

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 29, 2013

1. Call to order.

The 398th joint telephonic meeting of the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy Advisory Committee was called to order by Chairperson Irma Muñoz, at 7:39 p.m. on April 29, 2013 at Temescal Canyon Park, Stewart Hall, 15601 Sunset Boulevard, Pacific Palisades, California.

[Item 4 was heard next.]

4. Roll Call of Conservancy.

The Conservancy roll was called and the following members were present: Tom Contreras; Brian Brennan; David Szymanski; Jerome C. Daniel; Elizabeth Cheadle; Linda Parks, Vice Chairperson, and Irma Muñoz; Chairperson. A quorum was present. The following members were absent: Craig Sap and Bryan Cash.

Staff present: Joseph T. Edmiston, FAICP, Hon. ASLA, Executive Director; Rorie Skei, Chief Deputy Director; Christina Arndt, Supervising Deputy Attorney General; Paul Edelman, Deputy Director of Natural Resources and Planning (via teleconference); Melissa Cartelli, Associated Government Program Analyst, and James Yeramian, Board Secretary.

[Item 18 was heard next.]

- 18. 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, and Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority v. City of Malibu, and related actions, Case No. SC 092212.

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 7:56 p.m.

The Chairperson reconvened the open session at 8:19 p.m. and announced that instructions were given to staff.

[The Chairperson resumed the regular order of the agenda subsequent to closed session.]

2. Special Recognition to Advisory Committee Member Paul Rabinov.

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

3. Administration of Oath of Office to Advisory Committee Member Bob Thompson.

The oath of office was administered by the Executive Director.

Comments were made by Mr. Thompson.

5. Roll Call of Advisory Committee.

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

6. Introduction of Legislative Participants or their staff.

The Chair announced that the following legislative participant was present: Bobi Johnson, representing Assemblymember Chris Holden.

7. Approval of Minutes.

The minutes of March 18, 2013 were submitted for approval.

The minutes of March 18, 2013 were approved as submitted.

8. Reports.

The Conservancy received oral reports from the Chairperson; Mr. Brennan, representing the California Coastal Commission; Mr. Szymanski, representing the National Park Service; Mr. Contreras, representing the Forest Service, and Mr. Lange, representing the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority.

9. Members comments on matters not on the agenda.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Yegparian.

Comments were made by Mr. Szymanski.

The Conservancy received a report and demonstration by Mr. Cacciotti.

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

The following members of the public addressed the Conservancy:

Eric Edmunds, representing Save Our Mountains, Inc., on matters not on the agenda.
Ernest M. Scheuer, member of the public, on item 14.

11. Coastal Consent Calendar:

- (a) Consideration of resolution approving the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority to use additional Coastal Habitat Impact Mitigation Funds towards the acquisition of APN 4465-004-045 and 4465-004-084 in the Ramirez Canyon watershed, unincorporated Los Angeles County.**
- (b) Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant of Proposition 84 funds to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for project planning and design for the Escondido to Ramirez Canyon habitat and trail linkage project in the coastal watersheds of Santa Monica Bay, unincorporated Los Angeles County.**
- (c) Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant of Proposition 84 funds to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for project planning and design for the Little Sycamore to Encinal Canyon Coastal Slope Trail zone project, in the coastal watersheds of Santa Monica Bay, unincorporated Los Angeles County.**

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Acker, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution Nos. 13-22, 13-23, and 13-24.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, the Conservancy unanimously adopted Resolution Nos. 13-22, 13-23, and 13-24.

12. Consent Calendar:

- (a) Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant of Proposition 84 funds to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for project planning and design for the upper Malibu Canyon tributaries project in the coastal watersheds of Santa Monica Bay, unincorporated Los Angeles County and cities of Calabasas and Agoura Hills.**
- (b) Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant of Proposition 84 funds to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for project planning and**

design for the Browns Canyon watershed project in the upper Los Angeles River watershed, Santa Susana Mountains, Chatsworth area.

