

SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY

SOOKY GOLDMAN NATURE CENTER
FRANKLIN CANYON PARK
2600 FRANKLIN CANYON
BEVERLY HILLS, CALIFORNIA 90210
PHONE (310) 858-7272 FAX (310) 858-7212



MINUTES OF THE JOINT MEETING
of the
SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY
and the
SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY
ADVISORY COMMITTEE

May 14, 2001

1. Call to order.

The joint meeting of the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy Advisory Committee was called to order by Conservancy Chairperson Michael Berger at 7:35 p.m. on May 14, 2001, at Franklin Canyon Park, Sooky Goldman Nature Center, 2600 Franklin Canyon Drive, Beverly Hills, California 90210.

The Executive Director administered the oath of office to Mr. Michael Cacciotti as the representative of the City of South Pasadena on the Advisory Committee.

The Executive Director administered the oath of office to Ms. Mary Sue Maurer as the designee of Assemblymember Fran Pavley, legislative member appointed by the Speaker of the Assembly.

The Executive Director administered the oath of office to Ms. Susan McEntire as the designee of Senator Jack Scott, legislative member appointed by the Senate Rules Committee.

2. Roll Call of Conservancy.

The Conservancy roll was called and the following members were present: Elizabeth Cheadle, Arthur Eck, Russell Guiney, Jonathan Zasloff, and Michael Berger, Chair. The following members arrived subsequent to roll call: Jerome Daniel, Vice Chair. The following members were absent: Edward Albert, Ed Begley, Jr., Steve Horn, and Mary Nichols. Quorum present.

The following Legislative members were present: Mary Sue Maurer, Susan McEntire, and Laura Plotkin. The following Legislative members were absent: Hon. Gloria Romero, George Magallanes, and Scott Svonkin.

3. Roll Call of Advisory Committee.

The Advisory Committee roll was called and the following members were present: Dave

Brown, Michael Cacciotti, Ed Corridori, Lesley Devine, Terre Hirsch, Clare Marter Kenyon, Don Robinson, Paul Rockenstein, Thomas Seifert, Nancy Steele, Nancy Stephens, Marc Stirdivant, Timothy Wendler, George Lange, Vice Chair, and Alan Kishbaugh, Chair. The following members arrived subsequent to roll call: Linda Palmer. The following members were absent: Colleen Briner-Schmidt, Bruce Crow, Thomas Hasse, Mark Johnson, Roseann Mikos, Anthony Portantino, Rick Putnam, Bruce Saito, and Kenneth Warner. Quorum present.

Staff present: Joseph T. Edmiston, AICP, Executive Director; Belinda Faustinos, Chief Deputy Director; Rorie Skei, Deputy Director of Natural Resources and Planning; Amy Lethbridge, Deputy Executive Officer of Education, Interpretation, Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA); Walt Young, Chief Ranger, MRCA; Katherine Chew, Staff Counsel, MRCA; Reva Concoff, Chief of Special Projects, MRCA; Kathleen Bullard, Director of Los Angeles River Center, (MRCA); Stephanie Landregan, Staff Landscape Architect, MRCA; Marc Shores, Project Analyst, MRCA; Judy Tamasi, Project Analyst, MRCA; and Colby Allerton, Board Secretary, SMMC/MRCA.

Representing the Office of Attorney General was Terry Fujimoto.

4. Reports

The Conservancy received a verbal report from the Chairperson.

The Conservancy received a verbal report from Mr. Fujimoto.

Comments were made by Ms. Cheadle.

The Conservancy received a verbal report from Ms. Lethbridge.

The Conservancy received a verbal report from Ms. Skei.

The Conservancy received a verbal report from Ms. Concoff.

The Conservancy received a verbal report from Mr. Young.

Questions were propounded to staff by Mr. Lange.

Comments were made by Mr. Young.

The Conservancy received a written report from the Executive Director.

5. 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:

Dorian Keyser, representing the Topanga Banjo, Fiddle, and Folk Festival, on Topanga Banjo, Fiddle, and Folk Festival.

