

BALDWIN HILLS CONSERVANCY

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**MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING
of the
BALDWIN HILLS CONSERVANCY
May 3, 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, at Kenneth Hahn State Recreational Area, 4100 South La Cienega Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90056.

The Conservancy roll was called, the following voting members were present: Ta-Lecia Ann Arbor, Clare Bronowski, Jim Park (representing Tim Gallagher), Mary Ann Greene, Carrie Chassin (representing Mary Nichols), Steve Treanor, and Annette Porini (via conference call). Absent: Kenneth Bentley, Tim Gallagher, Mary Nichols, and Al Vera.

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

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

Representing the Office of the Attorney General was John Saurenman.

II. Approval of Minutes

Motion made to approve minutes, minutes approved as prepared.

III. Receive and File all Correspondence

Letter from Kimball Garrett (Los Angeles County Natural History Museum) was read and filed for the record.

IV. Consent Calendar

- a. Conservancy staff recommends the items for revision in the Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area Preliminary General Plan are as follows: 1) rename the preliminary plan to the Baldwin Hills Master Plan; 2) eliminate the environmental review section, as this is a conceptual plan; 3) acknowledge the potential re-alignment of the golf course; 4) include an inter-jurisdictional agreement between area public safety agencies.

Mr. McNeill explained there would be two plans, one general plan and one conceptual plan. The conceptual plan will be submitted to the Legislature and the General Plan will go to State Parks Commission. Member Treanor and Mr. Saurenman explained the difference between the two plans, stating the general plan is the site specific and the master plan is the conceptual plan. Mr. Saurenman further stated the legislature

requires that the Resources Secretary and the State Parks Director prepare a master plan and submit to the legislature, which the conservancy board must approve.

V. Public Comment on Agenda Items

Bill Corcoran (Sierra Club), Tony Nicholas (United Homeowners Association), Stephanie Nordlinger (Veronica, Sanchez, Sycamore Block Club), Calvin Hall (Baldwin Village Garden), Allan Boodnick (Ladera Heights Community Association), and Janmarie Armstrong (HOPE), all announced their support of the conceptual plan, with some voicing their opposition of Culver City's plan to build a golf course.

Member Roger stated that there are no plans by Culver City to build a golf course inside Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area.

Mike Bohlke of Los Angeles County Supervisor Burke's office, indicated on the map, where the property that Culver City was interested in purchasing was located.

The Chair asked Carol Gross, Mayor of Culver City, what was Culver City's stand on the master plan that was generated and published in 2001. Culver City had substantial objections, which the Chair understood were negotiated with State Parks and the Conservancy. Part of the objections were environmental and once it became a conceptual plan, and CEQA requirements were removed, the Chair understood that Culver City would accept the plan. Mayor Gross stated their city council has not taken any formal position on it.

Gary Silbiger, Culver City Councilman, stated he is opposed to Culver City's plan for a golf course and wants Culver City to be a good neighbor with everyone else. When they decide to have it on their agenda, he extended an invitation to the board to come and join them.

Motion made to adopt resolution to accept amendments to the plan as written with amendments from Agenda Item 01-14. Motion carried. Member Treanor echoed his support for the resolution and offered his department's commitment to insure the General Plan reflects the Conceptual Plan.

VI. Executive Director Report - David McNeill

Public Relations - Mr. McNeill has made numerous presentations with different community associations to provide an understanding of the Conservancy's role. Public info materials include an overview of the master plan, as well as an information sheet on the Baldwin Hills Conservancy. Mr. McNeill also stated the BHC has appeared in four area newsletters, an interview with KPCC Radio (Talk of the City) and Landscape Architecture Magazine. Earth Day was a success and KTLA Ch. 5 provided coverage. There were about 300 people who came out, including first lady, Sharon Davis. Mr. McNeill thanked all partners who made it a success, the County of Los Angeles, State Parks, and the non-profit organizations.

Acquisition - Mr. McNeill reported the owners for the five parcels along Stocker Corridor have received offers. He has started researching funding sources for development and planning construction of the mile long trail and connecting the park via a bridge over five points. An acquisition priority matrix is being developed with assistance from the acquisition subcommittee.

