

BALDWIN HILLS CONSERVANCY

6133 Bristol Parkway, Suite 301
Culver City, CA 90230
Phone: (310) 641-3497

MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING
of the
BALDWIN HILLS CONSERVANCY
January 10, 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, at Kenneth Hahn State Recreational Area, 4100 South La Cienega Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90056.

Prior to roll, the Chair introduced two new board members, Ted Jackson, Southern Division Chief, California State Parks, and Robert Miyashiro, Deputy Director (representing the State Department of Finance). They were given the oath of office by Deputy Attorney General John Saurenman.

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

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

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 (December)

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

III. Receive and File Correspondence

Mr. McNeill stated three letters had been received and were submitted in the board package: letter from Annette Porini (State Department of Finance), letter to Culver City Mayor Gross, and letter to Paul Thayer of State Lands Commission.

IV. Chair Report

Prior to her report, the Chair introduced the following persons: Lieutenant Dave Tankenson (Culver City Police Department) who will be the liaison in helping California State Parks draft the Inter-Agency Agreement on public safety issues, Heather Barnett (California Resources Agency Liaison), Mayor Carol Gross (Culver City), Mike Bohlke (Supervisor Yvonne Burke's Office), Al Austin (Senator Murray's Office) and Lori Bennett, Regional Recreation Director (County of Los Department of Parks and Recreation).

The Chair reported that on December 11, 2002, the Governor's Office of Planning and Research invited chairs and heads of all state agencies, conservancies, and commission to participate in helping the office in developing environmental goals and policies report. She and Mr. McNeill participated. Each agency was asked what policy of theirs should be incorporated into the report. The Chair stated requested the Baldwin Hills Conservancy Master Plan to be incorporated in its entirety into the report.

The Chair proposed having a closed session during next month's meeting to discuss personnel, introduce general guidelines for personnel performance including realistic goals and expectations of staff.

V. Ad Hoc Committee Reports

The Chair asked for reports from the following committees: Acquisition, Finance, and Governmental Relations. Acquisition Group - Member Mount reported that their group met last month to discuss to discuss priority matrix (that has been published), parcels of interest, and acquisition priorities and strategies. At this time, Supervisor Yvonne Burke arrived and was introduced by the Chair, and given the oath of office by John Saurenman.

Government Relations Group – Member Bentley reported their group has not met, plans to meet within the next two weeks. He did meet with Culver City Mayor Carol Gross. Finance Group – Member Chassin reported their group plans to meet next month.

VI. Presentation by the Ballona Creek Watershed Task Force

The presentation was postponed.

VII. Deputy Attorney General's Report – John Saurenman

Mr. Saurenman discussed SB259, which became effective January 1, 2003, which amends the Conservancy statute, the most significant being it increases size of the board from seven to

- a. Discussion and possible action regarding an inter-agency agreement with California State Parks and Baldwin Hills Conservancy for planning and outreach services for the Vista Pacifica site -- Mr. McNeill reported that the agreement was drafted December 13, 2002 and the fee for this activity will be \$18,000 over a course of eight months. BHC will assist State Parks in the areas of participation as a member of the core design team, selection of design architects and engineers. A design team has currently been selected. Contracts have not been negotiated yet; DPR is still working on it. The Baldwin Hills Conservancy will assist with the convening of the Citizen Advisory Committee, as well as coordination of outreach and stakeholders, public agencies, and special interest groups, and finding and establishing locations for the public workshops and managing the media notification database, as well being participants in the workshops process.

Member Burke asked that the Findlay Fee and Lloyd property be included as part of the planning process. Mr. McNeill reported that he would let State Parks know. The Chair asked Mr. McNeill when would the CAC be meeting. Mr. McNeill stated meetings could be scheduled when the contract is in place. Comments were made about getting the meeting expedited. Mr. McNeill stated he would contact Barney Matsumoto of DPR today to see if he could get their department's agreement to meet with the CAC as well as DPR staff and Southern Services Center as soon as possible.

Member Edmiston does not want the conservancy to incur substantial costs before there's an opportunity to be reimbursed, as there won't be any reimbursement prior to approval of contract. Mr. Saurenman stated that once the inter-agency agreement has been signed by DPR and BHC, it has to go to DGS for approval; once approved by them, it then becomes operative.