- (c) Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant of Proposition 84 funds to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for the San Gabriel Mountains-Rim of the Valley Trail implementation and Angeles National Forest trail and habitat connections project in the upper Los Angeles River watershed.**
- (d) Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant of Proposition 84 funds to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for project planning and design for the Alamos Canyon habitat and trail linkage project in the coastal watersheds of Santa Monica Bay, Calleguas Creek watershed, Santa Susana Mountains, Ventura County.**
- (e) Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant of Proposition 84 funds to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for project planning and design for the upper Topanga watershed project in the coastal watersheds of Santa Monica Bay, unincorporated Los Angeles County.**
- (f) Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant of Proposition 84 funds to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for project planning and design for the Sage Ranch to Santa Susana Pass State Historic Park habitat linkage project in the upper Los Angeles River watershed and coastal watersheds of Santa Monica Bay, Simi Hills, unincorporated Ventura and Los Angeles counties.**
- (g) Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant of Proposition 84 funds to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for project planning and design for the Mulholland Drive Scenic Corridor in the upper Los Angeles River watershed and coastal watersheds of Santa Monica Bay, Santa Monica Mountains, City of Los Angeles.**
- (h) Consideration of resolution authorizing an augmentation of grant NP-0640, The Great Wall Project, to the Social and Public Art Resource Center (SPARC).**
- (i) Consideration of resolution authorizing a comment letter to Los Angeles regarding proposed modification to recorded Tract Map No. 38931, Dark Canyon watershed, unincorporated Los Angeles County.**
- (j) Consideration of resolution authorizing a budget modification for SMM-0754 to Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for project planning and**

design services in the upper Los Angeles River watershed and coastal watersheds of Santa Monica Bay.

Items 12(d) and 12(i) were removed from the Consent Calendar.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Portantino, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution Nos. 13-25; 13-26; 13-27; 13-29; 13-30; 13-31; 13-32, and 13-34.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, the Conservancy unanimously adopted Resolution Nos. 13-25; 13-26; 13-27; 13-29; 13-30; 13-31; 13-32, and 13-34.

12(d) Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant of Proposition 84 funds to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for project planning and design for the Alamos Canyon habitat and trail linkage project in the coastal watersheds of Santa Monica Bay, Calleguas Creek watershed, Santa Susana Mountains, Ventura County.

Questions were propounded by Ms. Mikos.

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

Questions were propounded by Ms. Freeman.

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

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Maurer, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 13-28.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, the Conservancy unanimously adopted Resolution No. 13-28.

12(i). Consideration of resolution authorizing a comment letter to Los Angeles regarding proposed modification to recorded Tract Map No. 38931, Dark Canyon watershed, unincorporated Los Angeles County.

Questions were propounded by Ms. Rosen.

Comments were made by the Chief Deputy Director.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Maurer, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 13-34.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, the Conservancy unanimously adopted Resolution No. 13-34.

13. Presentation by National Park Service on San Gabriel Watershed and Mountains Special Resource Study.

This item was postponed to a later date.

14. Report from place-naming Subcommittee.

Comments were made by Messrs. Kishbaugh, Yegparian, and Brown.

Questions were propounded by Ms. Parks.

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

15. Consideration of resolution authorizing entering into a license agreement for the operation of a nursery on a portion of La Tuna Canyon Park, Verdugo Hills.

Comments were made by Mr. Yegparian.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Lange, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 13-35.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Cheadle, duly seconded, the Conservancy unanimously adopted Resolution No. 13-35.

16. Consideration of resolution supporting SB 511 (Lieu).

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

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Rosen, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 13-36.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, the Conservancy unanimously adopted Resolution No. 13-36.

17. Consideration of resolution supporting AB 976 (Atkins).

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

Comments were made by Messrs. Brennan and Jennings.

Questions were propounded by Ms. Freeman.

Comments were made by Messrs. Jennings, Brennan, and Cacciotti.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Portantino.

Comments were made by the Executive Director.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Maurer, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 13-37.

Ms. Turnbull Sanders was noted as abstaining.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Szymanski, duly seconded, the Conservancy unanimously adopted Resolution No. 13-37.

20. Announcement of future meetings and adjournment.

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The Chairperson announced that the next meeting would be held on June 3, 2013 at King Gillette Ranch.

There being no further business, the Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 9:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

JOSEPH T. EDMISTON, FAICP HON. ASLA
Executive Director

Approved:

IRMA MUÑOZ
Chairperson