Restoration – Mr. McNeill is working with the Los Angeles Conservation Corps and California Conservation Corps to identify projects and find additional funding.

Budget – allocation for Prop 40 has yet to be determined. Mr. McNeill asked for the Board's authorization to pay an invoice to reimburse State Parks for services, in the amount of \$25,000, which is reflected in the current budget. Mr. McNeill then asked Member Porini (via conference call) to explain the process on how Prop 40 funding would be distributed. Member Porini stated that budget subcommittees will be coordinating on May 9 for proposals being put together by the Governor's office for the 2002-2003 budget cycle for Prop 40.

Website- The site has been revised with access to meeting minutes, resolutions, links, etc.

VII. Acquisition & Development

a. Kenneth Hahn Park West (Vista Pacifica)

- i. State Parks Superintendent Russ Guiney discussed the site for ranger housing and the temporary location of their offices at the end of Hetzler Road. Immediate plans include a trailhead off Jefferson and Hetzler. He has spoken to Culver City staff regarding traffic and other concerns. He will be available to the board to tour the sites.

Ron Webster (Sierra Club) stated there is an existing trail running from Culver Park which could be opened and used and would require no grading whatsoever. It would, however, require a new gate, signage, and cleanup. Mr. Webster offered to work with Culver City to approve this project.

- ii. Long-term planning – No report
- iii. Fire safety – Frank Padilla, Jr., Fire Superintendent, stated he was requested by Dave McNeill to provide information on fire safety issues for the Vista Pacifica property. Mr. Padilla stated Vista Pacifica falls under Local Response Authority, which would be Culver City through an agreement with L.A. County. He has been in communication with Culver City's assistant fire chief to begin development of an additional MOU with the State. Mr. McNeill stated that in response to Member Vera's request to provide support for fire protection in that location, he was able to get information from Jen Carville (Resources Agency) who provided a contact name and number for the Mayor of Culver City to call in regards to acquiring some of their trucks.

- b. Stocker Street Corridor – Superintendent Guiney stated that Mr. McNeill had covered this item earlier.

VIII. Trails and Acquisition

a. Kenneth Park East and West

- i. Trails - Mr. McNeill is working with the Corps, Ron Webster, Culver City, and State Parks on the trail system.
- ii. Programs -The Chair thanked everyone for their participation in the Earth Day event especially Lori Bennett. In her report, Lori Bennett stated the County has started their yearly bush clearance along the property lines, especially where it backs up against adjacent homes. Feral kittens were captured and are available for adoption.

IX. Policy

- a. Partnership (Committee report) – The committee formed by the Chair are working on developing guidelines for acquisition partnerships in Baldwin Hills.
- b. Board Meeting Schedule – Alternate dates for Thursday evening meetings were presented. Mr. McNeill stated he would make a calendar with quarterly evening dates and submit to the board. It was decided to continue to June, re-scheduling of the July 5 meeting date.

X. Board Member Comments

Member Arbor stated that Inglewood High School and Leuzinger High School students are available to participate in volunteer projects in the park.

Member Amir requested the names of the owners of the parcels within the Baldwin Hills Park for advanced site screening.

Member Treanor commented that the Earth Day volunteers (especially those from the Corps) did a great job and suggested a letter be sent to the volunteers thanking them for their participation.

XI. Public Comment on Items Not on the Agenda

Dr. Tony Recht, of West Los Angeles College, offered a facility on their campus, as an alternate meeting site.

Jim Lamm, Ballona Creek Watershed, reported this Wednesday, Dave McNeill will be briefing their watershed group on the Baldwin Hills Park.

XII. Closed Session

Public meeting adjourned at 12:10 p.m. for closed session. Public meeting re-opened at 12:40 p.m. and public was informed that in closed session the conservancy board adopted a resolution that authorizes the executive officer to pursue the purchase of property along Stocker Corridor at specified amounts.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:41 p.m.

Approved:

Mary Ann Greene
Chairperson