

**BALDWIN HILLS CONSERVANCY**

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**MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING  
of the  
BALDWIN HILLS CONSERVANCY  
FEBRUARY 7, 2003**

**CALL TO ORDER**

**I. Roll Call**

The public meeting of the Baldwin Hills Conservancy was called to order at 10:00 a.m. on February 7, 2003, at Kenneth Hahn State Recreational Area, 4100 South La Cienega Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90056.

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

The following non-voting members were present: Neal Fishman, Paul Mount, and Don Rogers. Members Sara Amir, Joe Edmiston, and Greg Broughton arrived after roll was taken.

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 (January)**

The Chair entertained a motion to approve minutes as prepared and read. Motion carried.

**III. Receive and File Correspondence**

Mr. McNeill - a letter was received from the State Department of Finance, authorizing David Takashima as the Designee the Director of Finance.

**III. Presentation by the Ballona Creek Watershed Task Force**

Steve Ross and Brian White, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works, gave an informative slide presentation on the Ballona Creek. Jim Laam, Ballona Creek Renaissance, spoke on the positive efforts of the City of Culver City Ballona Creek and Trail Focus Special Study, which focus on the four-mile stretch of the creek within Culver City's boundaries. Discussions followed on groundwater, contamination, boundaries and funding, and a suggestion

to have put part of the creek underground to make sports field/recreational opportunities available. After discussions, Member Nichols commented that the multi-stakeholders/multi-purpose process that the County Public Works is putting together is very much what her agency encourages.

#### **V. Consideration of Consent Items**

Roll call was taken again for members just arriving. The Chair entertained a motion to move that the consent calendar items be approved. Motion carried.

#### **V. Public Comment on Agenda Items**

Councilman Al Vera (City of Culver City) commented on Agenda Item XV to be discussed in the closed session. Councilman Vera stated Culver City met with Supervisor Burke in the early '90's with their idea/vision to open a sports facility, including a golf course and feels the agency has forgotten their idea for a sports facility/golf course. Councilman Vera stated that Culver City has been meeting with Mr. Dritley for purchasing acreage and that the State has met with the same owner as well. Would like to work together with the State and not compete for this land.

#### **VI. Executive Officer Report**

Mr. McNeill gave his report and thanked Steve Ross and Brian White for their presentation on the Ballona Creek. The Chair asked Mr. McNeill if the land swap would be the priority for the waste transfer station and if anything had changed. Mr. McNeill stated California State Parks had come up with parcels they were willing to exchange. However, the Bureau of Sanitation was more interested in a dollar figure as opposed to a land swap and he is pursuing the potential to purchase the five acres.

#### **VII. Deputy Attorney General Report**

John Saurenman advised the board that they have the opportunity to do an annual statement (Form 700 - Economic Interest), which is due by April 1, 2003. He will be sending out a mailing to all board members next week.

#### **VIII. Discussion and Possible Action Authorizing the Executive Officer to Enter Into an Agreement with State Lands Commission**

Member Mount stated that the Acquisition Ad Hoc committee met this week and discussed acquisition strategies. Members agreed it would be a good idea to develop a model of evaluating property interests in Baldwin Hills to use now and in the future. Such a model could be modified according to market forces. His agency has the capability to do such an evaluation, with the assistance of a consultant. They have written up a proposal, which he's given the board in short summary. Member Nichols asked if a consultant had already been pre-approved. Member Mount, stated they would have to send out bids, which would probably take two months. 50% of the money will be spent on consultants, the other 50% in-house. The money will come from Prop 40 funds. Member Amir asked if State Lands had a staff to do the environmental work. Member Mount answered that they intend to work with all the other agencies. Member Edmiston asked John Saurenman if the Attorney General Office would work with the Executive Officer to make sure that the contract and scope of work is fully consistent with Section 6254, Subdivision H, so that the document is exempt from public disclosure. Mr. Saurenman answered yes. Member Bronowski asked if it would be appropriate to defer voting

on this item until after the closed session. The Chair expressed some concerns about deferring voting and how it could affect State Lands placing it on their agenda. Member Mount stated it would somewhat delay the process. Member Nichols stated that the strategy being proposed was for getting information that would be useful in negotiating any proposed acquisitions or interests in land that will be discussed in the closed session. Member Gallagher agreed with Member Nichols and moved that a motion be made with Member's Edmiston addition. The Chair entertained the motion to approve the establishment of an agreement with State Lands with the recommendation that the State Attorney General Office be involved in the development and conclusion of the contract. Motion carried.

