

Wildlife Corridor Conservation Authority  
Advisory Committee Bullet Minutes  
December 2, 2009  
Submitted by: Sona McCoy

- Item I: Call to order.
- Item II: Administration of oath of office to Rick Rogers.
- Item III: Roll Call. Advisory Committee Members Present: Shelley Andros; Stephen Davis; Alissa Ing; Bob Kanne; Sona McCoy; Helen Rahder; Rick Rogers; Robert Turner
- Item IV: Comments by members of the public on items not on the agenda and public testimony on all agenda items.  
Comments by Shirley Greg from Coyote Hills regarding agenda item 10: Include all areas of water in the Coyote Hills area and extending to the Pacific Ocean. The San Gabriel River continues on to the Coyote Creek water shed. Coyote Creek water shed needs protection by the National Park system so that they can receive funding, sustain and preserve the water shed and provide educational programs to protect the Coyote Creek area. The Coyote Hills are connected to the Brea Hills area by Brea Creek. Shirley Greg asked the WILDLIFE CORRIDOR CONSERVATION AUTHORITY to please address this problem to the National Park System. The entire water shed should be included in the park system.
- Item V: Advisory committee and staff response to public comment. No questions at this time. Advisory Committee will consider writing a letter in favor of including the Coyote Creek water shed in the National Park System.
- Item VI: Approval of minutes from meeting of May 27, 2009.
- Item VII: Update on Governing Board meeting May 27, 2009. Judy Tamasi adopted the budget but did not approve the letter written by WCCA to the National Park System.
- Item VIII: Comments and announcements from Advisory Committee Members.  
Alissa Ing reported on the Visitor's Center. Construction is continued after it was temporarily halted. The infrastructure will be completed in May. A grant was approved for an outdoor lab. A Nature Education Grant was approved.  
Jeff Yann spoke about the Montebello Hills EIR. Many letters were submitted regarding the EIR. The EIR was processed so slowly that new City Council members were elected. The Mayor opposes the Cook Hill Development and Cook Hill does not know what they will do about this.  
Comments by Helen Rahder.
- Item IX: Discussion of development projects in the wildlife corridor area.  
Comments by Jeff Yann: Montebello Hills has the highest population of Nat Catchers in this area. If 50% of the Nat Catchers survived, the development would be permissible. The nats are moving to Sycamore Canyon and going to West Puente Hills.  
Comments by Helen Rahder.  
Comments by Robert Turner regarding Aera Project.  
Comments by Judy Tamasi regarding Diamond Bar and Aera.  
Comments by William Madden: There is a housing development of 165 homes that is being developed in Carbon Canyon. It will cost about 17 million dollars. It is nine years into the planning. The project is slowed by the City until \$130,000 fees are paid. There are fire hazards involved in developing this cul-de-sac.  
Comments by Helen Rahder regarding this development project and regarding the resurgence of more community activism to control the future of community developments.  
Comments by Bob Kane: There is a new development proposed in Yorba Linda. It is the Merdock property. Merdock is a billionaire. He desires to build a gated community in Chino Hills. There will be 371 homes. The Whittier Earthquake Fault is an issue. This is a very fire hazardous area. A public meeting was well attended by members of the community. There were 40 people who met at a local junior high. There are difficulties with low income housing requirements and traffic outlets in the development plan.  
Comments by Helen Rahder: Some communities are against gated communities.  
Comments by Robert Turner.

