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MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING
of the
BALDWIN HILLS CONSERVANCY
JANUARY 7, 2005

CALL TO ORDER

The public meeting of the Baldwin Hills Conservancy was called to order at 10:15a.m., at Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area, 4100 South La Cienega Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90056 without an existing quorum, the Chair stated the meeting would start with the presentations and non-voting items.

I. Presentation of Stocker Corridor Trail & Bikeway Community Workshop Results – California State Parks Foundation

Sara Feldman, Southern California Director for the California State Parks Foundation, gave an overview of their involvement with the Baldwin Hills Conservancy and the Stocker Corridor project and introduced the EDAW representatives. Following the presentation, Mr. McNeill announced that the last two parcels (17 acres) along Valley Ridge were purchased by California State Parks. Member Zaragoza asked if there was a proposal for a sewer system and how much of the area would be graded for bikes. Mr. Bailey (EDAW) responded to her questions. Member Greene asked if there would be environmental monitoring done over a period of time. Kathleen Franklin (California State Parks) responded that it might be possible and something that could be incorporated into their educational program.

Some concerns by residents were expressed; in particular, providing a buffer zone between the homes and the trail. The EDAW representatives responded that the issues have been conceptually addressed. Member Schafer reminded everyone that the plan was a conceptual one and that there would probably be later opportunities for input much later with the design and environmental reviews. Joyce Perkins, resident from the area, wanted to know if the design development would be the next step and the timeline. Mr. McNeill explained what would occur next. She was also concerned that everything would not be finished before funding ran out.

II. Roll Call

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

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

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

Representing the Office of the Attorney General was John Saurenman.

III. Discussion and Possible Action on a Resolution to Submit the Stocker Corridor Trail and Bikeway Conceptual Plan to the California Department of Parks and Recreation for Consideration and Proposed Execution

The Chair called for the vote to approve the resolution, all ayes. Motion carried.

At this time, the Chair read his opening remarks to be attached to the minutes as part of the record.

IV. Receive and File Correspondence

Mr. McNeill stated the letter regarding Wendy Talaro's departure from the Baldwin Hills Conservancy was filed.

V. Public Comment on Agenda Items and Items Not on the Agenda

Curren Price, City of Inglewood, announced their support of the Baldwin Hills Conservancy and voiced Inglewood City Council's opposition to Governor Schwarzenegger's CPR recommendation to eliminate the Conservancy, which they've stated in a Resolution introduced and passed on December 14.

Sharon Dunnigan, resident of View Park, congratulated the Baldwin Hills Conservancy on its purchase of the Valley Ridge property and expressed hers and other residents' concerns about possible additional traffic in their area, with establishment of the Stocker Corridor walking trail and asked what preventions would be done to keep pedestrians on the trail and not in their neighborhood.

Jim Lamm, Culver City resident and President of Ballona Creek Renaissance, spoke of their initiation and participation in KCET's program last February about their shared Playa vision, KCET's update several weeks ago on the Governor's CPR recommendation, and his organization's endorsement of CLIP's efforts on the recommendation.

Fred Scott, Valley Ridge resident, reiterated the same concerns as Ms. Dunnigan and asked that the policing of traffic in their neighborhood are taken seriously. The Chair responded that they keep the Baldwin Hills Conservancy apprised of any further developments and concerns they may have.

Supervisor Burke announced the passing of Mike Bohlke's mother. She responded to the residents' concerns that her office would certainly work with them to the degree they could to maintain and work with the State as to maintenance and safety.

VI. Consent Calendar

- a). Approval of Minutes (December)
- b). Approval of Certificates Recognizing Individual Park Staff Contributions to Enhance Visitor Experiences at Public Lands in the Baldwin Hills

Member Jones-Sawyer made motion to accept the Consent Calendar, seconded by Member Greene. Member Zaragoza stated that two issues regarding billboards she had raised and comments made by Member Greene needed to be added to last month's minutes. Member Bentley pointed out that the approval of the minutes had just been approved. Mr. Saurenman clarified if a member felt an item on the consent calendar needed to be discussed, then the member should ask that the item be removed from the consent calendar and be a separate item for discussion. Member Jones-Sawyer withdrew his motion to approve the consent calendar and Member Greene withdrew her motion to second. The Chair announced that certificate presentations to Kathleen Franklin and Anthony Myles would be done first and the discussion of December's minutes would follow.

The Chair and Vice Chair presented the certificates.

The Chair stated discussions of December's minutes would now continue. Member Zaragoza requested her comments be added as they correspond to the tape. Mr. McNeill stated that the items she mentioned were held in closed session and are reflected in the confidential minutes and she can listen to the tape to confirm her comments were said closed session. Mr. McNeill further stated that he and the Conservancy secretary are considering condensing the meeting minutes and offered two suggestions for the board to consider. Member Burke supported secretary training. Member Edmiston read from Roberts Rules or Order and quoted that the minutes should contain only what has been done and not what was said. Member Greene was not in favor of using the Roberts Rule of Orders method. The Chair stated that all their comments would be taken into consideration and discussed with the Executive Officer. Member Jones-Sawyer made motion to approve December's minutes, seconded by Member Bentley. Motion carried with one abstention by Member Zaragoza.

