

STATE OF CALIFORNIA – THE RESOURCES AGENCY  
**BALDWIN HILLS CONSERVANCY**  
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**MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING**  
*of the*  
**BALDWIN HILLS CONSERVANCY**  
**SEPTEMBER 14, 2006**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The public meeting of the Baldwin Hills Conservancy was called to order at 6:30 p.m. on September 15, 2006, at Junior Blind of America, 5300 Angeles Vista Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90043.

**I. Roll Call**

The Conservancy roll was called and the following voting members were present: Ta-Lecia Ann Arbor, Allan Boodnick, Bryan Cash, Kenneth Bentley, Russ Guiney, Supervisor Yvonne Burke, Robert Jones, Reginald Jones-Sawyer, Bobbie Parks, Ron Schafer, and Marta Zaragoza. Absent: Ruth Coleman, Mike Chrisman, and Mary Ann Greene.

The following non voting members were present: Sara Amir and Paul Mount. Mary Small arrived after roll. Absent: Joe Edmiston and Bill LaPointe.

The following staff members were present: David McNeill and Gloria Dangerfield.

Representing the State Attorney General office was Rosana Miramontes.

**II. Approval of Minutes of Meeting (July)**

The Chair called for the motion to approve the minutes. Motion made by Member Zaragoza. All ayes, motion passes.

**III. Presentation of BHC's Five Year Acquisition and Development Accomplishments and Future Objectives – David McNeill**

Mr. McNeill gave a PowerPoint presentation of the Baldwin Hills Conservancy's accomplishments from 2001 – 2006.

**IV. Consideration of Resolution 06-10**

The resolution authorizes \$250,000 in matching funds to North East Trees for the Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area pedestrian entryway and streetscape improvements (La Brea Avenue and Don Lorenzo Drive). The Chair called for the motion. Motion made by Member Boodnick to approve the resolution and was seconded. The Chair called for the vote, all ayes. Motion passes.

**V. Consideration of Resolution 06-11**

Resolution authorizes \$190,000 of Prop 40 funds to L.A. Conservation Corps for Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area's trail access improvements, way-finding, and interpretative signage installation at Burke-Roche Point and Janice Green Valley. Supervisor Burke read an amendment to the resolution she introduced to develop a first-class interpretive/ facility in the Visitors Center at the Baldwin Hills Scenic Overlook. Member Burke moved that the Baldwin Hills Conservancy Board direct Conservancy staff to meet with staff from California State Parks, County of Los Angeles Parks and Recreation, and Culver City Historical Society, to develop funding recommendations for construction and on-going development of the interpretive element in the Baldwin Hills Scenic Overlook Visitors Center and to have staff report in the December 2006 board meeting with their recommendations. The Chair called for the motion to the original amendment. Motion made by Member Cash to approve the amendment. Motion was seconded. Motion made by Member Zaragoza to approve Supervisor Burke's second amendment was seconded. Mr. McNeill asked that any collaborative resources not only be used for the interpretive center at the Baldwin Hills Scenic Overlook, but for all interpretive areas inside Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area as well. The Chair called for the vote to approve the motions; all ayes. Both motions pass.

**VI. Discussion and Possible Action on a Proposal to Initiate Legislation to Extend the BHC's Statutory Sunset Date**

The proposal would ask that legislation extend the Conservancy's statutory sunset date beyond January 1, 2008. Members discussed ways on how to make people aware of the sunset date and to get support of the extension date. Member Arbor made the motion to authorize the Executive Officer to pursue the appropriate course of action. Motion seconded; all ayes. Motion passes.

**VII. Ad Hoc Committee Reports**

Public Relations – Gena Davis Agency. The Chair first thanked Ms. Davis for helping putting together tonight's special board meeting and stated that a communications plan outline presented by the Gena Davis Agency was included in their board package for review. The Chair asked each member to review the plan for approval prior to next month's meeting. Ms. Davis (Gena Davis Agency) felt it was important to brand the Conservancy and inform the community of what the Conservancy is doing and to also get the community involved. The Chair announced that Kenneth Bentley (Chair of the Public Relations Ad Hoc Committee) has been appointed to the Farmers Insurance Board of Governors and will have to step down from the position of Chair for the committee. The Conservancy Board Chair will take over his position.

**VIII. Executive Officer Report – David McNeill**

Mr. McNeill gave his report.

**IX. Attorney General Report – Rosana Miramontes**

Ms. Miramontes had nothing to report.

**X. Board Member Comments**

Member Schafer announced that Sean Woods was appointed as their new L.A. Sector Superintendent for California State Parks.

Member Zaragoza first thanked Mr. Fisher (local resident) for attending the meeting; extended apologies from Culver City Councilmember Carol Gross who couldn't attend the meeting due to a scheduled conflict; and extended her appreciation to Gena Davis Agency and staff for the beautiful presentation they put together for tonight's meeting.

Member Guiney stated that the \$800,000 rehabilitation project of Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area facilities would be starting. Rehabilitation will include restroom buildings, picnic shelters, and other features of the park and will occur Monday – Friday, to not impact weekends.

Member Jones thanked Senator Kevin Murray and Councilmember Herb Wesson for their vision in bringing about legislation in creating the Baldwin Hills Conservancy and for their understanding the importance of open space/green acres to the region. He also acknowledged Dr. Cliff Richards, local resident, and strong supporter of the Baldwin Hills Conservancy.

Member Arbor thanked the community for their dedication and hard work to the Baldwin Hills Conservancy.

The Chair acknowledged the following people from the audience: State Senator Kevin Murray, Ed Johnson (Councilmember Herb Wesson) Hutson Morris Irvin (Million Trees Project) Dee Allen (City of Los Angeles General Manager – Environmental Affairs) Bill Vanderberg (Sierra Club) Eric Boyd (Assemblymember Mark Ridley-Thomas) and Mayor Gary Silbiger (City of Culver City) who presented a commendation from the City of Culver to the Baldwin Hills Conservancy. The Chair also recognized Jerome Jones, local resident and All-American tennis player and Daniel Tabor, Community Activist from Inglewood.

Commendations were presented to the Conservancy's Chair by Ed Johnson on behalf of Councilmember Herb Wesson and the City of Los Angeles and by Senator Kevin Murray on behalf of the State of California and Assemblymember Karen Bass, The Senator also presented a commendation from County Supervisor Yvonne Burke.

## **XI. Public Comments**

Helen Coleman (Park Mesa Heights Community Council/HOPE) stated she was very impressed with the acquisition of new land and she really see a world class park taking place.

Bill Vandenberg stated he is a teacher Crenshaw High School and member of the Sierra Club and is the Dean of Students and Advisor of the Eco Club at the high school. He takes the children to the park for camping, bird watching, and hiking. They also participate in the Sierra Club volunteer trail maintenance at the park.

Mim Shapiro resident of Blair Hills stated she fought against land development to keep the land open and available for the public and thanked the Baldwin Hills Conservancy for everything they have done.

Captain Angus Alexander, Los Angeles County Fire Department Lifeguard Division, and member of Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission, stated he was a Culver City resident and wanted to thank the Conservancy board members and others involved for their dedication to service in making a world class park.

Denise Edwards, President Baldwin Hills Village Gardens Homeowners Association commended David McNeill for attending all their association's evening meetings and addressing their concerns. She also commended the board on all their accomplishments.

Jerome Jones commended the board for their hard work.

Kent Fisher asked that an ad hoc committee be established to consider the feasibility of putting a nine-hole course in the lower area of the former reservoir.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The Chair announced the next board meeting would be held October 20, 2006. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Approved:

Reginald Byron Jones-Sawyer, Sr.  
Chair