

**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

September 25, 2017

**1. Call to order.**

The 442<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy Advisory Committee was called to order by Chairperson Irma Muñoz at 7:32 p.m. on September 25, 2017 at the Los Angeles River Center and Gardens.

**2. Administration of Oath of Office.**

The Executive Director administered the Oath of Office to Tony Hoffman, designee of Craig Sap, and Perlette Michele Jura, representing the City of Pasadena on the Advisory Committee.

**3. Roll Call of Conservancy.**

The Conservancy roll was called and the following members were present: Davis Szymanski; Linda Parks; Tony Hoffman; Jerome C. Daniel, Vice Chairperson, and Irma Muñoz, Chairperson. A quorum was present. The following members were absent: Steve Veres; Martha Escutia, and Bryan Cash.

**4. Roll Call of Advisory Committee Members.**

The Advisory Committee roll was called and the following members were present: Sean Anderson; Carolyn Brown; Illece Buckle Weber; Michael Cacciotti; Ed Corridori; Stephen Del Guercio; Mark Johnson; Richard Gould; Patt Healy; Perlette Michele Jura; Alan Kishbaugh; Miguel Luna; Roseann Mikos; Mike Mishler; Wendy-Sue Rosen; Janet Wall; Tim Wendler; Garen Yegparian, and Don Robinson, Chairperson. A quorum was present. The following members were absent: Allison-Claire Acker; Shelly Luce; Mary Sue Maurer; Nancy Stephens; Marc Stirdivant; 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 Smith, Associate Government Program Analyst, and James Yeramian, Board Secretary.

**5. Introduction of Legislative Participants or their staff.**

The Chairperson announced that Senator Anthony Portantino; Senator Henry Stern; Assemblymember Raul Bocanegra; Alison Towle; Tim Pershing; Sarah Nichols, and Jeremy Wolf were present.

Comments were made by Assemblymember Bocanegra and Senator Stern.

**6. Approval of Minutes.**

The minutes of August 28, 2017 was submitted for approval.

The minutes of August 28, 2017 were approved as submitted.

**7. Reports.**

The Conservancy received oral reports by the Chairperson; Mr. Szymanski representing National Park Service; Mr. Hoffman, representing State Parks; the Executive Director; Mr. Daniel, representing the Mountains Recreation and Conservation; the Deputy Director of Natural Resources and Planning, representing the Wildlife Corridori Conservation Authority, and the Associate Government Program Analyst.

**8. Members comments on matters not on the agenda.**

Comments were made by Senator Stern; Ms. Mikos; the Executive Director; Mr. Del Guercio; Mr. Cacciotti; Mr. Johnson; Mr. Yegparian; the Associate Governmental Program Analyst; the Chairperson, Ms. Rosen, and Ms. Amy Lethbridge, representing Community Nature Connection.

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

The following members of the Authority addressed the Conservancy:

Mr. John Suwara, representing Calabasas Coalition, on item 10(a).

Mr. Joe Chilco, member of the public, on item 10(a).

Ms. Frances Allet, member of the public, on item 10(a).

Ms. Stevens, member of the public, on items 12, 15, 16, and 20.

Ms. Britany Stevens, member of the public, on items 12 and 20.

Mr. Jonathan Kaye, member of the public, on item 20.

Comments were made by the Executive Director.

**10. Consent Calendar:**

- (a) **Consideration of resolution authorizing a comment letter to the City of Calabasas regarding the Notice of Preparation of an Environmental Impact Report for the proposed Westlake Village Project (File No. 160003152) in Las Virgenes Canyon, adjacent Las Virgenes View Park, City of Calabasas.**
- (b) **Consideration of resolution authorizing a comment letter to the City of Los Angeles regarding the proposal to increase the cost of appeal fees for Department of City Planning projects (Council File No. 09-0969), City of Los Angeles.**
- (c) **Consideration of resolution authorizing a comment letter to the County of Ventura on the Notice of Preparation for the Pacific Rock Quarry Mine Expansion Project (Case No. LU10-0003, SCH No. 2017081052), unincorporated Ventura County.**

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Yegparian, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution Nos. 17-49, 17-50, and 17-51.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, the Conservancy unanimously adopted Resolution Nos. 17-49, 17-50, and 17-51.

**11. Presentation on the LA River Study and Historical Ecology by The Nature Conservancy and University of Southern California.**

The Conservancy received an oral report on this item.

Comments were made by Mr. Mishler; Mr. Luna, and Ms. Nichols.

**12. Consideration of resolution authorizing an amendment to the Conservancy's Proposition 1 Grant Guidelines.**

Questions were propounded by Ms. Healy.

Comments were made by the Executive Director and Senator Stern.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Gould, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 17-52.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, the Conservancy unanimously adopted Resolution No. 17-52.

**13. Consideration of resolution amending Resolution No. 17-27 to change grant funding source to Proposition 1.**

This item was removed from the agenda.

**14. Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant of Proposition 1 funds to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for Los Angeles River Community Access Planning, Los Angeles.**

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Rosen, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 17-54.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Szymanski, duly seconded, the Conservancy unanimously adopted Resolution No. 17-54.

**15. Consideration of resolution authorizing a vegetation management grant of Proposition 1 funds to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority.**

Questions were propounded by Ms. Healy.

Comments were made by the Executive Director.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Yegparian, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 17-55.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Szymanski, duly seconded, the Conservancy unanimously adopted Resolution No. 17-55.

**16. Consideration of resolution amending Resolution No. 17-29 to change grant funding source to Proposition 1 and augment the budget for SMM-84-1531.**

Questions were propounded by Ms. Healy.

Comments were made by the Executive Director and the Associate Government Program Analyst.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Luna.

Comments were made by the Executive Director.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Gould, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 17-56.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, the Conservancy unanimously adopted Resolution No. 17-56.

**17. Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant of Proposition 84 funds to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for Franklin/Ivar Park, Los Angeles.**

Questions were propounded by Mr. Corridori.

Comments were made by the Associate Government Program Analyst, the Executive Director, and Mr. Daniel.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Buckley Weber, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 17-57.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, the Conservancy unanimously adopted Resolution No. 17-57.

- 18. Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant of Propositions 12 and 50 funds to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for a survey of physical and structural barriers and development of an accessibility improvement plan for multiple parks, Los Angeles County.**

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Buckley Weber, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 17-58.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Parks, duly seconded, the Conservancy unanimously adopted Resolution No. 17-58.

- 19. Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant of Proposition 40 funds to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for King Gillette Ranch Improvements, unincorporated Los Angeles County.**

Questions were propounded by Mr. Anderson.

Comments were made by the Executive Director.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Corridori, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 17-59.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, the Conservancy unanimously adopted Resolution No. 17-59.

**20. Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant of Proposition 84 funds to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for Escondido Canyon Parking Lot and Trail Improvements, Malibu.**

Questions were propounded by Ms. Healy.

Comments were made by the Executive Director, Senator Stern, and Ms. Ana Straabe, representing the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Kishbaugh, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 17-60.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, the Conservancy unanimously adopted Resolution No. 17-60.

**21. 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; Morris v. Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority, Case No. BC44851; Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, et al. v. Southern California Edison, and Sycamore Park Private Community Group, et al. v. Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority and Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy.***

No closed session was held.

**22. Announcement of future meetings and adjournment.**

The Chairperson announced that the next meeting would be held on October 23, 2017.

There being no further business, the Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 9:56 p.m.

SMMC Joint Meeting Minutes  
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Respectfully submitted:

JOSEPH T. EDMISTON, FAICP HON. ASLA  
Executive Director

Approved:

IRMA MUÑOZ  
Chairperson