

TATE OF CALIFORNIA – THE NATURAL RESOURCES AGENCY
BALDWIN HILLS CONSERVANCY
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MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING
of the
BALDWIN HILLS CONSERVANCY
August 5, 2011

CALL TO ORDER

The public meeting of the Baldwin Hills Conservancy was called to order by Chair Lloyd Dixon at 10:12 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

Members Present:

Julie Alvis (teleconference) Pedro Reyes (teleconference) Vice Chair Allan Boodnick, Chair Lloyd Dixon, Ronilee Clark (teleconference) Starlett Quarles, Haydn Sohm, Daniel Hernandez, Greg Scott, Sara Amir, Patricia O'Toole, and Barbara Romero.

Members Absent:

Robert Jones, Bobbie Parks, Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas, and Joan Cardellino.

Staff Present:

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

II. Oath of Office

New members Hayden Sohm (designee of County Parks Director) and Daniel Hernandez, Director of Culver City Department of Parks Recreation and Community Services were sworn in by Deputy Attorney General Rosana Miramontes.

III. Approval of Minutes (June)

The Chair called for the motion to approve May meeting minutes. Member Boodnick moved to approve the minutes. Member Clark pointed out one correction to be made; on Page 2, Item 7, Craig Sapp's title should be entered as Acting Angeles District Superintendent. Motion to approve with amendment was seconded by Member Quarles. Motion carries.

IV. Presentation on California's Green Business Certification Program – Sara Amir, Manager, Department of Toxic Substances Control Office of Pollution Prevention and Green Technology

Mr. McNeill introduced BHC board member Sara Amir to speak on the efforts to help "green" California Businesses. Member Amir stated she works for Department of Toxic Substances Control which is under California EPA, and is the lead agency for this program. Her presentation covered how business can start a certified green business program. Currently, there are fourteen cities and counties in California who have the program, mostly in Northern California. Southern California is now being targeted for outreach. The website, www.greenbusiness.ca.org shows how all agencies can participate in the program.

V. Overview of the July 15, 2011 Settlement Agreement Terms from the Lawsuit Challenging the 2008 Baldwin Hills Community Standards District – Karly Katona, Deputy to Los Angeles County Mark Ridley-Thomas

Ms. Katona reviewed the terms of the settlement between the parties and went over the fifteen key mitigations included in the settlement that will augment the existing CSD. Supervisor Ridley-Thomas supports these mitigations to improve the quality of life and enhance protection for the communities surrounding the oil fields. Of note, the number of wells will be reduced. Also, as most of the petitioners were concerned about air quality, a comprehensive air study will begin next year and will be funded by the Supervisor's office. More information is provided on the Supervisor's website.

Damon Nagami, staff attorney from Natural Resources Defense Council who represents one of the petitioners, thanked Ms. Katona for the overview of the settlement. He added they had been in litigation for two years and the outcome was positive and they are looking to move forward and work collaboratively. He referenced a chart put together by NRDC, Community Health Council (CHC), and the City Project that was a part of the board materials which illustrates the changes currently in effect.

Lark Galloway (CHC) added an important point did not get included in the CSD, so community leaders will have to remain diligent. Her organization wants to make sure the oil wells are properly abandoned and seeks to continue working with the State of California and the Baldwin Hills Conservancy to make sure Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area is a safe and integral part of the community.

Mim Shapiro (resident of Blair Hills) voiced concerns that over the last five years, she has been hearing loud noises outside her home and she has also reported structural damage to her home due to shifting. Ms. Katona advised her there were numbers to call to report the noise.

Candace Salway from PXP reported regarding the baseline ground movement study done a year ago that the annual survey has been completed. For the record, an additional independent expert was hired to assess and evaluate the data the prior experts have provided. On the settlement agreement front, PXP is definitely working with all the parties to assure compliance.

Member Alvis, in reference to Item 19 of the settlement agreement, wanted to know if PXP sold their interest in the oil wells to another company, would PXP's requirements apply to the new owners and how would that affect the CSD settlement? Ms. Katona replied that the CSD applies to the field for the next twenty years regardless of ownership.

VI. Executive Office Report – David McNeill

Mr. McNeill gave his report on the following:

- Project status report, which includes on all capital outlay projects
- Re-engagement of DTSC to work on the Eastern Ridgeline project
- Milton Street/Ballona Creek design project should be wrapped up in twelve months
- Eastern Ridgeline Project is at nearing 90% construction documents
- Fiscal/Budget update

A question was raised regarding acquisition of the school site. Mr. McNeill directed the question to Ms. Katona. Ms. Katona replied the Baldwin Hills Regional Conservation Authority meeting will be meeting on August 15, to discuss negotiations with the owners. Mr. McNeill added the BHC still has two million dollars set aside for the acquisition.

Continuing with his report, Mr. McNeill stated California State Parks has completed their sidewalk implementation at Jefferson Blvd and meeting have been held with the City of Los Angeles regarding the 6000 West Jefferson site. The City Bureau of Sanitation is developing plans for improvements and he's working to identify a back entrance into the BHSO as a design option in their plans.

VII. Ad Hoc Committee Report

There were no reports.

VIII. Board Announcements or Agenda Items for Future Meetings

Members O'Toole thanked Ms. Katona on her presentation on the settlement.

Member Kingston also thanked Ms. Katona on her presentation.

Member Boodnick thanked Ms. Katona on her presentation and their support. He congratulated and welcomed new members David Hernandez and Hayden Sohm to the board.

New member Hayden Sohm thanked the board for all the support of County Parks.

New member Daniel Hernandez thanked everyone for their welcome and look forward to working together.

Member Romero announced that they are hoping to present the final trail alignment for Park to Playa sometime in August.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business brought before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 11:31 a.m.

Approved:

Lloyd Dixon
Chairman