

BALDWIN HILLS CONSERVANCY

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**MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING
of the
BALDWIN HILLS CONSERVANCY
JUNE 5, 2003**

CALL TO ORDER

I. Roll Call

The public meeting of the Baldwin Hills Conservancy was called to order at 7:00 p.m., on June 5, 2003, at the Foundation for the Junior Blind, 5300 Angeles Vista Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90043.

The Chair welcomed everyone and roll was called. The following voting members were present: Ta-Lecia Ann Arbor, Allan Boodnick, Kenneth Bentley, Clare Bronowski, Tim Gallagher, and Mary Ann Greene. Ted Jackson arrived after roll was taken. Absent: Ruth Coleman, Mary Nichols, Supervisor Yvonne Burke, and David Takashima.

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

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

Representing the Office of the Attorney General was John Saurenman.

II. Approval of Minutes (May)

Motion made to approve minutes. Motion carried that minutes stand approved as presented.

III. Receive and File all Correspondence

Mr. McNeill stated a letter was received from the Senate Rules Committee reappointing Ta-Lecia Ann Arbor to the conservancy board.

IV. Election of Chair and Vice Chair*

The Chair asked that this item be held until a quorum was convened to vote.

V. Public Comment on Agenda Items

Mark Wardlaw, Deputy Director Culver City Community Development, stated they have had a series of meetings regarding Ballona Creek and complimented David McNeill on his professionalism and cordiality in their meetings and keeping them informed. On the subject of Agenda Item VII a., City of Los Angeles proposed waste transfer facility, he stated that Culver City is very concerned about projects adjoining Culver City and as the Conservancy progresses with studies and proposals in the area, Culver City would like to stay in close communication.

Granville Beals, resident from Ladera Heights, stated he had limited information on the City of Los Angeles' proposed waste transfer facility and wanted to hear more information on it. He feels that it will pose problems and dangers from the traffic and pollution. As a resident, would like information to be made available to residents in the area.

VI. Deputy Attorney General's Report – John Saurenman

Mr. Saurenman stated he didn't have any specifics to report in context of the item but would have some additional information provide in context to the report on Item VII, waste transfer facility.

VII. Executive Officer Report

Mr. McNeill went over his written report, which was included in the board package. He highlighted letters he sent to Mayor Hahn, Councilman Holden, and City of Los Angeles Public Works board outlining the State's plans and discussions with Deputy Mayor Brian Williams, Councilmember Bernard Parks, Councilwoman Cindy Miscikowski, and Councilman Holden. Mr. McNeill stated that the Conservancy is not the resource for information on the waste transfer facility and the resources available for information would be the City of Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation and added Center for Law in the Public Interest (CLIPi) has sent out a letter requesting more information from the City and invited the public to sign their name on the sign-in sheet left by CLIPi for further information.

Mr. Saurenman stated that Mr. McNeill has been in touch with his office regarding this matter to look at it from an environmental justice perspective. They have met with CLIPi and are in the process of gathering information. Their office has a number of client agencies potentially interested in the effects of the facility and is coordinating with all of them to determine what are the options and how to pursue the issue. In the discussions that followed, Mr. McNeill informed the board that information on entitlements or permits from the City of Los Angeles has not been forthcoming, but requests have been made by CLIPi to gather the information. Mr. Saurenman stated the project would have to go through a CEQA compliance process and he expects a full EIR would be needed and it was his belief is that the City does not have a formal entitlement at this time.

***IV. Election of Chair and Vice Chair**

Upon arrival of Member Jackson, a quorum was met and the election of new Chair and Vice Chair was held. Member Boodnick went over the ad hoc committee report for nominating the Chair and Vice-Chair and the adjustment made to #7, the current term will now be seven months. Although the committee has reconsidered the suggestion made by Member Bentley at last month's meeting, they still recommend #7 as proposed. A motion was made to move to

adopt the rules of nomination. Motion carried. The committee nominated Clare Bronowski as Chair and Ta-Lecia Arbor as Vice-Chair. Motion made to approve the nomination committee recommendations be adopted as presented. Motion carried. The Chair entertained a motion for the nominees to be accepted as stands. Motion carried. Outgoing Chair Greene congratulated new Chair Clare Bronowski and Vice Chair Ta-Lecia Arbor.

