

STATE OF CALIFORNIA – THE RESOURCES AGENCY
BALDWIN HILLS CONSERVANCY
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MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING
of the
BALDWIN HILLS CONSERVANCY
MAY 18, 2007

CALL TO ORDER

The public meeting of the Baldwin Hills Conservancy was called to order at 10:00 a.m. on May 18, 2007 at Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area, 4100 South La Cienega Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90056.

I. Roll Call

The Conservancy was called and the following voting members were present: Ta-Lecia Ann Arbor, Allan Boodnick, Kenneth Bentley, Russ Guiney, Supervisor Yvonne Burke, Robert Jones, Bobbie Parks, and Marta Zaragoza. Absent: Bryan Cash, Ruth Coleman, Mike Chrisman, Mary Ann Greene, Reginald Jones-Sawyer, and Ron Schafer.

The following non voting members were present: Juli Osborne (designee for Sara Amir), Mary Small, and Bill LaPointe. Paul Mount arrived after roll. Absent: Sara Amir and Joe Edmiston.

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

Representing the State Attorney General office was Rosana Miramontes.

Prior to the remaining agenda items, the Oath of Office was administered to new member Mary Small (State Coastal Conservancy Designee) by Deputy Attorney General Rosana Miramontes.

II. Approval of Minutes of Meeting (April)

The Chair called for the motion to approve the minutes. Motion made by Member Zaragoza to approve April's meeting minutes. Motion seconded and passes.

III. Presentation on Landscape and Screening Concepts – Mia Lehrer & Associates

Ms. Lehrer gave a PowerPoint presentation on their Landscape and Screening Concepts for the Inglewood Oil Field. There was some discussion following the presentation and the Chair asked Member Zaragoza to organize and head up a committee to find ways to get youth involved in the project.

IV. Consideration of a Resolution Authorizing a Grant of BHC Prop 40 Funds for Enhancements at the La Cienega Bridge and Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area Entrance – Sandra Hamlat

Ms. Hamlat deferred to Joyce Perkins (LANI). Ms. Perkins gave detail on their proposal for enhancement of the La Cienega Bridge and park entrance. Motion made by Member Boodnick to approve the resolution. Motion seconded and passes.

V. Consideration of a Resolution Authorizing a Grant of BHC Prop 40 for Baldwin Hills Parkland Perimeter and Wayfinding Signage Program Implementation – Sandra Hamlat

Ms. Hamlat went over the proposal bid process and the Baldwin Hills Conservancy's to also select LANI for this project. Motion made by Member Zaragoza to approve the resolution. Motion seconded and passes.

VI. Consideration of a Resolution Authorizing a Grant of BHC Prop 40 Funds for the Second Phase Construction of the Culver Skate Park – Sandra Hamlat

Ms. Hamlat reported that Member LaPointe had made reference in last month's meeting that Culver City was in the second phase of finishing their skate park and Baldwin Hills Conservancy's staff recommends that \$162,000 be contributed towards completion of the park. Member Burke stated that the County of Los Angeles has committed \$50,000 from their Prop 40 funds towards this project. Motion made by Member Boodnick to approve the resolution. Motion seconded and passes.

VII. Consideration of a Resolution Authorizing the Executive Officer to Enter Into An Agreement With The California Conservation Corps for Habitat Restoration and Invasive Plant Species Removal – David McNeill

Motion made by Member Zaragoza to approve resolution. Motion seconded and passes.

VIII. Discussion and Possible Action on the Eastern Ridgeline Expansion Project between Los Angeles County Parks and the Baldwin Hills Conservancy – David McNeill

Mr. McNeill stated staff had met with County Parks and discussed the design of the project and construction bids. He's outlined the details of the meeting in his Executive Officer's report. He will give an update on the project in July; no action will be taken today.

IX. Consideration of a Resolution Authorizing the Executive Officer to Enter Into an Agreement with the Department of Toxic Substances Control – David McNeill

Member Boodnick made the motion to approve the resolution. Motion seconded and passes. Motion made to close meeting.

