

BALDWIN HILLS CONSERVANCY

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**MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING
of the
BALDWIN HILLS CONSERVANCY
DECEMBER 6, 2002**

CALL TO ORDER

I. Roll Call

The public meeting of the Baldwin Hills Conservancy was called to order at 10:00 a.m. on December 6, 2002, at Kenneth Hahn State Recreational Area, 4100 South La Cienega Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90056. The Chair informed the public that during closed session acquisition strategies were discussed and no action was taken.

The Conservancy roll was called and the following voting members were present: Ta-Lecia Arbor, Allan Boodnick, Kenneth Bentley, Clare Bronowski, Jim Park, Mary Ann Greene, Mary Nichols, and Annette Porini. Absent: Ruth Coleman and Tim Gallagher.

The following non-voting members were present: Sara Amir, Paul Mount, II, Don Rogers, and Greg Broughton. Absent: Joe Edmiston and Neal Fishman.

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

Representing the Office of the Attorney General: John Saurenman.

II. Approval of Minutes

Prior to motion, the Chair made a correction to the spelling of Shedd Terrace. The Chair stated for future reference, Shedd Terrace is a street name and not a residential site. Motion made to approve minutes of November 1, 2002, as corrected, seconded, all ayes.

III. Receive and File Correspondence

Mr. McNeill stated the Conservancy was copied on a letter from the City of Culver City's Planning Department to Cal-Trans regarding funding applications for road development.

IV. Policy

a. Subcommittee Assignments – no changes to assigned committees.

V. Discussion and Possible Action on the revised MOU with West L.A. College for Planning and Development

The Chair stated Item V. would be removed from discussion, as the MOU from West Los Angeles College was not available.

VI. Discussion and Possible Action on a Draft MOU between the BHC and State Parks for cooperative sharing of data, technical assistance of data, technical assistance and information pursuant to Chapter 3, Section 32565, Subdivision (a) of the Public Resources code

Mr. McNeill stated he has been working with Sacramento to develop inter-agency agreements with the Office of Acquisitions and Real Estate Property, Southern Services Division and the Conservancy. Plans for the draft MOU were put off as a result of these two pending agreements with DPR taking precedent. The draft MOU will be ready for the next board meeting and will address localized issues and will accordingly be developed with Angeles District staff.

VII. Deputy Attorney General Report – John Saurenman

Mr. Saurenman spoke on the question of responding to comments from the City of Culver City Redevelopment Agency in a letter to State Parks Commission dated October 15. Mr. Saurenman didn't think a Conservancy response would be necessary as the letter was directed to the Commission with a carbon copy to the Conservancy. Mr. Saurenman further stated that in the letter there were several suggestions made by Culver City Redevelopment Agency with regards to possible changes in the Baldwin Hills Master Plan to make it consistent with their department's plan. He felt the premise of the letter seems to be that the Baldwin Hills Master Plan is an attempt to change zoning within Component 2 of a Culver City area, which is not true, as the plan itself is conceptual. Mr. Saurenman suggested it would be useful to acquire a copy of Component 2, to know what the issues are in the event property is acquired in that area. Mr. McNeill stated he has already contacted someone from Culver City's Redevelopment department for a copy of the Redevelopment Agency's plan.

VIII. Executive Officer Report – David McNeill

Mr. McNeill gave a verbal review of his written report, expressing thanks to Hayden Sohm, the L.A. Conservation Corps, Friends of Baldwin Hills, and Nestle Corporation for their help and contribution with the land dedication ceremony held November 22. After his report on his meeting with Deputy Mayor Brian Williams and representatives on the garbage transfer station, Member Nichols recommended a formal letter be written from the conservancy to the Mayor. The Chair stated that a letter has also been sent from Senator Murray's office expressing their concerns about the transfer station.

On his report of the Vista Pacifica, the Chair asked if the architect design teams mentioned were different from the ones originally selected. Mr. McNeill stated these are new firms selected from new bids in response to the request for qualifications sent out by California State Parks.

IX. Planning & Development

Acting Superintendent Sohm turned over the comments to Park Maintenance Chief, Mike Boyd. Chief Boyd gave the following updates: the greenhouse pad has been constructed for the greenhouse installation and the contractor for installation is on site. Rough grading for the entire office site will continue through next week, next phase will be the final grading and delivery of the materials to put the office pad and roads leading to the office/ranger housing in place. On erosion control, Chief Boyd stated the plan has been approved by their civil engineer and has been implemented. If anyone wants to look at it he has a copy with him and there is also a copy kept on the job site at the ranger's office. He has completed two contracts for the

utility installation of the residential site on Shedd Terrace and ranger offices as of last week. He has received all design drawings from Edison for their work to bring power to the ranger residential and office sites. Engineers from the Southern Service Center will arrive at the Angeles District on December 17, to do staking for the grading of the residential site on Shedd Terrace. The home and office structures have been purchased, both sites should be ready for installation by January 25.

The Chair asked if State Parks had completed the inter-agency agreement with Culver City Police for the Vista Pacifica site. Acting Superintendent Sohm responded that an agreement has not been made only minor discussions. The Chair then asked if there was any agreement with Culver City Police for first response. Acting Superintendent Sohm responded there was only delayed response at this time. The Chair felt it would be helpful to have a letter written to Culver City Police Department expressing the importance of developing an agreement. Member Broughton suggested that when the Conservancy or anyone on behalf of the Conservancy makes contact with another public agency that it is done formally in writing so there is a record. Member Boodnick asked if there were any factors that needed to be addressed. Acting Superintendent Sohm responded that issues of liability needed to be worked out. Sohm further stated that all discussions have been on an informal basis and agreed they need to be pursued more formally.

On long-term planning for Vista Pacifica, which will now be in the hands of the State and sub-contracted land architects, the Chair asked if any arrangements for community discussions had been initiated. Mr. McNeill responded that DPR must first get the contracts in place with the architect team and the Conservancy at which time firm dates for meetings could be scheduled.

The Chair asked for an update of the trail grading and the parking lot associated with the trail. Acting Superintendent Sohm responded the trail is complete, but, the parking lot is an issue in terms of funding; there are currently no funds available. Chief Boyd responded he has met with Culver City's traffic and civil engineers and has reviewed Culver City's requirements for construction of parking lots within the City and has forwarded the information to State Parks civil engineers and Barney Matsumoto.

X. Existing Facilities & Improvements

Member Park stated there was nothing new to report from Los County Department of Parks and Recreation.

XI. Board Member Comments

Member Arbor expressed thanks to the Friends of Baldwin Hills and to the board as a body with their cohesiveness for the acquisition of the property on Overhill. Acting Superintendent Sohm announced the appointment of Ted Jackson, who will replace Steve Treanor as Southern Division Chief and member of the conservancy board. Mr. McNeill announced Supervisor Yvonne Braithwaite Burke will be joining the Conservancy board in January and brought up the idea of a board retreat.

XII. Public Comments on Items not on the Agenda

Ron Webster, Sierra Club, stated that material pushed off the overflow parking into the park is mainly mulch and the majority of it has engulfed a proposed trail route and some habitat. He feels it should be looked into. Member Parks responded the issue was brought up in their partnership meeting yesterday and they are addressing it.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

Approved:

Mary Ann Greene
Chairperson