#### **IX. Discussion on BHC Proposed Capital Improvement Projects**

Mr. McNeill stated that staff is recommending eight key areas drawn from the Baldwin Hills Park Master Plan for assessment and prioritization by the board. The areas would include developing visitor and multi-use trails, trail linkages, restoration projects, involving extensive planning and research with stakeholders and community groups. The improvements would be implemented directly by the Baldwin Hills Conservancy or facilitated by grants from the conservancy. The expenditures would come from Prop 40 funds as well. Mr. McNeill then briefed the board on the eight areas of interest using the aerial map.

#### **X. Discussion on General Personnel Guidelines**

The Chair stated that each member should have copy of these guidelines. The Chair asked for comments from the board, hearing none, the Chair expressed her desire to establish a personnel committee. The committee was formed with the following members: Chair Greene, Members Boodnick, Jackson, and Bronowski.

#### **XI. Ad Hoc Committee Reports**

Member Boodnick reported their ad hoc committee (organization strategy/development retreat) met two times. He went over the outlined proposal that was developed as a result of their meetings. The two proposed sessions are March 7 and May 2. A motion was made that the first session be held March 7, 2003 at 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Motion carried.

#### **XII. County and State Park Updates**

##### **a. State Department of Parks and Recreation**

Superintendent Hayden Sohm thanked Mayor Gross, City of Culver City, for helping facilitate the meeting between State Parks, Culver City Police, Fire and Solid Waste Management departments, which is scheduled for February 20. Mike Boyd, Maintenance Chief updated the board on the progress of the office/housing and sewer systems. They are working on site drainage issues in and around the home site. The greenhouse is 75% complete. Sewer specs for the Shedd Terrace are completed and will go to their contract administrator next week. Their contract people will also meet with Edison to discuss these issues.

##### **b. Los Angeles County Parks and Recreation**

Tim Gallagher, Director, introduced Don Allen, their new Assistant Regional Director of Regional Parks. Member Park briefed the board on the slope landscaping along La Cienega (erosion control). Funding will come from the County.

### **XIII. Board Member Comments**

Member Rogers invited the board to the grand opening of the new rope course in Culver City Park, on March 8, 2003, from 10:00 a.m. – noon, and on March 22, 2003, Culver City will have their grand opening of the new 27,000 sq. ft. senior center, which the board will receive invitations.

Member Miyashiro announced that State Department of Finance has appointed two new Chief Deputies: Steve Larsen and David Takashima. David Takashima will be taking Annette Porini's position and should be the permanent representative.

Supervisor Burke announced that a RFP for a driving range at the Little League Ballfield would be issued soon. The soccer fields are under construction and are nearing completion.

### **XIV. Public Comment On Items Not On The Agenda**

Jim Laam, Ballona Creek Renaissance, announced that the next meeting of the Ballona Creek Watershed Task Force is next Wednesday, at Culver City Hall, from 1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

A local resident asked if a soccer stadium was being built on Fairfax and Slauson. Supervisor Burke answered it is a soccer field, not a stadium, and it will not have seating.

The Chair thanked and excused the public at 11:30 to enter into the closed session meeting.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The public session meeting reconvened at 12:40 p.m. The Chair advised that in the closed session, the board discussed ways to develop information sharing strategies between public agencies. Instructions were given on negotiations with respect to real property acquisition. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:45 p.m.

Approved:

Mary Ann Greene  
Chairperson