

**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 28, 2015

**1. Call to order.**

The 422<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy Advisory Committee was called to order by Chairperson Linda Parks, at 7:36 p.m. on September 28, 2015 at Franklin Canyon Park, Beverly Hills, California.

**2. Roll Call of Conservancy.**

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

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

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

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, Associate Government Program Analyst, and James Yeramian, Board Secretary.

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

The Chairperson announced that the following legislative participant was present: Tim Pershing.

**5. Approval of Minutes.**

The minutes of August 17, 2015 were submitted for approval.

The minutes of August 17, 2015 were approved as submitted.

**6. Reports.**

The Conservancy received reports from the Mr. Szymanski; the Executive Director, and Mr. Lange.

Questions were propounded by Ms. Rosen.

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

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

Comments were made by Mr. Daniel.

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

The following member of the public addressed the Conservancy:

Elva Yañaz, representing Elephant Hill Advisory Task Force, on item 10.  
Teena Takata, member of the public, on matters not on the agenda.  
Barbara Romero, representing Mayor Eric Garcetti, on item 13.

**9. Consent Calendar:**

- (a) **Consideration of resolution authorizing transfer of interest in APN 2819-010-905, located in the Deerlake Highlands area of unincorporated Chatsworth, to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority.**
- (b) **Consideration of resolution authorizing a comment letter to County of Los Angeles on Santa Monica Mountains North Area Community Standards District Vineyard Ordinance/R2015-02310-(3)/RADV201500007.**
- (c) **Consideration of resolution authorizing an amendment to scope of work for grant SMM-40-1517 to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority**

**from Proposition 40 for Puerco Canyon Project Planning and Design,  
unincorporated Los Angeles County.**

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

The Advisory Committee consider item 9(b) separately from the Consent Calendar.

Questions were propounded by Ms. Rosen.

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

On motion of Mr. Lange, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution Nos. 15-52, 15-53, and 15-54.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

A roll-call vote was administered.

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, the Conservancy unanimously adopted Resolution Nos. 15-52, 15-53, and 15-54.

**10. Presentation by the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority on acquisition and public access efforts in the Elephant Hill area, Northeast Los Angeles.**

The Conservancy received an oral report by Ms. Lisa Soghor, representing the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Lange; Ms. Muñoz; Mr. Gould, and Mr. Szymanski.

Comments were made by Ms. Soghor and the Chairperson.

**11. Consideration of resolution approving the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority Final Budget, Fiscal Year 2015-2016.**

The staff report for this item was presented by Ms. Sheryl Lewanda, Financing Director for the Conejo Recreation & Parks District and Basem Mosaad, Deputy Financial Officer for the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority.

Questions were propounded by the Chairperson and Mr. Cash.

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

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Buckley Weber, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 15-55.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

A roll-call vote was administered.

On motion of Ms. Muñoz, duly seconded, the Conservancy unanimously adopted Resolution No. 15-55.

**12. Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant of Proposition 84 funds to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for Project Planning and Design of the Los Angeles River Greenway–San Fernando Valley project, Los Angeles.**

Questions were propounded by Mr. Stern and Mr. Corridori.

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

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Rosen, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 15-56.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

A roll-call vote was administered.

On motion of Ms. Cheadle, duly seconded, the Conservancy unanimously adopted Resolution No. 15-56.

**13. Consideration of resolution authorizing grant application to the Wildlife Conservation Board for Proposition 50 funding pursuant to Water Code Section 79572(a)(2) and Proposition 84 funding pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 75055(b)(1) for the acquisition of open space, restoration, and recreational easement rights over the Los Angeles River-adjacent Taylor Yard G-2 Parcel, Los Angeles.**

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

Questions were propounded by Ms. Rosen.

Comments were made by the Executive Director.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Rosen, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 15-57.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

A roll-call vote was administered.

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, the Conservancy unanimously adopted Resolution No. 15-57.

- 14. Consideration of resolution authorizing opening of limited grant round for critical wildlife corridor acquisition projects to enhance and protect watershed health within the Santa Monica Mountains Zone pursuant to Water Code Section 79731(h).**

Item 14 was removed from the agenda.

- 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 – *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.

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

The Chairperson announced that the next meeting would be held on October 26, 2015.

There being no further business, the Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 8:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

JOSEPH T. EDMISTON, FAICP HON. ASLA  
Executive Director

Approved:

LINDA PARKS  
Chairperson