

**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 24, 2019

**1. Call to order.**

The 457<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy Advisory Committee was called to order by Chairperson Irma Muñoz at 7:40 p.m. on June 24, 2019 at the following locations:

**Location 1:** Los Angeles River Center and Gardens  
570 West Avenue Twenty-Six  
Los Angeles, California  
*(Main Meeting Location)*

**Location 2:** Natural Resources Agency  
1416 9<sup>th</sup> Street, 13<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Room No. 1306-7  
Sacramento, California

**2. Roll Call of Conservancy.**

The Conservancy roll was called and the following members were present: Mary Luévano; Rudy Ortega; David Szymanski; Martha M. Escutia; Jerome C. Daniel, Joshua Nelson; Steve Veres, Vice Chairperson, and Irma Muñoz, Chairperson. A quorum was present. The following members were absent: Linda Parks and Craig Sap.

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

The Advisory Committee roll was called and the following members were present: Allison-Clair Acker; Carolyn Brown; Illece Buckley Weber; Karen Buehler; Michael Cacciotti; Ed Corridori; Mark Johnson; Patt Healy; Roseann Mikos; Mike Mishler; Wendy-Sue Rosen; Tim Wendler; George Lange, Vice Chairperson, and Don Robinson, Chairperson. A quorum was present. The following members were absent: Sean Anderson; Stephen Del Guercio; Perlette Jura; Alan Kishbaugh; Edlin Lopez; Miguel Luna; Mary Sue Maurer; Frank Oviedo; Nancy Stephens; Marc Stirdivant; Janet Wall, and Garen Yegparian.

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; Elena Eger, Special Counsel; Melissa Smith, Chief, Division of Policy and Legislation, and James Yeramian, Board Secretary.

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

The Chairperson announced that Tim Pershing, Sarah Nichols, and Vickere Murphy were present.

**5. Approval of Minutes.**

The minutes of April 22, 2019 were submitted for approval.

The minutes of April 22, 2019 were adopted as submitted.

**6. Reports.**

The Conservancy received reports from the Chairperson; Mr. Szymanski, representing the National Park Service; the Chief, Division of Policy and Legislation, and Mr. Lange, representing the Mountains Recreation & Conservation Authority.

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

Questions were propounded by Ms. Rosen.

Comments were made by the Executive Director and the Chief Deputy Director.

**8. 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:

Michael DeLazzer, on matters not on the agenda  
Marian Dodge, representing Hillside Federation, on item 11  
Howard Petersen, on item 11  
Laurie Pepper, on item 11  
Christine Kautner, representing The Silverlake Heritage Trust, on item 11  
Paul Bowers, representing Echo Park Neighborhood Council, on item 11  
Rodger Pugliese, representing Topanga Association for a Scenic Comm., on item 9(b)  
Lee Conger, on matters not on the agenda

Jesse Carmichael, representing Biocitizen/Save Kite Hill, on item 11  
Ricky DeLaveaga, representing Fellowship Heights Neighborhood Association, on item 11  
Julian Schnepf, on item 11  
Hugh Kenny, on item 11  
Laurie Hall, representing The Silverlake Heritage Trust, on item 11.

**9. Consent Calendar:**

- (a) Consideration of resolution authorizing approval of the Santa Clarita Watershed Recreation and Conservation Authority budget for FY 2019/2020.**
- (b) Consideration of resolution authorizing an application to the Governor's Office of Emergency Services' Hazard Mitigation Grant Program for hazardous fuels reduction at Red Rock Canyon Park, Unincorporated Topanga Canyon.**
- (c) Consideration of resolution authorizing an application to the Governor's Office of Emergency Services' Hazard Mitigation Grant Program for hazardous fuels reduction at Temescal Gateway Park, City of Los Angeles.**
- (d) Consideration of resolution authorizing augmentation of Proposition 1 grant funds to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for Fire Resilience, Prevention and Vegetation Management projects Counties of Los Angeles and Ventura.**
- (e) Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant of Environmental License Plate funds to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for the Community Nature Connection Youth Leadership Series.**
- (f) Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant of Disaster Response Emergency Operations Account (DREOA) Funds to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for reimbursement of current year Emergency Response and Safety Measures costs related to the Woolsey Fire and subsequent storms.**
- (g) Consideration of resolution authorizing the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy to establish an agreement with the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy to implement the Los Angeles River Environmental Flows Study Supplemental Analysis, County of Los Angeles.**

- (h) **Consideration of resolution authorizing a comment letter to the City of Los Angeles Department of Water and Power on the Draft Environmental Impact Report for the PP1 and PP2 Transmission Line Conversion Project, SCH No. 2018011039, Santa Clarita and Sylmar.**

Item 9(b) was removed from the Consent Calendar.

Item 9(g) was removed from the agenda.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Corridori, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution Nos. 19-28; 19-30; 19-31; 19-32; 19-34, and 19-35.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

A roll-call vote was administered.

