

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 28, 2017

1. Call to order.

The 441st meeting of the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy Advisory Committee was called to order by Chairperson Irma Muñoz at 7:31 p.m. on August 28, 2017 at Franklin Canyon Park, Beverly Hills, California.

2. Administration of Oath of Office.

No oath of office was administered.

3. Roll Call of Conservancy.

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

4. 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; Mark Johnson; Richard Gould; Patt Healy; Alan Kishbaugh; Miguel Luna; Roseann Mikos; Wendy-Sue Rosen; Marc Stirdivant; Timothy Wendler, Garen Yegparian; George Lange, Vice Chairperson, and Don Robinson, Chairperson. A quorum was present. The following members were absent: Sean Anderson; Carolyn Brown; Stephen Del Guercio; Shelly Luce; Mary Sue Maurer; Mike Mishler; Nancy Stephens, and Janet Wall.

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 Bull Arndt, Supervising Deputy Attorney General; Jeff Maloney, Chief Staff Counsel, and James Yeramian, Board Secretary.

5. Introduction of Legislative Participants or their staff.

The Chairperson announced that Sara Nichols and Allison Towle were present.

6. Approval of Minutes.

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

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

7. Reports.

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

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

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

8. Members comments on matters not on the agenda.

No comments were made.

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 public addressed the Conservancy:

Melissa Kellogg, representing Preserve El Sereno, on matters not on the agenda.

Holly Green, member of the public, on item 11.

Alex Izbicki, member of the public, on item 11.

Wilder A. Rokos, representing Save Coldwater Canyon, on item 11.

Jonathan Green, member of the public, on item 11.

James Rokos, representing Save Coldwater Canyon, on item 11.

Maureen Toth, representing Save Coldwater Canyon, on item 11.

Suellen Wagner, representing Save Coldwater Canyon, on item 11.

Jon Boorstin, member of the public, on item 11.

Heidi Mackey, member of the public, on item 11 and matters not on the agenda.

Sarah Boyd, representing Save Coldwater Canyon, on item 11.

Jeff Richards, member of the public, on item 10(b).

Questions were propounded by Mr. Vargas; Mr. Luna; Ms. Escutia; Ms. Rosen, and Mr. Yegparian.

Comments were made by Ms. Kellogg; the Chairperson; the Executive Director, and Ms. Rosen.

10: Consent Calendar:

- (a) **Consideration of resolution authorizing a comment letter to the City of Los Angeles on the Notice of Preparation for the Treeland Homes Project, Woodland Hills.**
- (b) **Consideration of resolution authorizing a comment letter to the City of Simi Valley on re-circulated Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration for CUP-S-778 along the Arroyo Simi, 240 West Los Angeles Avenue, Simi Valley.**

Item 10(b) was removed from the consent calendar.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Gould, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 17-42.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

A roll-call vote was administered.

On motion of Mr. Szymanski, duly seconded, the Conservancy unanimously adopted Resolution No. 17-42.

- 10(b). Consideration of resolution authorizing a comment letter to the City of Simi Valley on re-circulated Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration for CUP-S-778 along the Arroyo Simi, 240 West Los Angeles Avenue, Simi Valley.**

Comments were made by Ms. Mikos, Mr. Johnson, and Mr. Robinson.

Questions were propounded by Ms. Mikos.

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

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Mikos, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 17-43 as amended.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

A roll-call vote was administered.

On motion of Mr. Szymanski, duly seconded, the Conservancy unanimously adopted Resolution No. 17-43 as amended.

11. Consideration of potential revised comments on the Parking, Safety and Athletic Improvement Plan, Harvard-Westlake School, Studio City.

This item was removed from the agenda.

12. Consideration of resolution approving the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority fiscal year 2017-2018 final budget.

The staff report for this item was presented by Basem Mosaad, Deputy Financial Officer of the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority.

Questions were propounded by Ms. Healy.

Comments were made by Mr. Mosaad.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Johnson, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 17-45.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

A roll-call vote was administered.

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, the Conservancy unanimously adopted Resolution No. 17-45.

13. Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant from Environmental License Plate Funds for the Community Nature Connection Naturalist Explorer leadership program.

The staff report for this item was presented by the Executive Director, and Ms. Amy Lethbridge, representing Community Nature Connection.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Lange.

Comments were made by Ms. Lethbridge.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Corridori, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 17-46.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

A roll-call vote was administered.

On motion of Mr. Szymanski, duly seconded, the Conservancy unanimously adopted Resolution No. 17-46.

14. Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant of Proposition 50 and Proposition 84 funds for updates to the Malibu Beaches Mobile Application.

Comments were made by Ms. Lethbridge.

Questions were propounded by Ms. Healy, Ms. Rosen, and Mr. Veres.

Comments were made by Ms. Lethbridge, Mr. Vargas, and the Executive Director.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Rosen, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 17-47.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

A roll-call vote was administered.

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, the Conservancy unanimously adopted Resolution No. 17-47.

15. Consideration of resolution supporting AB 250.

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

Comments were made by Ms. Buckley Weber.

Questions were propounded by Ms. Rosen; Ms. Buckley Weber; Mr. Robinson, and Mr. Corridori.

Comments were made by Mr. Vargas; Mr. Veres; Mr. Robinson; the Executive Director; Ms. Rosen, and Mr. Szymanski.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Johnson, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 17-48.

Ms. Buckley Weber was noted as opposing adoption of the resolution. Mr. Gould, Ms. Rosen, and Ms. Healy were noted as abstaining.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

A roll-call vote was administered.

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 17-48.

Mr. Cash was noted as abstaining.

- 16. 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.

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

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The Chairperson announced that the next meeting would be held on September 25, 2017.

There being no further business, the Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 9:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

JOSEPH T. EDMISTON, FAICP HON. ASLA
Executive Director

Approved:

IRMA MUÑOZ
Chairperson