

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

January 27, 2014

1. Call to order.

The 404th meeting of the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy Advisory Committee was called to order by Chairperson Irma Muñoz, at 7:43 p.m. on January 27, 2014 at Temescal Canyon Conference & Retreat Center, Pacific Palisades, California.

The Executive Director administered the Oath of Office to Ed Corridori, Mark Vargas, and Luis Li.

2. Roll Call of Conservancy.

The Conservancy roll was called and the following members were present: David Szymanski; Luis Li; David Pettit; Jerome C. Daniel; Bryan Cash (via teleconference); Craig Sap; Elizabeth Cheadle; Linda Parks, Vice Chairperson, and Irma Muñoz, Chairperson. A quorum was present.

3. Roll Call of Advisory Committee Members.

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

Staff present: Joseph T. Edmiston, FAICP, Hon. ASLA, Executive Director; Rorie Skei, Chief Deputy Director; Paul Edelman, Deputy Director of Natural Resources and Planning; Jeff Maloney, Chief Staff Counsel; Melissa Cartelli, Associated Government Program Analyst, and James Yeramian, Board Secretary.

4. Election of Conservancy Officers.

Comments were made by Ms. Muñoz.

On nomination by Ms. Cheadle, Ms. Parks was unanimously elected Chairperson of the Conservancy.

On nomination by Ms. Muñoz, Mr. Daniel was unanimously elected Vice Chairperson of the Conservancy.

5. Election of Advisory Committee Officers.

On nomination by Mr. Kishbaugh, Mr. Robinson was unanimously re-elected as Chairperson of the Advisory Committee.

On nomination of Mr. Kishbaugh, Mr. Lange was unanimously re-elected as Vice Chairperson of the Advisory Committee.

6. Introduction of Legislative Participants or their staff.

The Chairperson announced that Louise Rishoff; Vickere Murphy; Tim Pershing, and Bobbi Johnson were present.

7. Approval of Minutes.

The minutes of December 9, 2013 were submitted for approval.

The minutes of December 9, 2013 were approved as submitted.

8. Reports.

The Conservancy received oral reports from the Chairperson; Ms. Muñoz; Mr. Szymanski; Mr. Sap; the Executive Director, and Mr. Daniel.

9. Members comments on matters not on the agenda.

Comments were made by Mr. Cacciotti and Ms. Muñoz.

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:

Ms. Kim Lamorie, representing LVHF, on item 13.

Mr. Roger Pugliese, representing Topanga Association for a Scenic Community, on item 13.

Mr. Tony Tucci, representing Citizens for Los Angeles Wildlife, on item 14.

Ms. Alison Simard, representing Citizens for Los Angeles Wildlife, on item 14.

- 11. Consideration of resolution authorizing a comment letter to the County of Los Angeles on the Notice of Preparation for “Escondido Falls” Malitex Residential Project (PM071073-[3]), 5700 block of northerly end of paved portion of Murphy Way, Escondido Canyon and Ramirez Canyon watersheds.**

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Rosen, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 14-01.

A roll-call vote was administered.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Cheadle, duly seconded, the Conservancy unanimously adopted Resolution No. 14-01.

- 12. Consideration of resolution authorizing a comment letter to the County of Los Angeles on proposed Santa Monica Mountains Local Coastal Program.**

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Anderson, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 14-02.

A roll-call vote was administered.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Muñoz, duly seconded, the Conservancy unanimously adopted Resolution No. 14-02.

13. Consideration of resolution authorizing a comment letter to the City of Calabasas on proposed Broadway Trust Residence, 3121 and 3111 Old Topanga Canyon Road, Dry Creek Canyon watershed.

The comment letter was revised based on comments made by Mr. Corridori.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Rosen, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 14-03.

A roll-call vote was administered.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Szymanski, duly seconded, the Conservancy unanimously adopted Resolution No. 14-03.

14. Consideration of resolution adopting Elephant Hill, Monterey Hills, South Pasadena Baseline Wildlife Corridor Map.

This item was postponed to a later date.

15. Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant from the Conservancy Fund to the California Trails Conference Foundation for the 2014 Trails and Greenways Conference.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Ross.

Comments were made by the Chief Deputy Director and Mr. Sap.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Gould, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 14-05.

A roll-call vote was administered.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, the Conservancy unanimously adopted Resolution No. 14-05.

16. Consideration of resolution authorizing use of funds from the Conservancy Fund for Department of Justice and Department of General Services – Real Estate Services Division services.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Cacciotti, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 14-06.

A roll-call vote was administered.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Cacciotti, duly seconded, the Conservancy unanimously adopted Resolution No. 14-06.

17. Consideration of resolution authorizing a matching grant of Proposition 84 funds to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for the La Viña Trail project, Altadena.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Rosen, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 14-07.

A roll-call vote was administered.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Muñoz, duly seconded, the Conservancy unanimously adopted Resolution No. 14-07.

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, et al., Case No. BS138796, and related cases; 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.

No closed session was held.

19. Announcement of future meetings and adjournment.

Comments were made by the Executive Director, Mr. Cash, and Mr. Portantino.

The Chairperson announced that the next meeting would be held on February 24, 2014.

There being no further business, the Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 8:42 p.m. in memory of Ms. Liz Blackwelder.

Respectfully submitted:

Approved:

JOSEPH T. EDMISTON, FAICP HON. ASLA
Executive Director

LINDA PARKS
Chairperson