Stanley W. Lamport, representing members of Sullivan Canyon Preservation Association, on item 20.

Douglas Thorpe, representing the Sullivan Canyon Preservation Association, on item 20.

Gordon Murley, representing the Woodland Hills Homeowners Association, on items 7, 8, and 20.

Barry Read, representing Mulholland Tomorrow, on item 7.

Laurane Ruth, member of the public, on items 7 and 8.

6. Consent Calendar:

(a) **Consideration of resolution authorizing amendment of grant to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for project planning and design services.**

(b) **Consideration of resolution supporting the application by Caltrans to the U.S. Department of the Interior for an Arroyo Seco Natural Heritage Area.**

(c) **Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant amendment to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for a study of recreational opportunities in the vicinity of the Los Angeles River and Arroyo Seco Confluence area of the City of Los Angeles.**

The Chair noted that items 6(a), 15, and 22 had been removed from the agenda, and made comments about opening up the meeting items for simultaneous discussion by the Advisory Committee and the Conservancy.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Cheadle, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution Nos. 01-81 and 01-82.

(The full text of these resolutions is attached.)

7. Consideration of resolution recommending that the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority prioritize the acquisitions of Mulholland Gateway - 21000

Mulholland and Mulholland Gateway Park - Chapter/Natoma absent participation of the California Department of Parks and Recreation in the acquisition of both parcels.

Comments were made by the Executive Director regarding moving to item 8.

- 8. Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for acquisition of 21000 Mulholland property (APNs 2173-007-006, 008, 010 and 107) City of Los Angeles, and recommending the transfer to the California Department of Parks and Recreation. (This item may be heard in closed session pursuant to Section 11126 Subdivision (c) (7)(A) of the Government Code.)**

The Executive Director presented the staff report for this item.

Questions were propounded to staff by the Chair, Mr. Brown, Ms. Devine, Ms. Steele, Mr. Zasloff, and Mr. Corridori.

Comments were made by the Executive Director regarding the necessity of a closed session on this item.

Comments were made by the Executive Director, Mr. Guiney, the Chair, Mr. Brown, Ms. Cheadle, Mr. Wendler, Ms. Ploktin, Mr. Corridori, Ms. Devine, Mr. Zasloff, and Ms. Maurer.

The Chair noted that any action on this item would be taken subsequent to closed session.

- 9. Consideration of resolution adopting Park Development and Improvement Project Evaluation Criteria.**

Ms. Skei presented the staff report for this item.

Questions were propounded to staff by Mr. Robinson, Ms. Devine, Mr. Guiney, Mr. Eck, Mr. Corridori, the Executive Director, and Mr. Guiney.

Comments were made by Ms. Skei, Mr. Wendler, Mr. Zasloff, the Chair, Ms. Devine, the Executive Director, Mr. Guiney, Mr. Corridori, Mr. Kishbaugh, Mr. Robinson, Mr. Cacciotti, Mr. Lange, Ms. Cheadle, .

On motion of Mr. Robinson to amend criteria by scoring all urban park values one point higher, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee did not recommend the amendment.

On motion of Mr. Corridori to amend criteria by scoring the first urban park value one point higher, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended the amendment. Mr. Hirsch was recorded as voting no.

On motion of Ms. Devine to reword certain sections of the criteria, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee did not recommend the amendment.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Seifert, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 01-85 as amended.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Eck, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 01-85 as amended.

(The full text of this resolution is attached.)

10. Consideration of resolution adopting Ramirez-Escondido Canyons Upper Project Plan, unincorporated Los Angeles County.

The Executive Director presented the staff report on this item.

Comments were made by Mr. Brown, Mr. Eck, Mr. Lange, and the Executive Director.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Lange, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 01-86.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Guiney, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 01-86.

(The full text of this resolution is attached.)

11. Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for acquisition of APNs 4465-004-047, 060, 061 in the Ramirez-Escondido Canyons Upper project area.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Palmer, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 01-87.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Cheadle, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 01-87.

(The full text of this resolution is attached.)

12. Consideration of resolution authorizing amendments to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority FY 2000-01 budget.

The Executive Director presented the staff report on this item.

Questions were propounded by Ms. Cheadle and Mr. Zasloff.

Comments were made by the Ms. Faustinos, Mr. Zasloff, the Executive Director, and Ms. Cheadle.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Stephens, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 01-88.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Cheadle, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 01-88.

(The full text of this resolution is attached.)

13. Consideration of resolution authorizing letter of support to the City of Calabasas for an EEMP Grant for the landscaping for U.S. Highway 101 On/Off ramps at Parkway Calabasas.

The Executive Director presented the staff report for this item.

Comments were made by Ms. Palmer, Ms. Devine, and Mr. Brown.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Palmer, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 01-89.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Eck, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 01-89.

(The full text of this resolution is attached.)

14. Consideration of resolution authorizing comment letter on the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area General Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement.

The Executive Director presented the staff report for this item.

Comments were made by Ms. Palmer, the Executive Director, Mr. Eck, and Ms. Steele.

On motion of Ms. Palmer to amend letter by adding backbone trail completion and camping facilities, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended the amendment.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Palmer, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 01-90 as amended.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Guiney, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 01-90 as amended. Mr. Eck was recorded as abstaining.

(The full text of this resolution is attached.)

15. Consideration of resolution authorizing acceptance of donation of APN 2050-022-002 from C. A. Rasmussen Company, LLC, Agoura Hills.

This item was postponed.

16. Consideration of resolution authorizing comment on Solstice Canyon Rehabilitation Project, National Park Service.

The Executive Director presented the staff report for this item.

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

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Brown, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 01-91.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Cheadle, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 01-91 as amended. Mr. Eck was recorded as abstaining.

(The full text of this resolution is attached.)

17. Consideration of a resolution authorizing a comment letter on Notice of Consultation for proposed CUP 01-017, 1953 Latigo Canyon Road, unincorporated Los Angeles County.

The Executive Director presented the staff report for this item.

Comments were made by Mr. Brown, Mr. Eck, and Ms. Tamasi.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Brown, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 01-92.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Eck to include National Park Service information, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 01-92 as amended.

(The full text of this resolution is attached.)

18. Consideration of a resolution authorizing a comment letter on Notice of Consultation for proposed CUP 01-030, 3480 Las Flores Canyon Road, unincorporated Los Angeles County.

The Executive Director presented the staff report on this item.

Questions were propounded to staff by Ms. Devine.

Comments were made by Ms. Tamasi and the Chair.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Lange, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 01-93.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Cheadle, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 01-93.

(The full text of this resolution is attached.)

19. Consideration of resolution authorizing application for funding from Federal Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA 21), Statewide Transportation Enhancements (STE) program.

The Executive Director presented the staff report for this item.

Questions were propounded to staff by Ms. Devine.

Comments were made by the Executive Director, Ms. Cheadle, and Mr. Daniel.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Wendler, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 01-94.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 01-94.

(The full text of this resolution is attached.)

20. Consideration of a resolution recommending that the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority enter into an agreement with the Sullivan Canyon Preservation Authority to acquire the Old Ranch Road site, City of Los Angeles. *(This item may be heard in closed session pursuant to Section 11126 Subdivision (c)(7)(A) of the Government Code.)*

The Executive Director presented the staff report for this item.

Questions were propounded to staff by the Chair and Mr. Brown.

Comments were made by the Executive Director, Mr. Brown, and Ms. Devine.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Steele, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 01-95. Mr. Brown was recorded as abstaining.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 01-95.

(The full text of this resolution is attached.)

- 21. Consideration of a resolution authorizing the acceptance of the transfer of control and possession of Assessor's Parcel Numbers 4204-013-036 and 038, City of Culver City, from the California Department of Parks and Recreation and authorizing the quitclaim of both parcels to Vista Pacifica Homes, LLC.**

This item was postponed.