- Item X: Consideration of resolution recommending that the Governing Board authorize a comment letter to National Park Service on San Gabriel Watershed and Mountains Special Resource Study.  
Comments by Rick Rogers: Discussion of the letter written by Senator Bob Huff.  
Comments by Jeff Yann: Huff has no basis for saying these things. When this idea was first proposed, the down river city areas such as Downey and Lakewood, objected. This is why Canyon Hills and other areas were left out. The City of Long Beach, however, sees the benefit of Federal assistance.  
Comments by Helen Rahder: When they scope out an area can we go back and expand the scope? Coyote Hills is north of the line.  
Comments by Robert Turner: How much influence does an assembly person have? Gary Miller has a real estate background.  
Comments by Helen Rahder: Senator Bob Huff says he has serious objections to the alternatives that we propose. He calls this a "Wildlife Deathtrap".  
Question by Rick Rogers: What is a special resource study?  
Comments by Helen Rahder: The Federal government steps in and makes a special study of the area to see if it needs Federal protection.  
Comments by Jeff Yann: The National Park Service is gathering information to see what role they can play in order to preserve the Wildlife Corridor. The biological resources in the area are studied.  
Question by Robert Turner: What is the ultimate Federal obligation in this plan?  
Comments by Jeff Yann: To make this a national recreation area like the Santa Monica Mountains.  
Comments by Helen Rahder: The Santa Monica Mountains is a hodge podge of entities. Some are in charge of the land, others are not. If the Federal Government comes in, I can still ride my bike through these areas.  
Comments by Alissa Ing: The Santa Ana River Trail extends from the mountains to the ocean. Management of the land was discussed.  
Comments by Jeff Yann: Los Angeles National Forest does not have the National Park System as a resource to bring in money for the area.  
Comments by Robert Turner: The Federal Government gives legal constraints for building.  
Comments by Jeff Yann: Input from public hearings finalizes proposals for protecting and using the area.  
Comments by William Madden: Water sheds and rivers are not separate entities in themselves. You can't segment them apart from the land. You have to have an entire vision. We need to look at the whole picture.  
Comments by Helen Rahder: We have Map A, B, and C. How do we incorporate Coyote Hills?  
Comments by William Madden: Look at Map B. It is north of the Orange County line.  
Correction by Bob Kanne: It looks south.  
Comments by Jeff Yann: Let's ask to include Coyote Hills.  
Comments by Shelly Andros: Include what Bill says, the entire water shed concept.  
Comments by Alissa Ing: We are defining a study area.  
Comments by Shelly Andros: I feel Coyote Hills should be included  
Comments by Jeff Yann: Include Montebello Hills.  
Changes are made in the original letter.
- Item XI: Consideration of resolution recommending that the Governing Board authorize a support letter for Congressional legislation to protect wilderness, and wild and scenic rivers in the Eastern San Gabriel Mountains.  
Comments by Helen Rahder: Is there any discussion regarding this letter? Do we approve this letter? Letter is approved.

- Item XII: Discussion and possible action regarding the Tehachapi Renewable Transmission Project.  
Comments by Judy Tamasi: It was proposed to pass through Chino parks but the judge said, "No". There is no EIR.  
Comments by Jeff Yann: Did we send a letter?  
Comments by Helen Rahder: No, there was a conflict of interest between Hills for Us and WCCA.
- Item XIII: Update on fire near Hacienda Blvd.  
Comments by Judy Tamasi: The 3-4 acre fire did not affect the Wildlife Corridor. The fire was put out very quickly with an aerial assault and ground teams.
- Item XIV: Discussion of National Football League Stadium project in City of Industry.  
Comments by Helen Rahder: CEQUA was overturned. This law was rejected. Walnut held their ground a long time but they were convinced the idea was going to come anyway.  
Comments by Jeff Yann: The City approved it years ago. Walnut gets 1-2 million dollars a year so Walnut sold out the residents.  
Comments by Helen Rahder: The spillover goes into resident's property.  
Comments by Rick Rogers: It's a done deal.
- Item XV: Reports from sub-committees: No reports.
- Item XVI: Comments pursuant to Section 54956.2.  
Comments by Alissa Ing: The Arunda eradication project in Carbon Canyon is progressing well.  
Comments by Helen Rahder: Grasses and Mustard Seed have come up.  
Comments by Alissa Ing: The changes from a Riparian Habitat cause this. European weeds and grasses sweep across the fire burned area.
- Item XVII: Meeting Adjourned.