

Hillside Federation Newsletter November, 2016



www.hillsidefederation.org

Hillside Federation Supports County Measure A, and Local Measures FF and GG

Hillside Federation members discussed several ballot measures at our October meeting that will be decided during the November 8 election. The Hillside Federation adopted motions in support of the three measures discussed below.

Measure A is a countywide measure to “provide safe, clean neighborhood parks, beaches and open spaces in every area of Los Angeles County.” For more information please visit www.YesonAforLAParks.com.

Local Measures FF and GG would raise revenue for the acquisition, conservation, and maintenance of open space, wildlife corridors, and parklands. Woodland Hills, Encino, and Tarzana neighborhoods will vote on Measure FF (\$15 per parcel). Voters in the the Santa Monica Mountains and Hollywood Hills east of the 405 freeway will vote on Measure GG (\$35 per parcel). Both will apply for ten years and require independent citizen oversight.

All three measures need to receive 2/3 approval from voters to pass.

We hope you will join the Hillside Federation in supporting these three important measures to expand and protect local open space and parkland areas.

Agenda November 2, 2016 7:00 pm

Pinz Bowling Center, 2nd Floor
12655 Ventura Blvd., Studio City

- I. Call to Order
- II. Approval of minutes
- III. Officers' Reports
 - A. President's Report
 - B. Treasurer's Report
- IV. Old Business
 - A. 8150 Sunset – Jamie Hall
 - B. Second Dwelling Unit update
– Mitch Menzer
 - C. Weddington Golf & Tennis Development
– Claudia Freedle, Studio City Res. Assoc.
- IV. New Business
- VI. Adjournment

next meeting

– **Annual Holiday Party** –
Thursday, December 8th
6:30p.m. – 9:30p.m.
Mulholland Tennis Club
2555 Crest View Drive
(see flyer inside)

Hillside Federation mission: *To protect the property and the quality of life of the residents of the Santa Monica Mountains and other hillside areas of Los Angeles and its environs, and to encourage and promote those policies and programs which will best preserve the natural topography and wildlife of the mountains and hillsides for the benefit of all the people of Los Angeles.*

The Federation of Hillside and Canyon Associations
2016 Holiday Party

Honored Guests

*Carlyle Hall
CA State Senator –
Fran Pavley*

Mulholland Tennis Club

*2555 Crest View Drive
Los Angeles, CA 90046*

Thursday, December 8th, 2016

6:30 – 9:30 pm

\$55/Person

RSVP by November 26th

andres2007@sbcglobal.net

*Make check payable to:
Hillside Federation*

*Mail to: Don Andres
7470 Franklin Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90046*

Questions: 323-333-7445

Thank you for your support!

***Come join us for
Fun and Socializing***

*Gourmet & Vegetarian Buffet
Free Parking
Wine & Music Provided
No Host Bar*

Entire Club is Reserved for Us!



Hillside Federation

Draft Minutes
October 5, 2016

I. Call to Order

President Charley Mims called the meeting to order at 7:20p.m. Members and guests introduced themselves.

Guest: Ranger James Latham, Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority

Ranger James Latham (MRCA) spoke in support of November ballot measures FF and GG. These two 10-year parcel taxes will fund increases in MRCA services like wildland fire patrol, fire fighting, and law enforcement. These are particularly important due to an increase in people using the parks and the continuing drought. Measure FF is a \$15 annual tax on Santa Monica Mountain parcels north of Mulholland from the I-405 west to Calabasas. Measure GG is a similar \$35 annual parcel tax for the area from the 405 east to Griffith Park (both sides of

Mulholland). Measures FF and GG will only be voted on by designated area parcel owners, and if passed would only apply to those owners' parcels. A percentage of assessed funds raised will be used for acquisition of open space, though the majority of MRCA's open space acquisition funding relies on Proposition A, which will replace the expiring Proposition A [see below for more information]. More information about Measures FF and GG are available at mrca.ca.gov. Ranger Latham fielded a number of questions from board members.

