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

December 12, 2016

1. Call to order.

The 434th meeting of the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy Advisory Committee was called to order by Acting Chairperson Jerome C. Daniel, at 7:35 p.m. on December 12, 2016 at Franklin Canyon Park, Beverly Hills, California.

2. Roll Call of Conservancy.

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

3. Roll Call of Advisory Committee Members.

The Advisory Committee roll was called and the following members were present: Carolyn Brown: Illece Buckley-Weber; Michael Cacciotti; Ed Corridori; Mark Johnson; Richard Gould; Alan Kishbaugh; Shelley Luce; Miguel Luna; Mary Sue Maurer; Mike Mishler; Wendy-Sue Rosen; Marc Stirdivant; Janet Wall; Tim Wendler; George Lange, Vice Chairperson, and Donald Robinson, Chairperson. A quorum was present. The following members were absent: Alli-Claire Acker; Sean Anderson; Roseann Mikos; Anthony Portantino; Nancy Stephens; Henry Stern; Timothy Wendler, 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, Melissa Cartelli, Associate Government Program Analyst, and James Yeramian, Board Secretary.

4. Introduction of Legislative Participants or their staff.

No Legislative Participants were present.

5. Approval of Minutes.

The minutes of October 24, 2016 were submitted for approval.

The minutes of October 24, 2016 were approved as submitted.

6. Reports.

The Conservancy received oral reports by Mr. Vargas; representing the California Coastal Commission; Mr. Szymanski, representing National Park Service; Mr. Sap, representing State Parks, and Mr. Lange, representing the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Luna.

Comments were made by Mr. Cash.

7. Members comments on matters not on the agenda.

Comments were made by Mr. Cash.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Corridori.

Comments were made by the Executive Director; Ms. Rosen; Ms. Maurer; Ms Parks, and Ms. Buckley Weber.

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:

Michael Hart, member of the public, on matters not on the agenda. Nancy Rothenberg, representing Calabasas Highlands HOA, on item 11. Jody Thomas, representing Old Topanga Homeowners, on item 11. Roger Pugliese, representing Las Virgenes Homeowners Federation, on item 11. Paolo Perrone, representing Trust for Public Land, on items 9 and 10. Stacy Sillins (see speaker card for spelling) – on item 9.

9. Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant of Proposition 1 funds to the Trust for Public Land to acquire a conservation easement between Runyon Canyon Park and Trebek Open Space, approximately 10.2 acres (APN 5571-025-042), Curson Canyon tributary to Ballona Creek watershed, City of Los Angeles.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Kishbaugh, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 16-49.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

A roll-call vote was administered.

On motion of Ms. Escutia, duly seconded, the Conservancy unanimously adopted Resolution No. 16-49.

10. Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant of Proposition 1 funds to the Trust for Public Land to acquire the Robin's Nest property, approximately 51 acres (APNs 3209-008-012, -013, -016), Upper Santa Clara River.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Cacciotti, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 16-50.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

A roll-call vote was administered.

On motion of Ms. Escutia, duly seconded, the Conservancy unanimously adopted Resolution No. 16-50.

11. Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant of Proposition 1 funds to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for acquisition of ten parcels totaling approximately 95 acres (APNs 2072-024-005, -019, -020, 2072-025-014, -015, -016, 2072-027, -004 -005, -006, 2072-030-010) Dry Creek Canyon, City of Calabasas.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Corridori, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 16-51.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

A roll-call vote was administered.

On motion of Mr. Sap, duly seconded, the Conservancy unanimously adopted Resolution No. 16-51.

12. Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant of Proposition 84 funds to the Friends of the Los Angeles River to develop guidelines for ecological restoration and public access priorities for the Los Angeles River.

Questions were propounded by Ms. Luce; Mr. Szymanski; Mr. Luna, and Ms. Rosen.

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

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Rosen, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 16-52.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

A roll-call vote was administered.

On motion of Ms. Escutia, duly seconded, the Conservancy unanimously adopted Resolution No. 16-52.

13. Consideration of resolution authorizing a comment letter to Los Angeles County on Draft Recirculated Environmental Impact Report for the Mission Village Project, Santa Clara River, SCH No. 2005051143.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Kishbaugh, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 16-53.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

A roll-call vote was administered.

On motion of Ms. Parks, duly seconded, the Conservancy unanimously adopted Resolution No. 16-53.

14. 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.

16. Announcement of future meetings and adjournment.

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

There being no further business, the Acting Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 8:49 p.m. in memory of Ed Hayduk. Comments were made by Mr. Lange and Mr. Johnson.

Respectfully submitted: Approved:

JOSEPH T. EDMISTON, FAICP HON. ASLA

Executive Director

Chairperson