

MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING
of the
BALDWIN HILLS CONSERVANCY
April 10, 2009

CALL TO ORDER

The public meeting of the Baldwin Hills Conservancy was called to order by Chair Robert L. Jones on Friday, April 10, 2009 at 10:10 a.m., at Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area Community Center, 4100 South La Cienega Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90056.

I. Roll Call

The Conservancy roll was called and the following voting members were present: Ta-Lecia Arbor, Allan Boodnick, Lloyd Dixon, John Wicker, Mary Ann Greene, Chair Robert L. Jones, Allan Kingston, Bobbie Parks, and Ron Schafer. Absent: Kenneth Bentley, Bryan Cash, Mike Chrisman, Vice Chair Russ Guiney, and Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas.

The following non voting members were present: Sara Amir, Barbara Romero (designee for Joe Edmiston) Bill LaPointe, Patricia O'Toole, and Greg Scott. Absent: Joe Edmiston and Mary Small.

The following staff members were present: David McNeill, Gail Krippner, and Sandra Hamlat.

There was no representation from the State Attorney General office.

II. Approval of Minutes of Meeting (March)

The Chair called for the motion to approve March's meeting minutes. Member Boodnick made the motion to approve the meeting minutes. The Chair called for the question, all ayes.

III. Presentation and Update on the Baldwin Hills Outdoor Resources Interpretation Project – Margot Griswold and Stacey Villagon, L.A. Audubon Society

Margot Griswold and Stacey Villagon gave a slide presentation as an overview on the comprehensive/outdoor education program funded by the Baldwin Hills Conservancy, in partnership with the Audubon Society, California State Parks and Earthworks. Board members commended them on their presentation and Member Greene asked if they had contacted Culver City's Unified School District to have children from their district involved, as the Baldwin Hills Scenic Overlook is located in Culver. Ms. Griswold stated that their plan was to extend the intern program into Culver City.

IV. Consideration of a Resolution Delegating Authority to the Executive Officer to Enter Into a Lease Agreement and Execute Required Documents to Establish New Office Space for the Conservancy – David McNeill, Executive Office

The Chair called for the motion to approve the resolution. Motion was made by Member Kingston and was seconded. Motion carries.

V. Consideration of a Resolution Authorizing the Executive Officer to Partner With Local Agencies, College Districts, and Institutions to Seek Federal Recovery Act Funds for Green Resource Development and training Opportunities in the Baldwin Hills – David McNeill, Executive Officer

The Chair called for the motion to approve the resolution. Motion was made by Member Arbor. Member Schafer framed the amendment to read "partnerships developed for approved projects only or if projects are not pre-approved, they come to the board for approval." The amendment was seconded and carried.

The Chair called for the questions for the amendment as stated; all ayes. The Chair called for approval of the main motion of the resolution, all ayes. Main motion carries.

Prior to the next agenda item, the Chair introduced Robert Gysel, Assistant District Engineer, County Public Works Road Maintenance Division, District 3 and Issa Adawiya, County Public Works Construction Division, who discussed the Stocker Street improvements, which will consist of two phases. The road portion will be completed by end of next week.

Executive Officer Report – David McNeill

Mr. McNeill gave his written report which focused on:

- Bond funding
- Don Lorenzo street project
- Meeting with the Community Advisory Panel

VII. Ad Hoc Committee Reports

Member Dixon stated that their Acquisition Ad Hoc Committee, along with representatives from Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas' office, met on March 30 and discussed progress on the five properties and the newest one, Ohr Eliyhau site. Their committee are in the process of getting an appraisal for this site and negotiations are on-going.

VIII. Board Member Announcements

Member Wicker announced that residents have reported sightings of the red tail fox around the bowl area of Kenneth Hahn State Recreation.

Member Arbor commented about the Baldwin Hills Scenic Overlook's opening.

Member Greened also stated she was excited about the Baldwin Hills Scenic Overlook's grand opening and had a question on outreach for the event; in particular, how the Blair Hills community was notified.

Member Kingston praised the presentation made earlier by the Audubon Society.

Member Dixon echoed Member Kingston's comments about the Audubon Society's presentation.

Member Schafer echoed Members Kingston and Dixon's comments about Audubon Society's presentation and added that he wants to reinforce Margot Griswold's idea to support the student interns.

The Chair commended the staff for their hard work and diligence.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, a motion was made to adjourn; the meeting was adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

Approved:

Robert L. Jones
Chair