MOTION: Jamie Hall moved that the Hillside Federation support Measures FF and GG. The motion passed.

II. Approval of minutes

The September minutes were approved as corrected.

III. Officers' Reports

A. President's Report – Charley Mims

President Charley Mims reported that the amended City Council motion on the Second

Dwelling Unit (SDU) ordinance passed. Rather than repeal the City's SDU ordinance, the City approved grandfathering of projects approved under the ZA Memo, including new permits applied for up to September 30, 2016. Wendy Rosen noted that the state legislature recently passed two bills related to SDUs. Neither of those bills has safety provisions or prohibitions for hillside areas. Jamie Hall remarked that CD5 land use deputy Faisal Alserri attended one of the local neighborhood council meetings last week and opined that neither state measure dramatically impacts the City of Los Angeles.

John Given reminded the board of the upcoming P-22 Day and Urban Wildlife Week in the Santa Monica Mountains and Griffith Park.

B. Treasurer's Report – Don Andres

Treasurer Don Andres reported that there are no bills outstanding and all dues are collected. He reminded everyone to save the date for the annual holiday party, which will be held at the Mulholland Tennis Center on December 8, from 6:30p.m. to 9:30p.m. Don distributed the flyer to the board. The board discussed the increased cost and price owing to the club's significant increases from previous years.

IV. Old Business

A. Hastain Trail – Thomas Freeman

Tom provided a brief update regarding the Hastain Trail case, for which a petition for review was submitted to the California Supreme Court. Tom recently received the papers filed in

opposition to review, and amicus letters will be submitted to the Court by October 11.

B. Nalin Drive – Jamie Hall

Jamie reported that the developer may be planning to abandon the project and sell the parcel. Community members are hoping the developer will sell it to the conservancy.

C. Sign Ordinance – Wendy-Sue Rosen

Wendy reports that work is ongoing regarding letters in support of recusal of potentially conflicted councilmembers.

D. Curtis School – Lois Becker

Lois reported that a meeting was held among interested community members and the new head of school and the community will report back when more is known.

Steve Twining reported that Faisal Alserri told him Bel Air community may get a permanent overlay to avoid Saturday construction and the staging of grading vehicles.

V. New Business

A. LA County Parks Open Space Measure A

Charley Mims reported that the current county tax measure to support county parks is ending and Measure A is an effort to sustain this money. It will require a yes vote from 2/3 of voters. The October newsletter has good information about the measure.

MOTION: Wendy-Sue Rosen moved that the Hillside Federation support Measure A. The motion passed.

B. Initiative Ordinance JJJ

Charley reported that as he understands it, City of LA Initiative JJJ was proposed to create more affordable housing and to assure minimum construction wages, among other things. Jamie Hall noted that when the Neighborhood Integrity Initiative (NII) was planned for the November ballot, Initiative JJJ was then proposed as a competing measure. When the NII was delayed, the JJJ group decided to keep their initiative on the ballot.

C. Neighborhood Integrity Initiative (NII)

Wendy-Sue Rosen reported that there have been changes to the NII from the version we

Bringing an Issue to the Federation

If your organization would like to bring an issue to the attention of the Federation, please complete a Request for Action form (available at the website www.hillsidefederation.org) and send it, along with supporting documents, to president@hillsidefederation.org no later than 10 days prior to the meeting. This will help you organize your presentation so that our meetings can flow efficiently, while providing the necessary information to allow the Federation to consider your organization's request.

presented to the Hillside Federation by Jill Stewart earlier this year, and thought it would be good to have Jill or another proponent come back to discuss the changes. George Abrahams noted one major change: an exception was added for projects with 100% affordable housing. The main component of the moratorium, no general plan amendments for two years without first undertaking general plan updates, is still part of the initiative. During discussion several commenters noted concerns with unintended consequences of passing the NII. Wendy-Sue Rosen noted that some community plans may not need to be changed, expressed concern that accelerating community plan updates throughout the City could create unintended opportunities for developers and lobbyists to change things that communities may like. Tom Freeman noted that the City could be incentivized to move more quickly and shortcut the update process.

