

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

August 31, 2020

1. Call to order.

The 467th meeting of the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy Advisory Committee was called to order by Chairperson Irma R. Muñoz at 10:08 a.m. on August 31, 2020 at various locations via internet and telephone pursuant to Executive Order N-29-20.

2. Roll Call of Conservancy.

The Conservancy roll was called and the following members were present: Jerome Peres; David Szymanski; Rudy Ortega; Miguel Luna; Fran Pavley; Linda Parks; Amanda Martin; Craig Sap; Steve Veres, Vice Chairperson, and Irma R. Muñoz, Chairperson. A quorum was present. No members were absent.

3. Roll Call of Advisory Committee Members.

The Advisory Committee roll was called and the following members were present: Allie-Claire Acker; Illece Buckley Weber; Ed Corridori; Keith Eich; Patt Healy; Kirsten James; Alan Kishbaugh; Mary Sue Maurer; Rafi Manoukian; Roseann Mikos; Mike Mishler; Janine Prado; Wendy-Sue Rosen; Janet Wall; Garen Yegparian; George Lange, Vice Chairperson, and Don Robinson, Chairperson. A quorum was present. The following members were absent: Sean Anderson; Karen Buehler; Michael Cacciotti; Brian Dennert; Perlette Jura; Edlin Lopez, and Nancy Stephens.

Staff present: Joseph T. Edmiston, FAICP, Hon. ASLA, Executive Director; Rorie Skei, Chief Deputy Director; Paul Edelman, Deputy Director of Natural Resources and Planning; Christina Ardnt, Supervising Deputy Attorney General; Jeff Maloney, Chief Staff Counsel and James Yeramian, Board Secretary.

4. Introduction of Legislative Participants or their staff.

The Board Secretary announced that the following Legislative Participants were present: Vickery Murphy, Tim Pershing, and Jeremy Wolf.

5. Approval of Minutes.

The minutes of June 29, 2020 were submitted for approval.

The minutes of June 29, 2020 were adopted as submitted.

Mr. Yegparian was noted as abstaining.

6. Reports.

The Conservancy received oral reports from the Chairperson; Mr. Szymanski; Mr. Sap, Mr. Perez; Mr. Robinson; Mr. Lange, and the Executive Director.

Comments were made by Mr. Sap; Mr. Yegparian; the Chairperson, Ms. Pavley, the Executive Director and the Chief Staff Counsel.

7. Members comments on matters not on the agenda.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Yegparian.

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

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.

Mr. Bill Kabaker, member of the public, on matters not on the agenda.

9. Discussion regarding meeting time of Conservancy (Zoom) meetings.

Comments were made by the Chairperson; Ms. Mikos; Mr. Yegparian; Mr. Manoukian; Ms. Maurer; Ms. Martin; Mr. Corridori; the Executive Director; Ms. Parks; Ms. Rosen; Mr. Lange, Ms. Pavley, and the Board Secretary.

10. Consideration of resolution authorizing a letter to the City of Los Angeles regarding enforcement of the California Department of Fish and Wildlife action to advance to Candidacy status as Threatened under the California Endangered Species Act the Southern California and Central Coast Evolutionary Significant Unit of mountain lions, City of Los Angeles.

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

Questions were propounded by the Executive Director and Ms. Rosen.

Comments were made by the Deputy Director of Natural Resources and Planning; Ms. Parks; Mr. Kishbaugh, and Ms. Rosen.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

A roll-call vote was administered.

On motion of Ms. Rosen, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 20-27.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

A roll-call vote was administered.

On motion of Ms. Parks, duly seconded, the Conservancy unanimously adopted Resolution No. 20-27.

11. Consideration of resolution authorizing submission of an amicus brief in the case of *Sonoma Land Trust v. Thompson*.

The staff report for this item was presented by the Chief Staff Counsel and the Supervising Deputy Attorney General.

Comments were made by Ms. Rosen, Ms. Buckley-Weber, and Ms. Mikos.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

A roll-call vote was administered.

On motion of Ms. Rosen, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 20-28.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

A roll-call vote was administered.

On motion of Mr. Veres, duly seconded, the Conservancy unanimously adopted Resolution No. 20-28.

12. Consideration of resolution approving Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority Final Budget for the Fiscal Year 2020-2021.

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

Questions were propounded by the Chairperson, Mr. Manoukian, and Ms. Martin.

Comments were made by Mr. Mosaad.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

A roll-call vote was administered.

On motion of Ms. Maurer, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 20-29.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

A roll-call vote was administered.

On motion of Mr. Veres, duly seconded, the Conservancy unanimously adopted Resolution No. 20-29.

13. 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 jointly consider and fund the Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation, Trails LA County Expansion for Equity, Inclusion, and Watershed Education project.

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

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

A roll-call vote was administered.

On motion of Ms. Maurer, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 20-30.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

A roll-call vote was administered.

On motion of Ms. Parks, duly seconded, the Conservancy unanimously adopted Resolution No. 20-30.

- 14. Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant of Proposition 1 funds to Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation for the Trails LA County Expansion for Equity, Inclusion, and Watershed Education project, with matching funds from the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy as determined through the agreement established in Item 13, County of Los Angeles.**

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

Questions were propounded by the Chairperson.

Comments were made by Mr. Szymanski and Mr. Sean Woods, representing Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

A roll-call vote was administered.

On motion of Ms. Buckley Weber, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 20-31.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

A roll-call vote was administered.

On motion of Mr. Szymanski, duly seconded, the Conservancy unanimously adopted Resolution No. 20-31.

- 15. 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.***

No closed session was held.

16. Announcement of future meetings and adjournment.

There being no further business, the Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 12:34 p.m. and announced that the next meeting would tentatively be held on July 21, 2020.

Respectfully submitted:

JOSEPH T. EDMISTON, FAICP HON. ASLA
Executive Director

Approved:

IRMA R. MUÑOZ
Chairperson