

**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

February 25, 2019

**1. Call to order.**

The 454<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 7:33 p.m. on February 25, 2019 at the following locations:

**Location 1:** Los Angeles River Center and Gardens, Atrium  
570 West Avenue Twenty-Six  
Los Angeles, California

**Location 2:** Conejo Recreation and Park District  
Park Conference Room  
403 West Hillcrest Drive  
Thousand Oaks, California, 91360

**Location 3:** Natural Resources Agency  
1416 9<sup>th</sup> Street, 13<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Room No. 1306-7  
Sacramento, California

**2. Administration of Oath of Office.**

The Executive Director administered the Oath of Office to Edlin Lopez and Jerome Perez.

**3. Roll Call of Conservancy.**

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

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

The Advisory Committee roll was called and the following members were present: Allison-Clair Acker; Sean Anderson; Caroline Brown; Illece Buckley Weber; Karen Buehler; Ed Corridori; Patt Healy; Alan Kishbaugh; Edlin Lopez; Miguel Luna; Mary Sue Maurer; Roseann Mikos; Mike Mishler; Janet Wall; George Lange, Vice Chairperson, and Don Robinson, Chairperson. A quorum was present. The following members were absent: Michael Cacciotti; Stephen Del Guercio; Mark Johnson; Perlette Michelle Jura; Frank Oviedo; Wendy-Sue Rosen; Nancy Stephens; Marc Stirdivant; Tim 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; Melissa Smith, Associate Government Program Analyst, Christina Bull Ardnt, Supervising Deputy Attorney General; Elena Eger, Special Counsel, and James Yeramian, Board Secretary.

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

The Chairperson announced that Vickere Murphy and Jeremy Wolf.

**6. Approval of Minutes.**

The minutes of January 28, 2019 were submitted for approval.

The minutes of January 28, 2019 were adopted as submitted.

Messrs. Mishler and Anderson were noted as abstaining.

**7. Reports.**

The Conservancy received reports from Ms. Ardnt; Mr. Szymanski; Mr. Sap; Mr. Perez; Ms. Smith; Mr. Lange, and the Deputy Director of Natural Resources and Planning.

**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 addressed the Conservancy:

Mr. Walter Lamb, representing Ballona Wetlands Land Trust, on matters not on the agenda.

Mr. Jeff Olesh, representing Desert and Mountains Conservancy, on item 10(c).  
Mr. Mark Kenyon, representing Northeast Tree, on item 12.

**10. Consent Calendar:**

- (a) **Consideration of resolution authorizing a comment letter to Los Angeles County on the proposed Significant Ecological Area Ordinance.**
- (b) **Consideration of resolution authorizing a comment letter to the Ventura County Board of Supervisors on the amendments to the General Plan and Non-Coastal Zoning Ordinance to establish a Habitat Connectivity and Wildlife Corridors Overlay Zone, a Critical Wildlife Passage Areas Overlay Zone, and related regulations (PL16-0127).**
- (c) **Consideration of resolution authorizing sponsorship of the Antelope Valley Regional Conservation Investment Strategy (AV RCIS) in accordance with California Fish and Game Code Section 1852(a) and requesting the California Department of Fish and Wildlife approve the AV RCIS.**

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Corridori, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution Nos. 19-08; 19-09, and 19-10.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

A roll-call vote was administered.

On motion of Mr. Veres, duly seconded, the Conservancy unanimously adopted Resolution Nos. 19-08; 19-09, and 19-10.

**11. Consideration of resolution adopting the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy 2017-2018 Annual Report.**

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

Questions were propounded by Ms. Mikos, Ms. Buckley Weber, and Ms. Mikos.

Comments were made by the Deputy Director of Natural Resources and Planning, Mr. Lange, and the Chairperson.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Mikos, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 19-11.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

A roll-call vote was administered.

On motion of Mr. Veres, duly seconded, the Conservancy unanimously adopted Resolution No. 19-11.

**12. Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant of Proposition 1 funds to North East Trees for a restoration project at Flat Top, City of Los Angeles.**

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Kishbaugh, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 19-12.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

A roll-call vote was administered.

On motion of Mr. Veres, duly seconded, the Conservancy unanimously adopted Resolution No. 19-12.

**13. Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant of Proposition 68 funds to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for Robin's Nest habitat and site restoration on the upper Santa Clara River, Soledad Canyon.**

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

Comments were made by Mr. Lange.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Wall, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 19-13.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

A roll-call vote was administered.

On motion of Mr. Veres, duly seconded, the Conservancy unanimously adopted Resolution No. 19-13.

**14. Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant of Proposition 68 funds to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for visitor-serving improvements at Franklin Canyon Park, City of Los Angeles.**

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

Questions were propounded by Mr. Lange; Mr. Veres; Mr. Luna, and the Chairperson.

Comments were made by the Chief Deputy Director; Mr. Veres; the Executive Director, and Mr. Szymanski.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Mishler, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 19-14.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

A roll-call vote was administered.

On motion of Mr. Veres, duly seconded, the Conservancy unanimously adopted Resolution No. 19-14.

**15. Consideration of resolution authorizing an augmentation to grant 3810-P01-1775 for Upper Los Angeles River Project Planning and Design, City of Los Angeles.**

The staff report for this item was presented by Ms. Sarah Rascon, representing the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Mishler and Ms. Healy.

Comments were made by Mr. Lange; Ms. Rascon; Mr. Wolf, and the Executive Director.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Buckley Weber, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 19-15.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

A roll-call vote was administered.

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, the Conservancy unanimously adopted Resolution No. 19-15.

- 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 – *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.

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

The Chairperson announced that the next meeting would be held on March 25, 2019.

There being no further business, the Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

JOSEPH T. EDMISTON, FAICP HON. ASLA  
Executive Director

Approved:

IRMA MUÑOZ  
Chairperson