Board members commended Ms. Greene for her hard work and dedication as Chair. Ms. Greene thanked the Chair, the conservancy board, and acknowledged Member Mount, for his efforts in spearheading a committee that developed special strategies in dealing with acquisitions and dealing with complex land matters. She also commended Member Boodnick, who chaired a committee to help put together the board workshops.

VIII. Consideration of a resolution approving the Baldwin Hills Conservancy summarized strategic plan.

Mr. McNeill gave a power point presentation of the plan and thanked Adjoniah and Lawren Atkins, managers for the Weeds to Wonder Project, for their hard work in putting the project together. The Chair explained the purpose of the plan as opposed to the Master Plan, is to set some priorities of projects that should be implemented in the near term. The Chair entertained the motion to approve the resolution. Member Gallagher expressed some concerns and recommended amending the resolution for evaluation of the plan in six months instead of two years. The Chair agreed with Member Gallagher's suggestion. Motion made to approve plan as amended, motion carried.

IX. Consideration of a resolution for the Baldwin Hills Conservancy to adopt a format for local assistance grant project submittals.

Mr. McNeill went over the grant and discussed the basic guidelines. Member Greene asked if the guidelines addressed prior experiences or expertise in those areas, in order to be more selective of the grants. Mr. McNeill answered that demonstrated expertise could be added to the outline. Motion made to approve resolution, motion carried.

X. Consideration of a resolution authorizing the Executive Officer to request grant proposals and initiate planning.

Mr. McNeill explained the resolution is to move forward on spending funds on preliminary activities to engage consultants in sending RFP's and RFQ's and initiating projects. Member Greene stated when the Baldwin Hills Scenic Overlook is being described that the issue of the periphery of the park is considered. Member Rogers stated that Culver City has had several meetings on grants and the ability to identify the optimal location for a golf course and asked if this fit in with the areas discussed. Mr. McNeill stated no, as it is not a specific planning grant, but a feasibility study, which is something being followed up on in the coming months. Motion made to approve resolution, motion carried.

XI. Consideration of a resolution(s) authorizing a grant to the Mountains and Recreation Conservation Authority.

Mr. McNeill stated the grant comes from Prop 40 and is consistent with the capital outlay program that the Baldwin Hills Conservancy has put forth in the strategic plan and went over the

positions required for implementation of the program. He stated the Mountains and Recreation Authority would charge a fee of 8.9% for administrative services. Member Broughton asked for a breakdown. Mr. McNeill referred to Exhibit B included in the board package. Member Arbor asked if the positions were open positions, Mr. McNeill answered yes and would start advertising for them on June 20, Member Gallagher felt that 8.9% fee was too high.

The Chair stated she had gone over the budget with Mr. McNeill and doesn't feel the fee is too high. Mr. McNeill included that what is being paid to State Parks is 10% plus. Member Boodnick asked what services would the MRCA provide. Mr. McNeill explained that they would handle all the additional administrative duties similar to what is being provided by State Parks for the existing support staff.

Member Gallagher questioned whether all opportunities had been pursued. The Chair stated she felt it follows the track records of the other conservancies and it works. Member Greene suggested that during the year, develop a package where other agencies can make offers. Motion made to adopt resolution. Motion carried, with six ayes and one no.

XII. Public Comment on Items Not on the Agenda

Member Boodnick suggested an ad hoc committee be created to come up with proposals to solve the issue of filling the board and having a quorum. Members Boodnick and Greene volunteered to serve on the ad hoc committee.

Member Arbor thanked the public for their attendance at the meeting and support.

Member Jackson introduced Ron Schaefer, the new Angeles District Superintendent for California State Parks.

Willis Hamilton, resident of the area, voiced his concern over the proposed waste transfer station and requested a copy of a report to share with his homeowners association. Denise Edwards, Baldwin Hills Village Garden Homeowners Association, apprised the board of her concerns for the proposed MTA terminal storage area and proposed sewer line (proposed locations are La Cienega Blvd./Jefferson Blvd.). She also stated that weed cleaning being done along Jefferson and the park area is causing the gopher snakes to come down, so asked if the workers could check around for the snakes and put them back into the fields.

Motion made to close meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Approved:

Clare Bronowski
Chairperson