) was removed from the consent calendar.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Cacciotti, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution Nos. 11-36, 11-38, and 11-39.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Cheadle, duly seconded, the Conservancy unanimously adopted Resolution Nos. 11-36, 11-38, and 11-39.

On motion of Mr. Seider for the Advisory Committee and Ms. Parks for the Conservancy, duly seconded, the Conservancy re-opened item 7: Members comments on matters not on the agenda.

Comments were made by Ms. Maurer.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Brown, Ms. Parks, Ms. Rosen, Ms. Fromholz, and Mr. Seider.

Comments were made by the Executive Director.

9(c). Consideration of resolution authorizing a comment letter to the City of Calabasas on the Notice of Preparation for the proposed 77-acre Messenger Development located at 4790 Las Virgenes Road, Malibu Canyon watershed.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Rosen, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 11-37.

Ms. Maurer and Mr. Brown were noted as abstaining.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Cheadle, duly seconded, the Conservancy unanimously adopted Resolution No. 11-37.

10. Presentation on Phase II of the Green Solution Report findings for Upper LA River Watershed from Community Conservation Solutions (formerly Community Conservancy International).

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

The Conservancy received an oral report by Ms. Esther Feldman representing Community Conservation Solutions.

Questions were propounded by Ms. Fromholz, and Messrs. Voss, Brown, Yegparian, and Anderson.

Comments were made by Ms. Feldman.

11. Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant of Proposition 84 funds for Green Solutions Phase III, Project Planning and Design, Upper LA River Watershed.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Gould, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 11-40.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Cheadle, duly seconded, the Conservancy unanimously adopted Resolution No. 11-40.

12. Consideration of resolution authorizing a non-profit organization grant to the Los Angeles Forum for Architecture and Urban Design for the Downtown Trail System - L.A. River Project.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Yegparian, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 11-41.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, the Conservancy unanimously adopted Resolution No. 11-41.

13. Consideration of resolution authorizing an augmentation of grant SMM-0839 to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for interpretive program development and delivery for ranger led public programs and ranger-led interpretive programs specifically designed for disadvantaged youth.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Fromholz, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 11-42.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Cheadle, duly seconded, the Conservancy unanimously adopted Resolution No. 11-42.

14. Consideration of resolution authorizing augmentation of grant agreement SMM-0757 to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for the protection and restoration of natural and developed resources by removal of invasive plant species, reduction of hazardous fire-fuel loads, and erosion protection for parks operated and maintained by the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Brown.

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

Questions were propounded by Ms. Acker.

Comments were made by the Chief Ranger.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Rosen, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 11-43.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Muñoz, duly seconded, the Conservancy unanimously adopted Resolution No. 11-43.

- 15. Consideration of resolution authorizing a budget augmentation and scope revisions for grant SMM-0853 to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for a program of minor capital outlay to ensure the preservation, protection, and restoration of developed and natural resources within the Los Angeles River and Santa Monica Bay Watersheds.**

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Rabinov, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 11-44.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Muñoz, duly seconded, the Conservancy unanimously adopted Resolution No. 11-44.

- 16. Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for improvements to the Los Angeles River Center and Gardens, Los Angeles.**

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Freeman, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 11-45.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Muñoz, duly seconded, the Conservancy unanimously adopted Resolution No. 11-45.

- 17. Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for landscape improvements at King Gillette Ranch, County of Los Angeles.**

This item was removed from the agenda.

- 18. Consideration of resolution authorizing acceptance of transfer of jurisdiction and control from State Coastal Conservancy of APN 4458-009-900, 24038 Malibu Road, City of Malibu.**

This item was removed from the agenda.

- 19. Consideration of resolution to add two potential Coastal Slope Trail – Sweetwater to Tuna Canyon Park parcels (APNs 4453-016-004 and 006) in Carbon Canyon to the Conservancy Workprogram, Malibu.**

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

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Yegparian, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 11-48.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, the Conservancy unanimously adopted Resolution No. 11-48.

- 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 – *Morris v. Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority; Ramirez Canyon Preservation Fund v. Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority, Case No. BS127089; Ramirez Canyon Preservation Fund v. California Coastal Commission, Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority, Case No. BS129503; City of Malibu v. Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority and California Coastal Commission, Case No. BS129222 Ramirez Canyon Preservation Fund v. California Coastal Commission, et al. Case No. BS 121820; Lt-WR, LLC v. Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy SC105587; Friends of Temescal Pool v. Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority, City of Malibu v. California Coastal Commission, Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority Case No. BS121650, Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy v. City of Malibu, and related actions.*

Initiation of litigation. Number of cases: 1. Parties: *Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy v. Mulholland Estates Homeowner’s Association, Bartlein & Company, Inc., et al.* The Conservancy may refer the following matter to the Department of Justice for potential initiation of litigation: Action to enforce public access rights to Fossil Ridge Park as recorded in the “Declaration of Covenants, Conditions & Restrictions for Mulholland Estates” recorded on August 29, 1988 as Instrument No. 88-1372488 in the Office of the Los Angeles County Recorder.

No closed session was held.

19. Announcement of future meetings and adjournment.

The Chairperson announced that the next meeting would be held on June 27, 2011.

There being no further business, the Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 9:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Approved:

JOSEPH T. EDMISTON, FAICP Hon. ASLA
Executive Director

ANTONIO GONZALEZ
Chairperson