X. Discussion and Possible Action on Petition to California State Parks Regarding Construction at the Baldwin Hills Scenic Overlook – Craig Sap

In regards to the petition, Ranger Sap stated it was difficult to direct reply to it, as he didn't know the author. They addressed all the issues in February and most of them were corrected by

Sean Woods. They may have issues with rains and run-off; there were some run-offs, but they changed their storm water prevention baffles to correct them. He also reported on the road construction and completion was scheduled for September, but due to some problems, maybe January 2008.

XI. Executive Officer Report – David McNeill

Mr. McNeill reported on the following:

- Eastern Ridgeline
- Stocker Corridor Trail award/second phase signage
- Ballona Creek contract
- International Resources Committee Meeting for AB3 (Bass)
- Communications (newsletter)

XII. Deputy Attorney General Report – Rosana Miramontes

Ms. Miramontes had nothing to report.

XIII. Public Comments

Robert Arledge spoke on the state of track and field in Southern California. He stated that the state of track and field in Southern California is a national disgrace. He brought attention to the fact that soccer is being played on properties not designed for their use, causing wear and tear and that there is a serious need for a state-of-the-art track and facility in Los Angeles. Member Arbor informed Mr. Arledge that there was a groundbreaking ceremony at Crenshaw High to build a new track and field facility and suggested he speak with LAUSD regarding using the facility; also, someone from the audience suggested using West Los Angeles College track.

Jim Lamm (Ballona Creek Renaissance) regarding report on Ballona Creek's program to be aired on plastic plaguing the Creek, parks, an urban areas, etc., they have on their website a downloadable flyer on the issue. Also, there is a link to their latest newsletter that includes an article on the Baldwin Hills Scenic Overlook.

XIV. Board Comments

Member Boodnick reported that Consumers Union (publisher of Consumer Report magazine) accepted him for an all expenses paid summit in upstate New York and Washington, DC. Participants will train in media, internet use, and lobbying advocacy, as well as tour their testing facilities and meet with lawmakers in the capitol.

Member Zaragoza asked Members Russ Guiney, Bill La Pointe, and Supervisor Yvonne Burke or Mike Bohlke if the Supervisor is unavailable, to be participate in the youth committee that she was asked earlier in the meeting by the Chair to organize. She also stated that if there wasn't a facility for the September 20 evening meeting that she and Member LaPointe would like to volunteer Culver City's Veterans Memorial.

Member Arbor she attended a "Leave No Child Inside" event sponsored by the Sierra Club and was attended by Ruth Coleman. She will give David McNeill information to be posted onto the Baldwin Hills Conservancy website. She reiterated again the groundbreaking at Crenshaw High and that LAUSD is working very hard with Councilmember Parks' office and the NFL to get the track up and running.

Member Guiney stated the Earth Day event held in the park was very successful.

Juli Osborne (State Department of Toxic Substance Control) stated that as a geologist, she hopefully will be involved in the projects that the Baldwin Hills Conservancy is working on.

Member LaPointe thanked the board for the support and committed relationship to the Culver City Skate Park and future relationships for any projects that they may work together on.

Member Parks stated that all the reports presented in today's meetings were very informative.

Supervisor Burke stated they are moving forward on a number of projects, including the driving range on Fairfax, which is a Los Angeles County facility and also stated they are sensitive to the track and field issue.

Member Small introduced Jack Liebster (State Coastal Conservancy) who is managing their project with the Ballona Wetlands and will be probably be involved with working in partnership with the Baldwin Hills Conservancy along Ballona Creek.

Councilmember Gross (City of Culver City) stated they have an RFP for design of an area they've identified along Ballona Creek (Overland Avenue to the pedestrian bridge, alongside the schools). They hope to get the design work and public meetings accomplished over the summer.

Member Jones stated that the abandoned mining abandoned/discarded materials in the park he reported in the last meeting have not been removed. Mike Bohlke responded they called PXP regarding them and were told they belonged to County Public Works Department and promised to check into it.

The Chair stated he met with representatives from NIKE who are extremely interested in putting in a track or basketball court and hopefully will be able to get them to donate one. Also, the Natural History Museum should be able to do some things together with the museum.

The public meeting was adjourned at 11:15 a.m. to go into closed session.

ADJOURNMENT

The public meeting reconvened at 11:25 a.m. and the Chair announced that in closed session, negotiations were discussed and no actions were taken. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Approved:

Kenneth W. Bentley
Chair