

MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING
of the
BALDWIN HILLS CONSERVANCY
January 20, 2012

CALL TO ORDER

The public meeting of the Baldwin Hills Conservancy was called to order by Chair Allan Boodnick, at 10:00 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, Ronilee Clark, Lloyd Dixon, Russ Guiney, Vice Chair Allan Kingston, Robert Jones, Starlett Quarles, Sara Amir, Patrick Reynolds, Barbara Romero (arrived after roll) and Greg Scott.

Members Absent:

Pedro Reyes, Bobbie Parks, Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas, Joan Cardellino, and Patricia O'Toole.

Staff Present:

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

II. Introductory Remarks for 2012 – Allan Boodnick, Chair

Chair Boodnick shared board member responses to his survey regarding the Conservancy's board meeting; 1) Discuss the year's goals, objectives and implementation at the start of the year; 2) Members to describe their background and expertise; 3) More ad hoc committee involvement by members; 4) Try to have Sacramento members in town for meetings; 5) Request agenda suggestions from members; 6) Increase member cohesion and participation; 7) Understand the Conservancy's role in relation to other entities and partners; and 8) Improve attendance. The Chair's goals; he would like to see increased board attendance and encouraged Sacramento members to attend a meeting here at least once a year, explore outside government sources for funding, publish another newsletter, expand board terms of office from two years to possibly four, secure board status for a County Supervisor designee, fill two long-standing government appointees positions, consider board and staff retreat to accomplish these goals, and increase the Baldwin Hills Conservancy staff by one.

III. Election of Board Officers Pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 32558 – Allan Boodnick, Chair

Per the code for electing officers, Member G. Allan Kingston was nominated for Vice Chair by the ad hoc nominating committee. The Chair called for any other nominees and hearing none, called for the vote to elect Member Kingston as Vice Chair. All ayes.

IV. Presentation to Lloyd Dixon Recognizing His Service as Past Chair of the Baldwin Hills Conservancy – Allan Boodnick

The Chair presented an award to Member Lloyd Dixon on his term as Chair and his accomplishment for the past year. Member Dixon accepted the award and stated that he was pleased he was to be part of what was done during his term as chair, particularly acquisition of the school site, Jefferson Boulevard improvements as well as the Park to Playa. He also stated he enjoyed working with staff and fellow board members.

IVa. Presentation to Greg Scott Recognizing His Service as Board Member of the Baldwin Hills Conservancy – Allan Boodnick

The Chair presented an award to Member Greg Scott for his service on the board, and noted Member Scott was a fine replacement for former member, Paul Mount, with his technical assistance and expertise of land/oil issues. Member Scott stated that it had been a pleasure being a board member and representing State Lands Commission and being assisted by David McNeill and staff. He introduced Marina Voskanian, Assistant Division Chief for State Lands Commission, who will be his replacement on the Baldwin Hills Conservancy board.

V. Approval of Minutes (October, December) – Allan Boodnick, Chair

The Chair stated that a correction needed to be made to December's minutes; it has him as the Chair and it should be Lloyd Dixon. He called for the motion to approve the minutes with the correction as stated. Motion was made by Member Kingston and was seconded. The Chair called for the vote; all ayes. Motion carries.

VI. Consideration of a Resolution Authorizing a Grant of BHC Proposition 40 Funds to the City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks for Water Quality and Access Improvements at Norman O. Houston Park – David McNeill, Executive Officer

Mr. McNeill stated that Resolution 12-01 was for a grant (not to exceed 1.8 million dollars) of Prop 40 funds for added improvements to Norman O. Houston Park that would include ADA compatible trail connectivity, shade structures, restrooms, bio-swales, landscaping and additional parking. Motion was made by Member Kingston to approve the resolution and was seconded. The Chair called for vote; all ayes. Motion carries.

VII Disaster and Possible Action on the BHC Disaster Recovery Plan for Information Technology Compliance and Certification – David McNeill, Executive Officer

Mr. McNeill stated the Information Security Office of the Natural Resources Agency would be picking up some responsibilities in regards to the Conservancy's Information Technology and as part of the process of designation; a recovery plan for addressing potential loss of systems during a disaster is required. Motion to approve was made by Member Jones and was seconded. The Chair called for the vote; all ayes. Motion carries.

VIII. Discussion and Possible Action on the Proposed 2012 Meeting Schedule – David McNeill, Executive Officer

There was no action needed on this item.

IX. Discussion and Possible Action on the Proposed

Mr. McNeill asked Member Guiney to give an update on the Baldwin Hills Conservancy Regional Conservation Authority (BHRCA) acquisition of the school site. Member Guiney stated their plan at this point was to get public input on the site's future. Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas (Chair of the BHRCA) will hold public meetings; the next one is scheduled for Wednesday, January 25, 2012 at 6:30 p.m. inside the Community Center of Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area.

Mr. McNeill continued with his written report on the following:

- Los Angeles Neighborhood Initiative (LANI) grant (La Cienega bridge entrance)
- Department of Toxic Substances Control soil sampling of the Eastern Ridgeline
- MRCA meeting on the Milton Street park design
- Eastern Ridgeline progress
- L.A. Infrastructure Academy restoration work and upcoming newsletter
- Culver City's Jefferson Street project improvement
- Bond Cash/ELPF fund

X. Board Member Announcements or Agenda Items for Future Meetings

Member Kingston commented on the large volume of people visiting the Baldwin Hills Scenic Overlook path from Jefferson Blvd. and is glad that Culver City is moving forward with the improvements on Jefferson.

Member Jones congratulated Members Boodnick and Kingston on their appointments as Chair and Vice Chair and is looking forward to working with them and their initiatives in the coming year.

Member Guiney reported on the damage County Parks sustained due to the recent windstorms. Although Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area suffered very little damage, their department had a total of 1,349 trees that were either damaged or knocked down. The total value is over seven million dollars. In addition, structural damage will be over six hundred fifty thousand dollars and debris removal is over seven hundred thousand dollars.

Member Scott re-stated it was an honor to have represented State Lands Commission as a member of the Conservancy board and he would miss the association of the dedicated members and David McNeill and staff, but the board would be in capable hands with Marina Voskanian.

Member Reynolds stated that it was an honor to be associated with this great effort and group of people, and feels very privileged to be the representative for the City of Culver City. He noted that Culver City is working very diligently to complete the project on Jefferson Blvd.

Member Amir congratulated Member Scott on his retirement and thanked him for all his help and welcomed Marina Voskanian. She stated that she represents the Green Business Program for the Department of Toxic Substances Control and their department is reaching out to cities and local governments to establish certification programs; this service is free.

Member Romero stated that the California Trails Conference is scheduled for April and a panel has been scheduled to speak on Park to Playa.

Rosana Miramontes, Deputy Attorney General, reminded the board that their Form 700 annual statement is due April 2, 2012.

Member Alvis thanked the Chair for setting the board's goals for 2012 and hopes to meet the challenge to visit at least/or exceed once a year. She looks forward to working with everyone in the coming year.

Member Clark, congratulated the board, David McNeill and staff, on all the accomplishment she has seen since serving on the board. It is very impressive to see all projects nearing completion, along with the school acquisition Member Guiney discussed, and the project by the City of Los Angeles. It's great to see the Conservancy stay focused on their strategic goals and provide safe recreational opportunities within the Baldwin Hills.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business brought before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 11:23 a.m.

Approved:

Allan S. Boodnick
Chairman