

STATE OF CALIFORNIA – THE NATURAL RESOURCES AGENCY
BALDWIN HILLS CONSERVANCY
5120 West Goldleaf Circle, Suite 290
Los Angeles, CA 90056
Ph: (323) 290-5270
Fx: (323) 290-5276

MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING
of the
BALDWIN HILLS CONSERVANCY
OCTOBER 26, 2012

CALL TO ORDER

The public meeting of the Baldwin Hills Conservancy was called to order by Chair Dr. Allan Boodnick, at 10:30 a.m. The meeting was held inside the Community Center at Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area, 4100 South La Cienega Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90056.

I. Roll Call:

Before roll was called, the Chair welcomed newest member Jacqueline Dupont-Walker to the board.

Members Present:

Chair Allan Boodnick, Bryan Cash (teleconference) Karen Finn (teleconference), Russ Guiney, Lloyd Dixon, Jacquelyn Dupont-Walker, Yolanda Gorman, Robert Jones, Starlett Quarles, Craig Sap, Jason Marshall (teleconference) and Patricia O'Toole.

Members Absent:

Allan Kingston, Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas, Sara Amir, Joan Cardellino, Barbara Romero, Patrick Reynolds, and Marina Voskanian.

Staff Present:

David McNeill, Gail Krippner, Gloria Dangerfield, and Rosana Miramontes.

Following roll call, the Chair noted that there would be changes to today's agenda; Item 4a (which was not numbered on the agenda) will now become the Ad Hoc Committee Report to be given by David McNeill and will come before Item 3.

II. Approval of Meeting Minutes (September) Dr. Allan Boodnick, Chair

The Chair called for the Motion. Member Guiney made the motion to approve. The motion was seconded and carries. Member Dupont-Walker wanted the minutes amended to reflect that she had an excused absence. The Chair retracted the approval and called for the vote again to reflect the adjustment for Member Dupont-Walker; all ayes, with Member Cash abstaining. Motion carries.

III. Ad Hoc Committees Report – David McNeill, Grant Proposal Review

Mr. McNeill stated the Grant Review committee and staff reviewed the application from the L.A. Conservation Corps and used the criteria adopted by the board in 2011 for Prop 84 project. The project will be an improvement project leveraged by two partners; the Baldwin Hills Regional Conservation Authority's planning grant for the Park to Playa project; and the L.A. Conservation Corps match. The project proposal is to address the conflict with pedestrians and autos using the access road leading up and from the Baldwin Hills Scenic Overlook as well as create a safer continuous route to the Ballona Creek along the Park To Playa trail. The L.A. Conservation Corps is asking for a 75% confirming match of \$447,000 from the Baldwin Hills Conservancy for this grant.

IV. Consideration of a Resolution Authorizing a Grant of up to \$450,000 in BHC Prop 40 Funds to the Los Angeles Conservation Corps for Trail and Pedestrian Access Improvements Along Hetzler Road at the Baldwin Hills Scenic Overlook – David McNeill, Executive Officer

The Chair added that David McNeill and Gail Krippner did considerable negotiation to bring the cost down to \$450,000. Mr. McNeill stated that the resolution 12-09 would grant \$450,000 to the L.A. Conservation Corps for the project discussed in the ad hoc committee report. He's received two letters of support from the City of Culver City and the Rivers and Mountains Conservancy. Member Sap added that the project was both necessary and well needed. The Chair called for the vote. Roll call vote was taken; Boodnick, aye; Cash; aye; Finn, aye; Dixon, aye; Dupont-Walker, aye; Guiney, aye; Gorman, aye; Jones, aye; Quarles, aye; and Sap, aye. Resolution passes.

V. Ad Hoc Committee Report - Newsletter, Starlett Quarles

Member Quarles reported the newsletter would be available for distribution after November 1. She and David McNeill are working on a campaign/partnership with a local organization that teaches community gardening and healthy eating. They have come up with a campaign for 2013, called "Heal Our Community." The Heal stands for Healthy Eating and Active Living, both components will consist of activities throughout the year in the Parklands. Member Dupont-Walker, along with her sorority, will be promoting healthy activities assisting next year as well. In the coming months they will do a presentation on proposed activities.

VI. Discussion and Possible Action on BHC Officer Nominations for 2013 in Preparation for Elections Scheduled for December 7, 2012

The Chair stated the background, qualifications, and requirements were before each member and noted that on Page 2, two eligible members based on that criteria; Starlett Quarles and Robert Jones.

VII. Executive Officer Report – David McNeill

Mr. McNeill stated Gail Krippner would present updates on projects. Ms. Krippner first thanked all who attended the morning's ceremony. She reported that 1) the La Cienega bridge enhancement project is now completed; 2) Eastern Ridgeline project will be going into pre-construction very soon. A pre-construction meeting will be held November 18; 3) the Norman O. Houston park improvements are still in the pre-design stage. They've received designs for the pre-fab restrooms and the plumbing; 4) Generation Water is having an event here today (habitat restoration) inside the park's bowl area and are planning more community volunteer events; 5) the City of Culver City, two projects, Jefferson Blvd. Streetscape Access Improvements should be completed by end of November, and the design of the pedestrian/bike ramp from Higuera Street to the Bicycle path on Ballona Creek is out to bid and should be back by mid-November.

Mr. McNeill reported on the expenditure fiscal updates on the Environmental License Plate Fund and Prop 40 and 84 fiscal month 02. Prop 84 support position is still waiting for the examination posting from California State Parks for the position of Associate Park Recreation Specialist. Prop 84 and Prop 40 total capital outlay/local assistance appropriations is twenty-four million dollars. Bond cash funds -money available for expenditures and encumbrances- is moving rapidly (balance shows eleven million dollars) but, money has not been encumbered for the Milton Street project and as we move towards the Park-To-Playa project, consumption of the funds will start increasing. Member Dixon asked for details of the school site meeting held last month and plans on what will be done at the site. Mr. McNeill asked Member Guiney to give the update. Member Guiney reported that access and traffic mitigation issues were discussed. Karly Katona is working on parking issues with MTA. Overflow parking for the Baldwin Hills Scenic Overlook would help with the parking issues at Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area.

VIII. Board Announcements or Agenda Items for Future Meetings

Member Jones welcomed new members, Jacquelyn Dupont-Walker and Yolanda Gorman to the board.

Member Dixon announced that the Negotiations Ad Hoc Committee is moving forward at looking to consolidation and hope to have more progress by the next board meeting.

Member Sap welcomed David Szymanski of the National Parks Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area and looks forward to working with him, who is planning to plant their flag in the state parks downtown area.

Member Gorman congratulated everyone on the gateway enhancement dedication ceremonies.

Member Dupont-Walker echoed Member Gorman's comment and as a Governor appointee and urged everyone November 6 to vote early and continue to vote.

Member Jones asked that he be removed from the board nominations consideration and offered his support for Member Quarles to be nominated for Vice Chair.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business brought before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 11:12 a.m.

Approved:

Dr. Allan Boodnick
Chairman