

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

June 3, 2013

1. Call to order.

The 399th joint telephonic meeting of the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy Advisory Committee was called to order by Vice Chairperson Hon. Linda Parks, at 7:31 p.m. on June 3, 2013 at King Gillette Ranch, 26800 Mulholland Highway, Calabasas, California.

2. Roll Call of Conservancy.

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

3. Roll Call of Advisory Committee.

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

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. Introduction of Legislative Participants or their staff.

The Acting Chairperson announced that Louise Rishoff and Tim Pershing were present.

5. Approval of Minutes.

The minutes of April 29, 2013 were submitted for approval.

The minutes of April 29, 2013 were approved as submitted.

6. Reports.

The Conservancy received oral reports from the Acting Chairperson; Mr. Sap, representing State Parks; the Executive Director; Mr. Lange, representing the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority, and Walt Young, Chief of Operations of the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority.

7. Members comments on matters not on the agenda.

The Conservancy received an oral report from Mr. Mishler.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Lange.

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

Questions were propounded by Ms. Rosen.

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

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

No members of the public addressed the Conservancy.

9. Consent Calendar:

- (a) **Consideration of resolution confirming a comment letter to the City of Los Angeles regarding a development proposal for 8145 Willow Glen Road, Case No. za 2013-0664(zaa), Laurel Canyon.**
- (b) **Consideration of resolution exercising the powers of Public Resources Code Section 33207(b) and Government Code Section 54220 with the City of Los Angeles regarding apn 5565-026-900, Willow Glen Road, and assigning rights to said acquisition to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority, Laurel Canyon.**

- (c) **Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant of deposited Corps-associated mitigation funds from the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy Fund to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority, and authorizing an advance of said funds, for implementation of a mitigation project in the Soledad Canyon watershed, unincorporated Los Angeles County.**
- (d) **Consideration of resolution authorizing entering into a new five-year term of the Cooperative Management Agreement among the National Park Service, California Department of Parks and Recreation, Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, and Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority.**

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Gould, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution Nos. 13-38, 13-39, 13-40, and 13-41.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Cash, duly seconded, the Conservancy unanimously adopted Resolution Nos. 13-38, 13-39, 13-40, and 13-41.

10. Coastal Consent Calendar:

- (a) **Consideration of resolution approving the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority's use of Coastal Habitat Impact Mitigation Fund to acquire a six-acre parcel apn 4448-018-018, 1809 Tuna Canyon Road, unincorporated Topanga Canyon area.**
- (b) **Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant of deposited mitigation funds from the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy Fund to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority, and authorizing an advance of said funds, for implementation of the Carbon Canyon riparian habitat mitigation project in the Carbon Canyon watershed, unincorporated Los Angeles County.**
- (c) **Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant of deposited mitigation funds from the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy Fund to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority, and authorizing an advance of said funds, for implementation of a mitigation project in the Malibu Creek watershed.**

Item 10(b) was removed from the agenda and postponed to a later date.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Anderson, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution Nos. 13-42 and 13-44.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, the Conservancy unanimously adopted Resolution Nos. 13-42 and 13-44.

- 11. Consideration of resolution authorizing a budget augmentation for grant SMM-84-0879.**
- 12. Consideration of resolution authorizing a budget augmentation for grant SMM-0836.**

Items 11 and 12 were considered and voted on simultaneously.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Rosen, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution Nos. 13-45 and 13-46.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Cheadle, duly seconded, the Conservancy unanimously adopted Resolution Nos. 13-45 and 13-46.

- 13. Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for project planning and design in the Ballona Creek and Ballona Wetlands area from Culver City to the Pacific Ocean, Santa Monica Bay Watershed.**
- 14. Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for project planning and design in the San Rafael Hills, Verdugo Mountains, and Northeast Los Angeles Open Space, including Arroyo Seco and Verdugo Wash.**

Questions were propounded by Messrs. Yegparian and Portantino.

Comments were made by the Executive Director.

15. **Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for project planning and design of the Griffith Park to El Pueblo de Los Angeles State Historic Park Recreational Trail Corridor, City of Los Angeles.**
16. **Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for project planning and design in Los Angeles River Master Plan Reaches Five and Six.**
17. **Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for project planning and design from the confluence of Tujunga Wash along the Pacoima Wash Recreational Greenway to the Angeles National Forest.**
18. **Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant from the Conservancy Fund to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for interpretive programs and services.**

Items 13 through 18 were considered and voted on simultaneously.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Anderson, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution Nos. 13-47, 13-48, 13-49, 13-50, 13-51, and 13-52.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, the Conservancy unanimously adopted Resolution Nos. 13-47, 13-48, 13-49, 13-50, 13-51, and 13-52.

19. **Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant of Proposition 84 funds to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for interpretation of the Los Angeles River and Santa Monica Bay Watersheds, including visitor serving amenities and naturalist led interpretive programs for the public and programs specifically designed for disadvantaged youth.**

Comments were made by Mr. Cash and Amy Lethbridge, Chief of Interpretation for the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Mishler and Ms. Mikos.

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

Questions were propounded by Mr. Szymanski.

Comments were made by Mr. Daniel, the Acting Chairperson, and Ms. Lethbridge.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Rosen, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 13-53.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Szymanski, duly seconded, the Conservancy unanimously adopted Resolution No. 13-53.

Mr. Cash was noted as voting against adoption of this resolution.

- 20. Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant of Proposition 84 funds to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for trail improvements and construction at Millard Canyon.**

This item was postponed.

- 21. Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant of Proposition 84 funds to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for trail improvements and construction at Fryman Canyon.**
- 22. Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant of Proposition 84 funds to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for improvements to the Los Angeles River Center and Gardens, Los Angeles.**

Items 21 and 22 were considered and voted on simultaneously.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Anderson, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution Nos. 13-55 and 13-56.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, the Conservancy unanimously adopted Resolution Nos. 13-55 and 13-56.

23. Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant of Proposition 50 funds to Community Conservation Solutions for the Los Angeles River Greenway project, Los Angeles.

The Conservancy received an oral report from Ms. Esther Feldman, representing Community Conservation Solutions.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Yegparian, Ms. Buckley Weber, and Ms. Mikos.

Comments were made by Ms. Feldman and Mr. Cash.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Mikos, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 13-57.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Cash, duly seconded, the Conservancy unanimously adopted Resolution No. 13-57.

24. 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.

No closed session was held.

25. Announcement of future meetings and adjournment.

The Acting Chairperson announced that the next meeting would be held on July 22, 2013.

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

There being no further business, the Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 9:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

JOSEPH T. EDMISTON, FAICP HON. ASLA
Executive Director

Approved:

HON. LINDA PARKS
Acting Chairperson