- 22. Consideration of resolution authorizing comment letter on Mulholland Water Pipeline Project Draft Environmental Impact Report, Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, Woodland Hills area, City of Los Angeles.**

The Executive Director presented the staff report for this item.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Devine, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 01-97.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Cheadle, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 01-97.

(The full text of this resolution is attached.)

- 23. Legislation: Consideration of resolutions supporting A.B. 1011 (Pavley), A.B. 1070 (Pavley), A.B. 1108 (Pavley), A.B. 1481 (Frommer), S.B. 196 (Chesbro), and S.B. 359 (Murray).**

The Executive Director presented the staff report for this item.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Devine, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution Nos. 01-98, 01-99, 01-100, 01-101, 01-102, and 01-103.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Zasloff, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution Nos. 01-98, 01-99, 01-100, 01-101, 01-102, and 01-103.

(The full text of this resolution is attached.)

24. Minutes

The open session minutes of February 26, 2001, and April 9, 2001 were submitted for approval.

The open session minutes of February 26, 2001, and April 9, 2001 were approved as submitted.

The closed session minutes of October 23, 2000, December 4, 2000, January 22, 2001, and February 26, 2001 were submitted for approval.

The closed session minutes of October 23, 2000, December 4, 2000, January 22, 2001, and February 26, 2001 were approved as submitted.

- 25. 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: *Village Properties v. Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy et al.; Save Open Space v. Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority; Save Open Space v. Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (Real Parties in Interest); Tucker v. Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy et al.; Tucker v. Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority et al.; City of Malibu v. Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy; City of Malibu v. California Coastal Commission, Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy et al.; Ramirez Canyon Preservation Fund v. California Coastal Commission, Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy et al.; Mirharooni v. Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy et al.; Malibu-Encinal Home Owners Association, Inc. v. Lechuza Villas West, LLP, Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, State Coastal Conservancy et al.; Los Amigos de Caballero Canyon v. Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy et al.; Nervik v. State of California; Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority v. Soka University of America; Sierra Club et al. v. County of Los Angeles; State of California, ex. rel. Andrea Tuttle, Director of Department of Forestry and Fire Protection v. Southern California Edison Company.***

The Chair called a closed session at 11:05 p.m. pursuant to Government Code Section 11126 Subdivision (c)(7)(A) of the for item 8 and the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority closed session was called pursuant to Government Code Sections 54956.8 and 54956.9 of the Government Code for item IV(b) for instructions to negotiators.

The Chair reconvened the open session at 11:17 p.m. and announced that the board received

a report on item 8.

8. Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for acquisition of 21000 Mulholland property (APNs 2173-007-006, 008, 010 and 107) City of Los Angeles, and recommending the transfer to the California Department of Parks and Recreation. (This item may be heard in closed session pursuant to Section 11126 Subdivision (c) (7)(A) of the Government Code.)

The Executive Director presented the staff report for this item, amending the staff recommendation to authorize acquisition contingent upon receiving funding commitments either by the California Department of Parks and Recreation or by Proposition 13 from the Resources Agency.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Lange, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 01-84 as amended. Ms. Steele was recorded as voting no. Mr. Wendler and Mr. Brown were recorded as abstaining.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Guiney, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 01-84 as amended.

(The full text of this resolution is attached.)

26. Members comments on matters not on the Agenda.

Mr. Daniel made comments regarding the Conservancy representative for the Bel Air - Beverly Crest Neighborhood Council.

Mr. Brown made comments regarding the scarcity of rattlesnake anti-venom.

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

27. Announcement of future meetings and adjournment.

The Chair announced that the next meeting would be held on June 25th, 2001, in Thousand Oaks and that the December meeting would be scheduled for December 17th, 2001, at the Los Angeles River Center and Gardens.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Approved:

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JOSEPH T. EDMISTON, AICP
Executive Director

MICHAEL BERGER
Chairperson