

STATE OF CALIFORNIA – THE RESOURCES AGENCY
BALDWIN HILLS CONSERVANCY
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MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING
of the
BALDWIN HILLS CONSERVANCY
JULY 9, 2004

CALL TO ORDER

I. Roll Call

The public meeting of the Baldwin Hills Conservancy was called to order at 10:00 a.m., on July 9, 2004, at Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area, 4100 South La Cienega Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90056.

The Chair started out by announcing there's been erroneous information sent to Culver City regarding their request to be removed from Baldwin Hills Conservancy's boundaries. The Chair stated that the Conservancy Board was not a legislative body and any legislative action has to be directed to Sacramento. She further stated there would not be any discussions on Culver City's pull out, but will discuss the conversation that took place in a meeting with Culver City and the Baldwin Hills Conservancy liaison subcommittee,

The Conservancy roll was called, and the following voting members were present: Ta-Lecia Arbor, Allan Boodnick, Jim Park, Ted Jackson, Robert Jones, and Marta Zaragoza. Supervisor Yvonne Burke arrived after roll. Absent: Ruth Coleman, Kenneth Bentley, Mike Chrisman, Tim Gallagher, Mary Ann Greene, Dave Harper, Reginald Jones-Sawyer, and Bobbie Parks.

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

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

Representing the Office of the Attorney General was John Saurenman.

II. Receive and File Correspondence

Mr. McNeill stated that three letters had been received; one from Environment Now regarding the Golf Feasibility Study; the County of Los Angeles responding to the grant letter from the Baldwin Hills Conservancy (dated December 17) regarding the Eastern Ridgeline; and the policy memo to Senator Kevin Murray from Ad Hoc Policy Committee Chair, Kenneth Bentley.

III. Public Comment on Agenda Items and Items not on the Agenda

The Chair called for public comments; the only request to speak was from Culver City Councilmember Carol Gross, who stated she wanted to wait until more board members were present.

IV. Ad Hoc Committee Reports

Mr. McNeill stated that the Policy Committee had met and discussed SB1259 with Senator Murray, whose results were documented in the memo from Board Member Kenneth Bentley (chair of the Policy Committee). Mr. McNeill then deferred to Member Boodnick to give the report for the Liaison Committee. Member Boodnick stated that the meeting took place on June 30 with representatives from Culver City. Part of their discussions was the memo from the policy committee to Senator Murray. He stated that the liaison committee made clear to Culver City that the memo reflected the Senator's wishes, as the Conservancy Board does not have the authority to make the type decisions expressed in the memo. Member Boodnick reported that the Culver City representatives made clear to the committee, the past and present issues of concern to them and the committee members stated their desire that Culver City stay. Member Boodnick commented that the meeting closed with the Liaison Committee's wish to still work closely with Culver City, consider them a partner, and to try resolve their issues of the past, so it won't happen again.

Mr. McNeill stated the only other ad hoc committee report was from the Acquisition Committee, which would be heard in closed session.

V. Approval of Minutes (June)

Member Zaragoza requested a correction be made to Page 3, last paragraph, 5th line, where the sentence begins with "Member Zaragoza recommended to refer the resolution to a later date..." and where it says she "voiced concerns regarding the \$10,000 to be paid to Environment Now." Member Zaragoza commented that her concern wasn't with the \$10,000 being paid to Environment Now, but with the money being taken away from Environment Now to pay to GIS. The sentence should be corrected to read, "...concerns regarding the \$10,000 to be expended from the Environment Now funding to GIS." Member Jones asked that a correction be made on the same page, above the consent calendar, in the paragraph where the Chair thanks everyone for their comments and reiterates the establishment of the two ad hoc committees, his name is to included as part of the Ad Hoc Liaison committee. Member Boodnick stated his name should be added as part of the Ad Hoc Liaison committee. A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes with the amended corrections. Motion carried.

VI. Consent Calendar

- a. Consideration of a resolution authorizing the BHC to exercise first right of refusal pursuant to Section 32567 of the Public Resources Code to acquire surplus City of Los Angeles property in the Baldwin Hills.

Mr. McNeill stated that staff recommends approval of the Resolution 04-15. The property is the 6000 West Jefferson site, which the Conservancy has been pursuing for two years.

- b. Consideration of a resolution to revise the BHC Board meeting calendar to facilitate six weeks intervals between meetings.