VII. Discussion and Possible Action on Implementation of the Recommendations from the Department of Toxic Substances Control's Preliminary Endangerment Assessment of the Eastern Ridgeline Facility Expansion Site

Member Amir stated that their department had completed the environmental assessment of the Eastern Ridgeline and introduced Ryan Kinsella of their department to give the outcome of their investigation. Mr. Kinsella gave a PowerPoint presentation of their department's assessment and addressed questions and concerns regarding possible contamination. Member Guiney stated that Los Angeles County Parks and Recreation received a grant to develop the Eastern Ridgeline area and once the plans were developed, all concerns expressed would be taken into consideration. Member Zaragoza made motion to accept the report. Member Amir pointed out that the report was not for approval at this time, that it was a draft and the final report will be given at a later time for the board's approval. Member Zaragoza withdrew her motion.

VIII. Consideration of a Resolution Authorizing the Continued Use of the Six-Week Interval Schedule for Public Meetings of the BHC Board of Directors

Member Schafer made motion to approve the resolution and was seconded by Member Jones-Sawyer. The members discussed the advantages and disadvantages of having the meetings at six-week intervals and ways to better reach the public. The Chair stated that the motion had been made and seconded and called for the vote. Motion passed with two abstentions by Member Greene and Member Zaragoza.

IX. Ad Hoc Committee

The Chair stated that a list of anticipated ad hoc committees had been distributed to the members and asked them to indicate any preferences/changes to the document and return the sheets to him. Member Edmiston reiterated that ad hoc committees be created only if there's a need for a project-by-project basis to convene experts and board members and suggested the Chair reflect in the minutes that these are truly project-by-project ad hoc committees and that they do not constitute standing committees. The Chair concurred.

X. Executive Officer Report

Mr. McNeill stated he would give the report from the ad hoc acquisition committee chair in closed session.

XI. Deputy Attorney General's Report – John Saurenman or Rosana Miramontes

None.

XII. Board Member Announcements

Member Schafer (California State Parks) announced the hiring of Tom Tanner, as their new superintendent for the Angeles District Los Angeles sector.

The Chair announced at 12:10 p.m. that the meeting would now go into closed session.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting returned to public session at 12:50 p.m. and it was announced that in closed session, information on several acquisitions were received and discussed and the evaluation of the Executive Officer was concluded. No actions were taken. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

Approved:

Allan Boodnick
Chair

ATTACHMENT I

OPENING REMARKS

I've prepared a statement--but I am NOT going to open with, "My name is Allan Boodnick, and I'm reporting for duty."

Max DePree, author of Leadership Is An Art, said, "The first responsibility of a leader is to define reality. The last is to say 'Thank you.' In between, the leader is a servant." I think that applies to all of us who have a passion, engagement and responsibility for our task here.

I'm honored to be the Chair and in the company of savvy and experienced Board members, and of community advocates who have a great interest and investment in the Conservancy.

I hope this year to build significantly on the accomplishments of the previous Chairs, and so I've met, telephoned, and/or emailed with several Board members, and talked with elected and community officials in order to hit the road, if not running, at least at a fast gallop. I plan to be fully hands-on; initially, I thought that might overwhelm David, but apparently, it's welcome as he's been most amenable. And, he has agreed to reduce his speaking speed to 100 mph. Gloria has been competent, helpful and gracious.

In particular, I'd like to review and add to the *Ad Hoc* committee structure, for which I need the Board's help and participation, and have it work in concert with David to compliment and strengthen our work and his, the main thrust, of course, being to acquire land. I'll speak more about committees in Item 9 of the Agenda.

To expedite our business, you'll be seeing some differences in the Agenda and in the Minutes after today. And the long-awaited newsletter has been moved up to an immediate priority and will be out by the end of February.

To **Board** members, I encourage your being ardent supporters for the constituency you represent, yet maintain responsibility to the larger community to whom all of us must answer. To the **community**, I encourage open communication of differing viewpoints, but no one need wait for a Board meeting to make his/her concerns known; the Conservancy office is available to you five days/week--sometimes more--as am I, and *Ad Hoc* committee Chairs can be contacted directly, too. Some solutions or decisions--or indecisions--won't make everyone happy, but that's the best we can do, because the majority will determine those outcomes, unless a decision is within the Chair's prerogative.

Periodically, I'll be inviting important legislative persons to our meetings to interact with us about their support and objectives and to answer our questions, specifically Kevin Murray, Karen Bass, Diane Watson, Jane Harman and reps from PXP.

Last month, I mentioned having a Governance workshop--a half-day program is now scheduled for April. With all due respect to the Brown Act, while we're a serious entity that must function in particular ways, I hope seriousness won't get in the way of a warm and even light-heartedness that means we're enjoying our work here, using informality appropriately, humor, and trying to eliminate misunderstandings.

When/if I make a gaffe--even though doing so would be the first mistake I ever made--I'll hope for the Board's indulgence.

Welcome to a new year!