

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

February 27, 2012

1. Call to order.

The 387th joint telephonic meeting of the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy Advisory Committee was called to order by Chairperson Elizabeth A. Cheadle, at 7:37 p.m. on February 27, 2012 at King Gillette Ranch, Calabasas, California.

2. Administration of Oath of Office to new members.

The Executive Director administered the Oath of Office to Advisory Committee Member Illece Buckley-Weber.

3. Roll Call of Conservancy.

The Conservancy roll was called and the following members were present: John Contreras; Woody Smeck; Jerome C. Daniel; Linda Parks; Bryan Cash (via teleconference); Craig Sap, and Elizabeth A. Cheadle, Chairperson. The following members were absent: Richard Bloom; Joan Cardelleno; Antonio Gonzalez; and Irma Muñoz, Vice Chairperson. A quorum was present.

4. Roll Call of Advisory Committee.

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

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, and Christopher Trumpy, Acting Board Secretary.

5. Introduction of Legislative Participants or their staff.

The Chairperson announced that Rebekah Rodriguez Lynn and Julia Juarez were present.

6. Approval of Minutes.

The minutes of January 23, 2012 were submitted for approval.

The minutes of January 23, 2012 were approved as submitted.

7. Special recognition to former Advisory Committee Member Linda Palmer.

Former Advisory Committee member Linda Palmer received recognition from staff and members for years of dedicated service to the Conservancy.

8. Special recognition to Conservancy member Woody Smeck.

Conservancy member Woody Smeck received recognition from staff and members for years of dedicated service to the Conservancy.

Additional comments were made by Mr. Sap.

9. Reports:

The Conservancy received verbal reports from the Chairperson; Mr. Smeck, representing National Park Service; Mr. Sap, representing State Parks; Mr. Contreras, representing Angeles National Forest; and Mr. Lange, representing the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority.

10. Members comments on matters not on the agenda.

Comments were made by Ms. Rosen.

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

The following member of the public addressed the Conservancy:

Mr. Eric Edmunds, representing Save Our Mountains, Inc., on item 12(a).
Ms. Donna Tripp, member of the public.

12. Consent Calendar:

- (a) Consideration of resolution authorizing a comment letter to the City of Los Angeles on the San Vicente Communications Tower project, San Vicente Mountain Park, 17500 Mulholland Drive.**
- (b) Consideration of resolution authorizing a comment letter to City of Los Angeles on Forest Lawn Memorial Park Hollywood Hills Master Plan Final Environmental Impact Report (SCH No. 2008111048), Hollywood.**
- (c) Consideration of resolution authorizing a comment letter to California Department of Transportation on US 101/Palo Comado Interchange Project Final Draft IS/EA.**
- (d) Consideration of resolution authorizing a comment letter to California Department of Transportation and the City of Calabasas on the Lost Hills Road/US-101 Overcrossing Replacement and Interchange Modification Project Initial Study with Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration/Environmental Assessment.**
- (e) Consideration of resolution adopting a historical records retention policy, and directing the Executive Director to preserve certain historical records of the Conservancy beyond the period of the Department of General Services retention policy, and authorizing him to preserve written and oral historical records that he may generate or may be generated, and to furthermore authorize the publication of materials, at his sole and exclusive discretion, from any member of the Santa Monica Mountains Comprehensive Planning Commission, the Citizen's Advisory Committee thereof, or the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy or the Advisory Committee thereof, and provided that such persons have given authorization thereof, and providing that no copyright infringement is made, and authorizing expenditures from the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy Fund for educational interpretation purposes.**

Items 12(b) and 12(e) were removed from the agenda.

Item 12(a) and 12(d) were removed from the Consent Calendar.

A roll-call vote was administered.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Gould, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommend adoption of Resolution No. 12-12.

A roll-call vote was administered.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, the Conservancy unanimously adopted Resolution No. 12-12.

12(a). Consideration of resolution authorizing a comment letter to the City of Los Angeles on the San Vicente Communications Tower project, San Vicente Mountain Park, 17500 Mulholland Drive.

Questions were propounded by Ms. Rosen.

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

The Deputy Director of Natural Resources and Planning read a revision to the comment letter into the record.

A roll-call vote was administered.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Rosen, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommend adoption of Resolution No. 12-10.

A roll-call vote was administered.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Smeck, duly seconded, the Conservancy unanimously adopted Resolution No. 12-10.

12(d). Consideration of resolution authorizing a comment letter to California Department of Transportation and the City of Calabasas on the Lost Hills

**Road/US-101 Overcrossing Replacement and Interchange Modification Project
Initial Study with Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration/Environmental
Assessment.**

Questions were propounded by Ms. Maurer, and Messrs. Yegparian and Brown.

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

A roll-call vote was administered.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Rosen, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommend adoption of Resolution No. 12-13.

A roll-call vote was administered.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, the Conservancy unanimously adopted Resolution No. 12-13.

13. Presentation on the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority Residential Outdoor Education Program.

The Conservancy received an oral report from Amy Lethbridge, representing the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority.

Questions were propounded by Ms. Maurer.

Comments were made by Mr. Daniel.

14. Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant of Proposition 84 funds to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for project planning and design of the Pacoima Wash Greenway-El Dorado Park, City of Los Angeles.

A roll-call vote was administered.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Fromholz, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommend adoption of Resolution No. 12-15.

A roll-call vote was administered.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Smeck, duly seconded, the Conservancy unanimously adopted Resolution No. 12-15.

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 – *Kruells v. La Vina Homeowners Association, Case No. GC035668; Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy v. City of Whittier, Matrix Oil Co. and related entities, Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District and the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors; 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; 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.

The Chairperson convened the closed session at 9:36 p.m. to discuss pending litigation – *Kruells v. La Vina Homeowners Association, Case No. GC035668.*

The Chairperson reconvened the open session at 10:00 p.m. and announced the addition of emergency agenda item 15(a) to the agenda regarding pending litigation – *Kruells v. La Vina Homeowners Association, Case No. GC035668*.

15(a). Consideration of resolution authorizing the Executive Director to take all required steps including signing documents to settle *Kruells v. La Viña Homeowners Association*.

A roll-call vote was administered.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, the Conservancy unanimously adopted Resolution No. 12-16.

16. Announcement of future meetings and adjournment.

The Chairperson announced that the next meeting would be held on a date to be determined.

There being no further business, the Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 10:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Approved:

JOSEPH T. EDMISTON, FAICP HON. ASLA
Executive Director

ELIZABETH A. CHEADLE
Chairperson