Mr. McNeill commented that this item has been discussed in past workshops and feels having meetings with six weeks intervals, would allow time to complete tasks that are beyond administration; i.e., outreach, program delivery. Member Zaragoza addressed Paragraphs 2 & 3 of the resolution. She felt the meetings should remain monthly, as it serves the purpose of meeting the public needs to have access and availability to the Conservancy as a body and lastly, the board members would not have less demand on their schedule. Member Jackson felt six weeks is reasonable, especially when faced with the challenge of having a quorum and it would also allow the Conservancy staff more time to complete other tasks outside the meetings.

The Chair felt that having the meetings every six weeks, would give staff more room to assimilate and turn over everything that's given to them in the meetings and would be a major benefit. Member Boodnick suggested that the six weeks meeting dates be done on a trial basis for the remainder of 2004 and be evaluated next year. He also suggested that the August 6, 2004 date be inserted and August not be a dark month next year.

John Saurenman, Supervising Deputy Attorney General, suggested that this Item (b.) be pulled from the consent calendar, so it could be discussed separately.

c. Consideration of a resolution to adopt an official slogan for the BHC newsletter.

Mr. McNeill stated that during a previous meeting (during the board retreat) it was recommended creating an identity for the Baldwin Hills Conservancy was very important.

The Chair called for the motion to approve Consent Items a and c. A motion was made and seconded. Motion carried with one abstention.

Discussions on Consent Item b resumed. Mr. McNeill stated, for clarification, that Member Zaragoza is opposed to having the meetings at six weeks intervals and Member Boodnick recommended trying it for the remainder of the year (September 9, October 22, December 3) and January 7, 2005, then address the meeting dates during the January 7 meeting. The Chair called for the motion to adopt the tentative schedule for a trial period of September 9, October 22, December 3 and January 7, 2005, for six intervals for the Conservancy meetings. A motion was made and seconded. Motion carried.

VII. Executive Officer Report – David McNeill

Mr. McNeill stated the majority of his report would be given in closed session. He went over figures contained 2003-04 Expenditures Summary and the Capital Outlay/Prop 40 Expenditures.

VIII. Deputy Attorney General Report – John Saurenman

Mr. Saurenman had nothing to report.

IX. Board Member Comments

Member Zaragoza thanked Member Bentley and Nestle Corporation for donating for the monthly meetings.

Councilmember Gross (City of Culver City) stated she was a little confused and wanted some clarification why Culver City received the report presented by the Ad Hoc Policy Committee that morning from Senator Murray and not from the policy committee. She went on to say from the Conservancy board members' discussions, there is a sense of what did the board do to Culver City, that they want to pull out. Councilmember Gross stated that most of the things they have a

big problem with are not with what the board has done. She also commented on the statement that with Culver City's pulling out, they would lose their appointed representative on the Conservancy board. Councilmember Gross threw out that significant portions of Culver City would still be in the Conservancy: Blair Hills, Tompkins Way, Hetzler Road, and the Scenic Overlook, so it would seem appropriate that Culver City still have representation on the board. She also made suggestions to the board on improving the agenda.

Member Mount suggested putting the information onto the Conservancy's website. Member Zaragoza suggested putting a recorded message of the agenda on the Conservancy's phone line. Mr. McNeill stated their comments were appreciated and in addition to sending the materials to the board, it could be posted onto the website, but he wasn't exactly sure about a recorded message. Member Park suggested, as an option, faxing the information.

Member Boodnick felt it would be useful to the board and those attending the meetings, to hear and know about the Joint Powers Authority's members and the function of the Authority, maybe during the next meeting. Member Burke agreed it would be helpful and felt certain that the Joint Powers Authority would be willing to give a report.

Prior to the closed session, Member Boodnick discussed the evaluation criteria established by the Ad Hoc Personnel subcommittee and the committee's understanding of the follow-up policy with the Executive Officer and the Board. He felt clarification of the process was needed before they met in closed session. The Chair responded and explained the process.

The Chair announced at 11:10 a.m., that the Board would be going into closed session.

Mr. Saurenman announced at 12:55 p.m. that the public meeting was back in session and in closed session, status was received on a number acquisitions, with no actions taken on any of these acquisitions and an interim report was received from the Executive Director with regard to his meeting the criteria, which the personnel committee established, there was no action taken.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:58 p.m.

Approved:

Ta-Lecia Ann Arbor
Chair