

STATE OF CALIFORNIA – THE RESOURCES AGENCY
BALDWIN HILLS CONSERVANCY
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MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING
of the
BALDWIN HILLS CONSERVANCY
DECEMBER 3, 2004

CALL TO ORDER

I. Roll Call

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

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

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

At this time, Supervising Attorney General John Saurenman swore in Ron Schafer as a member of the Baldwin Hills Conservancy Board.

II. Approval of Minutes (October and September)

Chair Arbor called for the motion to approve the minutes. Mr. McNeill stated that in the last meeting, a correction to September's meeting recommended by Member Zaragoza for a statement she said was omitted, was not found, so September's minutes are being re-submitted for approval as originally recorded. Member Zaragoza made motion to approve September and October meeting minutes and was seconded by Member Bentley. Motion carried. Member Zaragoza stated the comment she thought she heard Ms. Victoria King make was not on the tape when she reviewed it and apologized for thinking something else was said.

III. Receive and File Correspondence

Mr. McNeill stated there was none.

IV. Public Comments on Agenda Items and Items Not On the Agenda

Culver City Councilmember Carol Gross, stated she has mentioned before that the Baldwin Hills Conservancy improve on the presentation of their agenda items to make it better for the public to understand.

V. Presentation by the Baldwin Hills Regional Conservation Authority

Member Edmiston, Executive Officer for the Baldwin Hills Regional Conservation Authority (BHRCA) passed out a summary on the BHRCA and a copy of their Joint Powers Agreement. He gave detailed information on the history of Joint Power Agreements (JPA) in the State of California, the laws governing them, and how they operate. Afterwards, he answered questions raised by some board members.

Chair Arbor thanked Member Edmiston on his informative presentation.

VI. Consent Calendar

Member Greene made motion to approve the items; seconded by Member Zaragoza. Motion carried.

VII. Discussion and Possible Action on a Resolution Authorizing a Memorandum of Understanding Between the County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation and the Baldwin Hills Conservancy for Management of the East La Brea Greenbelt

Mr. McNeill gave a brief overview of the property and the purpose of the MOU. There was a brief discussion on potential revenue made from the property and the timeline for the tax lien on the property. Member Zaragoza made the motion to approve the MOU, seconded by Member Greene. Motion carried.

VIII. Discussion and Possible Action On a Resolution Authorizing a Grant of Proposition 40 Funds to the Baldwin Hills Regional Conservation Authority for Acquisition of 102 acres Known as the Inglewood Hills LLC Property (APN 4201-003-055, 5009-005-008 AND 015) County of Los Angeles

Mr. McNeill explained what the properties were and showed a map of their locations. Member Jones-Sawyer made motion to accept the resolution seconded Member Zaragoza. Motion carried.

IX. Discussion and Possible Action on a Resolution Authorizing a Memorandum of Understanding Between the Baldwin Hills Regional Conservation Authority and the Baldwin Hills Conservancy for Management of the Inglewood Hills LLC Property

Mr. McNeill went over the need for the MOU. Discussions followed. Chair Arbor called for the motion to approve the MOU. Member Schafer made the motion and was seconded by Member Bentley. Motion carried.

X. Ad Hoc Committee Report

None.

XI. Executive Officer Report

Mr. McNeill gave his report. He also stated that he met with Department of Finance's auditors on December 29, in preparation for the Baldwin Hills Conservancy upcoming audit and that Prop 40 expenditures will be audited through June 2004. Member Greene had questions on two of the expenditures from a report that Mr. McNeill passed out. Mr. McNeill responded to her questions.

XII. Attorney General Report

None.

XIII. Board Member Comments

Member Bentley acknowledged Fred Williams, who operates the Venus and Serena Williams Tennis Academy. He also commended Ted Jackson on his commitment, as a member, to the Baldwin Hills Conservancy.

Member Rogers announced he would retire next April and another representative would be taking his place on the Conservancy board.

Member Jones stated he felt the Conservancy is moving very aggressively in fulfilling its mission and mentioned that the Governor is hearing about it.

Member Greene congratulated Member Jones-Sawyer on his appointment as Vice Chair.

Member Schafer stated he was honored to become a member of the Baldwin Hills Conservancy Board and that Ted Jackson, asked him to convey to the board his thanks and gratitude.

Chair Arbor expressed her thanks to fellow members for their support during her year as Chair and to the public who faithfully attends the Conservancy meetings.

Member Boodnick stated he feels privileged to serve on the board and thanked Chair Arbor, David McNeill, and community members for their support.

Member Jones-Sawyer stated he is looking forward to serving as Vice Chair and hopes the Conservancy has the opportunity to acquire more property in the upcoming year.

Member Zaragoza stated she concurred with Culver City Councilmember Gross' earlier comment regarding the Conservancy's agenda, expressed concerns regarding status of the liaison committee re the MOU to which she and Member Greene were appointed to serve, asked if the Baldwin Hills Conservancy was directly/indirectly involved with West L.A.'s acquisition/access of land, and congratulated Member Jones-Sawyer on his appointment to Vice Chair.

Member Guiney spoke about the acquisition of the Baldwin Hills Scenic Overlook and credited Member Edmiston and his staff from the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy on their tremendous job in the acquisition. He also commended the hard work of Supervisor Burke's office and Jim Park in the acquisition of the Findley Fee property.

Member Edmiston stated that credit for the Scenic Overlook acquisition should not fall exclusively to him and the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, it was result of everyone

working together; California State Parks, Baldwin Hills Regional Conservation, and the County of Los Angeles.

ADJOURNMENT

The regular meeting reconvened at 12:35 p.m. and Chair Arbor announced that in closed session the Board discussed the evaluation of the Executive Officer and no decisions were made. The Attorney General will address the issue and bring guidelines from the State, if any, to January's meeting for discussion at that time. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by Chair Arbor at 12:40 p.m.

Approved:

Allan Boodnick
Chair