

MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING
of the
BALDWIN HILLS CONSERVANCY
February 24, 2012

CALL TO ORDER

The public meeting of the Baldwin Hills Conservancy was called to order by Chair Dr. Allan Boodnick, at 10:10 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, Chair Allan Boodnick, Lloyd Dixon, Russ Guiney, Vice Chair Allan Kingston, Robert Jones (arrived after roll), Starlett Quarles (who arrived after roll), Craig Sap, Sara Amir, Patricia O'Toole (arrived after roll) and Marina Voskanian.

Members Absent:

Karen Finn, Bobbie Parks, Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas, Joan Cardellino, Barbara Romero, and Patrick Reynolds.

Staff Present:

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

II. Oaths of Office

Oath of Office was administered by Deputy Attorney General Rosana Miramontes to newly appointed board members, Craig Sap (California State Parks Designee) and Marina Voskanian (State Lands Commission Designee).

III. Approval of Minutes (January)

The Chair stated in last month's meeting, he revised October and December's minutes to be signed by the former Chair and not by him; he asked the board repeal that motion to approve the minutes under his signature. The Chair called for the vote; all ayes, motion carries. The Chair called for the vote to approve October and December's minutes as presented initially. All ayes.

IV. Consideration of a Resolution Authorizing a Grant of BHC Proposition 84 Funds to the City of Culver City for Design Development of a Public Access Ramp at the Ballona Creek Bike Path and Higuera Street Bridge – David McNeill, Executive Officer

Mr. McNeill gave a brief overview of the resolution. He stated that sixty-thousand dollars has been requested by the City of Culver City, who will match twenty thousand dollars towards the design development. Mr. McNeill added that the ad hoc committee for grants review had met and asked Member Kingston (who chaired the meeting) to give the committee's recommendation to the board. Member Kingston stated this was a great opportunity for people to get to the trails along Ballona Creek. He moved that the board recommend the proposed resolution. His motion was seconded by Member Jones. All ayes; motion carries.

V. Proposed Ad Hoc Committees – Dr. Allan Boodnick, Chair

The Chair discussed two proposed ad hoc committees; Board Development and Fundraising. 1) The Board Development Ad Hoc Committee has Member Guiney, who chairs the committee, and Member Jones. Their committee will look into extending members' term length of service, attendance issues, engagement via retreat or other means, board status as an alternate to the Supervisor, two unfilled Governor Appointee positions and getting board members in Sacramento to attend at least two meetings here in Los Angeles. 2) Fundraising Ad Hoc Committee. The Chair stated that he's spoken with former board member Ken Bentley, who works for Nestle and has been generous in the past, if his company would still be willing to support the committee's efforts. Mr. Bentley agreed to assist, as long as the funds relate to schools or the environment. Member Quarles and Member Amir volunteered to serve on the committee and will contact Mr. Bentley.

VI. Presentation on the Supplemental Soil Investigation Results for the Eastern Ridge Expansion Project Site – Bruce Garbaccio, Engineering Geologist, Department of Toxic Substances Control

Mr. Garbaccio's presentation outlined the Department of Toxic Substances Control work on soil investigations and a soil management plan with the Baldwin Hills Conservancy and the County of Los Angeles on the proposed Eastern Ridgeline Improvements. This will initially involve managing any hydrocarbon impacted soil during grading from the upper part to the lower part of the ridgeline. DTSC will be available on site during part of the construction.

VII. Presentation on BHC Design Development and Capital Improvement Priorities for 2012-13 – David McNeill, Executive Officer

Mr. McNeill gave a presentation on current and proposed projects for the year. Starting with improvements to the Stocker Corridor Trail; Rueben and Ingold Park which, both of which will be managed by the County of Los Angeles. The proposed plans for building a pedestrian bridge across Stocker Street to get to Norman O. Houston Park and Five-Points crossing are ongoing. He is working with City Council District 8 and other grantees on the East La Brea Greenbelt connection that would connect the Metro Station at La Brea Ave. and Exposition Blvd. into the park. Mr. McNeill also went over the Eastern Ridgeline Expansion; Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area improvements; Western Gateway access into Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area, and the Ballona Creek Outdoor Classroom/Milton Street Projects. Member Sap noted that the Stocker Corridor Trail has been re-cut and once it's been completed, the transfer of that parcel into the Kenneth Hahn State Recreation operating agreement will take place.

VIII. Executive Officer Report – BHC Staff Representatives

Mr. McNeill gave the update on finances and Gail Krippner gave the projects update. Mr. McNeill referenced Attachment 2 which contains the summary of Environmental License Plate Funds and Bond Funds.

Ms. Krippner gave an update on the following projects: 1) Western Gateway. Funds will be disencumbered that was set aside for the school site acquisition; 2) Los Angeles Neighborhood Initiative project (LANI) Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area entrance enhancements. They are currently fabricating the decorative fencing and will begin some demo and construction in April that should be completed by September; 2) DTSC Environmental monitoring (Eastern Ridgeline) is active; 3) MRCA/Milton Street Project has a revised design and should be submitted by the end of June; 5) Eastern Ridgeline with L.A. County CEO. Reports have been received from DTSC and now can finish the second addendum to the EIR, then forward to the Board of Supervisors for approval; 6) City of Los Angeles Outdoor Improvements to Norman O. Houston Park draft agreement is underway; 6) Baldwin Hills Parklands Habitat Restoration Gen Water is doing a fantastic job and is working on constructing the greenhouse, a community newsletter going out soon; 7) City of Culver City Jefferson Blvd. Street Improvement submitted a permit to the County of Los Angeles and expect to go out to bid in mid-spring.

VIII. Executive Officer Report (cont'd)

Mr. McNeill mentioned about one hundred people showed to do restoration work at the BHSO. On April 22, Generation Water will hold an event from 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 pm at KHSRA. On April 4, the International Association of Assessors Office Conference will be held and he will do a presentation on lands conservation from 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. On April 16, the National Association of Planners will be meeting at the L.A. Convention Center; he, Karly Katona, Sean Woods and others will host a mobile workshop at the Baldwin Hills Scenic Overlook from 8:30 a.m. – 11:00 (on open space habitat preservation); On April 18, the California Trails Conference will begin. There will be a free bike ride sponsored by MRCA from the Baldwin Hills Scenic Overlook to the ocean to highlight Park-to-Playa. He will also be part of the presentation on April 19, as part of the conference.

IX. Board Announcements or Agenda Items for Future Meetings

Member Jones welcomed Craig Sap to the board and congratulated Marina Voskanian on her appointment as well.

Member Sap stated that during the California Trails Parkway Conference, the multi-use trail, near the Angeles District offices designed twenty years ago by Frank Padilla and Ron Webster, would be redone and highlighted as part of the trail conference. It is a prime example of a multi-use trail. The person who did the reroute of the Stocker Corridor Trail is Dale Skinner and he will do the work on this one as well, which is 1.1 miles.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business brought before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 11:13 a.m.

Approved:

Allan S. Boodnick
Chairman