The Chair entertained the motion to so move to authorize the Executive Director to develop an inter-agency agreement between State Parks and Baldwin Hills Conservancy for planning and outreach services for Vista Pacifica Scenic Site. Motion carried.

- b. Discussion and possible action on a draft MOU between the BHC and State Parks for cooperative sharing of data, technical assistance and information pursuant to Chapter 3, Section 32565, Subdivision (a) of the Public Resources Code. Mr. McNeill stated the MOU echoes the relationship with BHC and DPR, per the statute, and can be amended if something has not been included. The Chair entertained motion for the Executive Director to enter into an MOU with DPR for sharing technical information and data. Motion carried.
- c. Discussion and possible action regarding a proposed BHC organizational and strategic development workshop. Mr. McNeill felt with the board expansion it would be a good idea to take time to organize and work on development. He has contacted Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy to reserve a Ramirez Canyon Park facility for the workshop and is now seeking special consultants for the workshop. The workshop would relate to the Conservancy's responsibility as an agency when doing planning and acquisition. The board discussed what would be the objectives and goals of the workshop and issues and what should be discussed on acquisition and strategy. Member Boodnick asked Mr. Saurenman if the Conservancy was bound to having the public attend. Mr. Saurenman quoted the Brown Act and stated the legislature had carved out a limited amount of exceptions where the board could meet in closed session and discuss issues without the public being present. These exceptions are: giving instructions to your acquisition negotiators, personnel evaluation, and litigation; otherwise, meetings of a general, has to be open to the public. In addition, under the

Brown Act, all meetings have to be conducted in the area of the Conservancy's jurisdictions.

The Chair thought it would be a good idea to take time to decide the date of the workshop and discuss what the board expects to get from it. The Chair appointed a subcommittee of the following members: Allan Boodnick (to chair subcommittee) Clare Bronowski, Ken Bentley, Jim Park, and John Saurenman.

IX. Planning & Development

Steve White, Superintendent, introduced their new Supervising Ranger, John Faulk for Vista Pacifica. Following up from the BHC letter to request her assistance to develop an MOU for public safety, Mayor Gross, City of Culver City, stated she felt it would make better sense to identify all issues where services might be needed in the MOU, instead of having a number of MOU's. Culver City is trying to identify some of the issues and there will be a joint meeting with DPR staff late February. The Chair stated she understands that there is an existing inter-agency between the County of Los Angeles Fire Chief and Culver City Fire Department, and if there is consideration of combing all services in an MOU she feels both agencies should be at the meeting as well. Mike Boyd, Chief Maintenance Supervisor for Angeles District, gave the following report: the site for modular office and pad is nearing completion and the office should be coming on site by next week. The contract has been completed for the office septic tank installation and contract for the utilities has been signed. Anyone wanting to tour the sites to see the progress should contact either him or Superintendent White. The ranger home is on site and is moving forward. They have responded to homeowners' concerns regarding security of the site and have temporarily fence off the site. Patrol by staff will increase to 24 hrs. beginning tonight and a security company has been hired and will be on site as well. Fire abatement and erosion control - the contract with California Conservation Corps is a broad contract, which will carry through the summer. Homeowners' issues - they are responding to concerns along the boundary, trees that have fallen due to high winds. Sewer project - they are in discussions with Culver City's engineering staff and one of their potential contractors was there yesterday, trying to find out the specifics to meet the quality standards of Culver City. Pad for the greenhouse has been constructed and the greenhouse contractor is building and putting up support posts.

X. Existing Facilities & Improvements

Member Park, County Parks and Recreation reported the contractors are proceeding ahead on the soccer fields. County Department of Parks and Recreation has invested significant funding in the soccer fields and they will be completed the end of the year.

XI. Board Member Comments

Member Bronowski, on a follow-up to the Chair's report on personnel issues, feels if it's put on agenda, maybe have someone from the Resources Agency could help with information. The Chair stated she's initiated contact and personnel policies are in place, but the board doesn't have them.

Member Chassin commented that development of future agendas need to focus on more substantive discussion and recommended a consent calendar for administrative items.

XII. Public Comments on Items not on the Agenda

Heather Barnett, Resources Agency Liaison, suggested the subcommittee use the professional facilitator to interview board members to find out their goals and expectations.

Mayor Gross commented on the team-building workshop, and stated as a public agency, the Culver City Council conducted a workshop was able to successfully abide by the Brown Act.

Motion made to close meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

Approved:

Mary Ann Greene
Chairperson