

SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY

RAMIREZ CANYON PARK
5750 RAMIREZ CANYON ROAD
MALIBU, CALIFORNIA 90265
PHONE (310) 589-3200
FAX (310) 589-3207



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

February 22, 2016

1. Call to order.

The 426th meeting of the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy Advisory Committee was called to order by Chairperson Irma Muñoz, at 7:30 p.m. on February 22, 2016 at the Los Angeles River Center and Gardens, Los Angeles, California.

2. Administration of Office to Steve Veres.

The Executive Director administered the oath of office to Steve Veres.

3. Roll Call of Conservancy.

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

4. Roll Call of Advisory Committee.

The Advisory Committee roll was called and the following members were present: Allison-Claire Acker; Sean Anderson; Carloyn Brown; Illece Buckley Weber; Michael Cacciotti; Ed Corridori; Mark Johnson; Richard Gould; Alan Kishbaugh; Mike Mishler; Anthony Portantino; Wendy-Sue Rosen; Henry Stern; Marc Stirdivant; Garen Yegparian; George Lange, Vice Chairperson, and Don Robinson, Chairperson. A quorum was present. The following members were absent: Sean Arian; Mary Sue Maurer; Rosenn Mikos; Nancy Stephens; Janet Wall, and Timothy Wendler.

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

5. Introduction of Legislative Participants or their staff.

The Chairperson announced that Tim Pershing and Lauren Gallant were both present.

6. Election of Conservancy Vice Chairperson.

On nomination of the Chairperson, duly seconded, Jerome C. Daniel was elected Vice Chairperson of the Conservancy.

7. Approval of Minutes.

The minutes of January 11, 2016 were submitted for approval.

The minutes of January 11, 2016 were approved as submitted.

Mr. Pettit was noted as abstaining.

8. Reports.

The Conservancy received reports from the Chairperson; Mr. Szymanski, representing the National Park Service; Mr. Lange, representing the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority; Mr Gould, representing the Santa Clarita Watershed Recreation and Conservation Authority Report, and the Executive Director.

Questions were propounded by the Chairperson and Ms. Rosen.

Comments were made by Mr. Lange; the Executive Director; the Chief Deputy Director, and the Deputy Director of Natural Resources and Planning.

9. Members comments on matters not on the agenda.

No comments were made.

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. Jennifer Campbell, member of the public, on matters not on the agenda.

Mr. Roy Van de Hoek, member of the public, on matters not on the agenda.

11. Discussion of procedure to dismiss the executive director including closed session rules.

The staff report for this item was presented by the Chief Staff Counsel.

Comments were made the Supervising Deputy Attorney General, Christina Bull Arndt.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Pettit.

Comments were made by Ms. Arndt.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Yegparian.

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

Questions were propounded by Mr. Anderson.

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

12. Presentation on Ballona Creek Milton Street Gateway Park.

The Conservancy received an oral report by Ana Petrlc, representing the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority.

Questions were propounded by Messrs. Lange and Mishler.

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

13. Presentation on Santa Susana Mountains – South-Face of Oat Mountain.

The Conservancy received an oral report from the Deputy Director of Natural Resources and Planning.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Yegparian; Mr. Gould; Mr. Anderson; Ms. Rosen, and Mr. Gould.

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

14. Consideration of resolution authorizing a comment letter to Ventura County on Case No. PL 16-0006, 9899 Yerba Buena, unincorporated Ventura County.

The staff report for this item was presented by the Deputy Director of Natural Resources and Planning.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Corridori.

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

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Rosen, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 16-07.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

A roll-call vote was administered.

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, the Conservancy unanimously adopted Resolution No. 16-07.

15. Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant of Proposition 50 funds to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for trail improvements at King Gillette Ranch, unincorporated Los Angeles County.

The staff report for this item was presented by Ms. Lisa Soghor, representing the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Lange.

Comments were made by Ms. Soghor.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Corridori, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 16-08.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

A roll-call vote was administered.

On motion of Mr. Szymanski, duly seconded, the Conservancy unanimously adopted Resolution No. 16-08.

16. Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant from the Conservancy Fund to the InterEnvironment Institute for Stage 2 of the Natural Neighbors Project.

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

Questions were propounded by Mr. Corridori.

Comments were made the Executive Director and Mr. Cash.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Cacciotti, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 16-09.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

A roll-call vote was administered.

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 16-09.

Mr. Cash was noted as abstaining.

17. Consideration of resolution adopting the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy Annual Report for FY 2014/2015.

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

Comments were made by the Associate Government Program Analyst.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Gould, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 16-10.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

A roll-call vote was administered.

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, the Conservancy unanimously adopted Resolution No. 16-10.

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, Case No. BC448511; Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority v. City of Malibu, and related actions, Case No. SC092212, and Prop A Protective Association, LLC v. Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority, Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, et al., Case No. BS145771.

No closed session was held.

19. Announcement of future meetings and adjournment.

The Chairperson announced that next meeting would be held on March 28, 2016 at the Temescal Gateway Park in honor of former member Elizabeth A. Cheadle.

There being no further business, the Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 9:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Approved:

JOSEPH T. EDMISTON, FAICP HON. ASLA
Executive Director

IRMA MUÑOZ
Chairperson