On motion of Ms. Escutia, duly seconded, the Conservancy unanimously adopted Resolution No. Resolution Nos. 19-28; 19-30; 19-31; 19-32; 19-34, and 19-35.

- 9(b). Consideration of resolution authorizing an application to the Governor's Office of Emergency Services' Hazard Mitigation Grant Program for hazardous fuels reduction at Red Rock Canyon Park, Unincorporated Topanga Canyon.**

The staff report for this item was presented by Mr. Brian Baldauf, representing the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority.

Questions were propounded by the Executive Director.

Questions were propounded by Ms. Rosen; Mr. Corridori; Ms. Acker; Ms. Healy; Ms. Bukley Weber; Mr. Mishler, and Ms. Mikos.

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

Questions were propounded by Mr. Robinson.

Comments were made by Mr. Cacciotti.

On motion of Ms. Mikos, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adopted of revised Resolution No. 19-29.

Mr. Mishler, Ms. Healy, Ms. Buehler, and Ms. Acker were noted as voting no.

Comments were made by Mr. Mishler.

Questions were propounded by Ms. Buckley Weber.

Comments were made by the Executive Director.

Comments were made by the Chief Staff Counsel, the Executive Director, and the Chairperson.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

A roll-call vote was administered.

On motion of Mr. Veres, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted the resolution authorizing the application, while stating that the staff's oral report replaced the written submitted report, and instructed staff to prepare a consistent method of how we seek funds for hazardous fuels.

**10. Presentation on Coastal Public Access in the Santa Monica Mountains.**

The Conservancy received an oral report by Ms. Jessica Nguyen, representing the Mountains Recreation and Conservation and Special Counsel for the Conservancy.

Comments were made by Mr. Lange.

Questions were propounded by Ms. Rosen.

Comments were made by the Executive Director.

**11. Presentation on Kite Hill, Los Angeles.**

The Conservancy received an oral report by Mr. Jamie Hall, representing Silverlake Heritage Trust.

Questions were propounded by Ms. Rosen, the Chairperson, Ms. Mikos, and Mr. Veres.

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

**12. Consideration of resolution approving the FY 2019-2020 preliminary budget of the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority.**

The staff report was presented by Mr. Basem Mosaad, representing the Mountains Recreation and Conservancy Authority.

Comments were made by Mr. Lange.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Johnson, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 19-36.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

A roll-call vote was administered.

On motion of Mr. Ortega, duly seconded, the Conservancy unanimously adopted Resolution No. 19-36.

**13. Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant of Proposition 68 funds to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for safety and accessibility improvements at Los Angeles River Center and Gardens, Los Angeles.**

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Rosen, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 19-37.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

A roll-call vote was administered.

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, the Conservancy unanimously adopted Resolution No. 19-37.

**14. Consideration of resolution authorizing grant of Proposition 68 funds to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for non-personal interpretation including digital media.**

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Mikos, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 19-38.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

A roll-call vote was administered.

On motion of Mr. Szymanski, duly seconded, the Conservancy unanimously adopted Resolution No. 19-38.

- 15. Consideration of resolution authorizing the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy to establish an agreement with the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy to implement the Los Angeles River Environmental Flows Study Supplemental Analysis, County of Los Angeles.**

Questions were propounded by MS. Mikos.

Comments were made by the Executive Director.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms Acker, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 19-39.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

A roll-call vote was administered.

On motion of Mr. Escutia, duly seconded, the Conservancy unanimously adopted Resolution No. 19-39.

- 16. Consideration of a resolution authorizing a grant of Proposition 68 funds to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for updates and improvements to the Our Malibu Beaches mobile phone application.**

Questions were propounded by Ms. Acker and Ms. Rosen.

Comments were made by Ms. Amy Lethbridge, representing Community Nature Connection, and Ms. Luevano.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Buckley Weber, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 19-40.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

A roll-call vote was administered.

On motion of Ms. Escutia, duly seconded, the Conservancy unanimously adopted Resolution No. 19-40.

- 17. Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant of Proposition 84 funds to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for the development and implementation of the Community Training Institute for the protection and Interpretation of our parks and watersheds.**

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Rosen, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 19-41.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

A roll-call vote was administered.

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, the Conservancy unanimously adopted Resolution No. 19-41.

Comments were made by Mr. Lange.

- 18. Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant of Proposition 68 funds to Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for pre-improvement planning for the Coastal Slope Trail Public Works Plan, Unincorporated Los Angeles County and City of Malibu.**

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Mishler, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 19-42.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

A roll-call vote was administered.



On motion of Ms. Escutia, duly seconded, the Conservancy unanimously adopted Resolution No. 19-42.

- 19. 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 – *Sycamore Park Private Community Group, et al. v. Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority and Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, and City of Malibu v. Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, et al.***

No closed session was held.

- 20. Announcement of future meetings and adjournment.**

The Chairperson announced that the next meeting would be held on a date to be determined at a later time.

There being no further business, the Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 10:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

JOSEPH T. EDMISTON, FAICP HON. ASLA  
Executive Director

Approved:

IRMA MUÑOZ  
Chairperson