The discussion turned to using the fact of the NII to advocate for improvements in the City process. The consensus is following the November election we should work on that during the period leading up to the March election. Charley Mims invited board members to write with any points that they would like to have included in that discussion.

C. Other Business

Stephen Benson attended a hearing for a Baseline Hillside Ordinance project at 10580 Selkirk Lane (former home of George Harrison). The project is on a paper street, and would require 80 truckloads of grading export. The project

reportedly would have 7 retaining walls. Per BHO rules no project with a substandard access of less than 20 feet wide should be permitted. The proposed project has only a shared access driveway. No one except the applicant testified in support of the project. CD5 has not taken a position.

Don Andres provided a brief update on Runyon Canyon. The park was recently reopened after the LA Department of Water & Power (LA DWP) completed work on the water line and resurfaced the Fire Road with some storm water runoff basins. Several new 4-way water fountains were installed as well as trail maintenance on the upper trails and some cleanup work, mulching, and tree-trimming. The old rundown tennis court area has been refurbished by Rec & Parks. With respect to the acquisition of open space in collaboration with the Trust for Public Land, the Friends of Runyon Canyon Foundation is continuing to raise funds to support that effort.

Wendy-Sue Rosen provided a brief update on the proposed Berggruen think tank project in the vicinity of Mountaingate, just west of the I-405 freeway. There is not yet a proposal shared with the public.

VI. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:51p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
John Given, VP/Executive Secretary
(note – attendance will be provided in online version of minutes)

<p>The Federation of Hillside and Canyon Associations, Inc. P.O. Box 27404 Los Angeles, CA 90027 president@hillsidefederation.org www.hillsidefederation.org</p>	<p><i>ORGANIZATIONS</i> Beachwood Canyon Bel-Air Association Bel Air Knolls Property Owners Bel Air Skycrest POA Benedict Canyon Association Brentwood Hills Homeowners Brentwood Residents Coalition Cahuenga Pass Property Owner Canyon Back Alliance CASM-SFV Crests Neighborhood Assn. Franklin Ave./Hollywood Bl. W. Franklin Hills Residents Assn. Highlands Owners Assn. Hollywood Dell Civic Assn. Hollywood Heights Assn. Hollywoodland Homeowners Holmby Hills HOA Kagel Canyon Civic Assn.</p>	<p>Lake Hollywood HOA Laurel Canyon Assn. Lookout Mountain Assn. Los Feliz Improvement Assn. Mt. Olympus Property Owners Mt. Washington Homeowners Nichols Canyon Assn. N. Beverly Dr/Franklin Canyon Oak Forest Canyon Assn. Oaks Homeowners Assn. Outpost Estates Homeowners Rancho Verdugo Estates HOA Residents of Beverly Glen Roscomare Valley Assn. Save Coldwater Canyon! Save Sunset Blvd. Shadow Hills Property Owners Sherman Oaks HOA Silver Lake Heritage Trust</p>	<p>Studio City Residents Assn. Sunset Hills HOA Tarzana Property Owners Assn. Torreyson Flynn Assn. Upper Mandeville Canyon Upper Nichols Canyon Whitley Heights Civic Assn. CHAIRPERSONS EMERITUS Shirley Cohen Jerome C. Daniel Patricia Bell Hearst Alan Kishbaugh Gordon Murley Steve Twining CHAIRPERSONS IN MEMORIAM Brian Moore Polly Ward</p>
<p>PRESIDENT Charley Mims CHAIRMAN Marian Dodge VICE PRESIDENTS Mark Stratton John Given SECRETARY Carol Sidlow EXECUTIVE SECRETARY John Given</p>			