

Hillside Federation Newsletter November 2019



Wildfire Season Impacts Los Angeles Area with Major Fires

California wildfire season traditionally begins in the fall each year, as Santa Ana winds in southern Cal (and Diablo winds in the north) elevate ever-present risk of fire in brush areas. The Los Angeles Times has published and continues to update a statewide map of major California fires (available at: <https://www.latimes.com/wildfires-map/>).

Recent major wildfires within the City of Los Angeles include:

- The Getty Fire, 745 acres in Brentwood between the I-405 freeway and Bundy and Kenter Canyons, destroying 12 homes and damaging 6 more;
- The Barham Fire, 80 acres near Warner Brothers Studios in the Hollywood Hills;
- The Palisades Fire, 42 acres south of Palisades Drive in Pacific Palisades.

Nearby in Ventura County even larger fires burned. These include the Maria Fire near Santa Paula (approximately 10,000 acres), the Easy Fire in Simi Valley (more than 1,800 acres). While these local fires pale in comparison to Sonoma County's Kincadee fire (almost 78,000 acres), based on recent history it is clear wildfires will continue for the foreseeable future.

Join us this month as we receive updates on the Getty Fire and on the revised Berggruen Institute project (located on the ridge above where the Getty Fire started).

Agenda

November 19, 2019

7:00 pm

Unitarian Universalist Church of Studio City
12355 Moorpark Street, Studio City

I. Call to Order

Guest: Cindy Montañez, Tree People,
Mountains Restoration Trust

II. Approval of minutes

III. Officers' Reports

- A. President's Report – Charley Mims
- B. Treasurer's Report – Don Andres
Holiday Party

IV. Old Business

- A. 901 Strada Vecchia update
- B. Councilmember Bonin (CD11) Fire
Safety event – Mark Stratton
- C. Berggruen Inst. update – Ileana Wachtel

IV. New Business

- A. Dixie Canyon Association Membership

VI. Adjournment

Next meeting:

HOLIDAY PARTY

December 12, 2019, 7:00 p.m.

Mulholland Tennis Club
2555 Crest View Drive

Los Angeles, CA 90046

see flyer for info & tickets

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.*

Hillside Federation
September 17, 2019
Draft Minutes

I. Call to Order

Vice President Mark Stratton called the meeting to order at 7:09 pm. Members and guests introduced themselves.

Guest: Fernando Morales — Supervisor
Kuehl's Office

Fernando described the changes in the Los Angeles County voting system for the 2020 election. There will be 150 polling centers throughout the county and people will have 11 days to vote. More information is available at the website VSAP.lavote.net.

Fernando distributed the County's Quarterly Update on Homelessness. The county needs more housing units. The hardest element of the homeless crisis is increasing the number of units available; it takes quite a while for them to come online. But whenever a new site is proposed, all of them are considered.

II. Approval of Minutes

The September minutes were approved as written.

III. Officers' Reports

A. President's Report — Marian Dodge reported on behalf of Charley Mims

The Federation received a happy Rosh Hashanah card from Councilmember David Ryu (CD4). Beloved Chief Park Ranger Albert Torres died on October 12 after falling ill during the Saddleridge Fire.

The first episode of season 4 of KCET's Lost LA features Griffith Park [*ed.* - This terrific show can be found online at: <https://www.kcet.org/shows/lost-la/episodes/griffith-park-the-untold-history>].

P-22 Day Festival is October 19 in Griffith Park.

B. Treasurer's Report — Don Andres
All bills are paid.

The Holiday Party will be held December 12, 2019. Tickets may be purchased online at the Hillside Federation website.

IV. Old Business

A. Weddington Golf Course — Chip Meehan, Save LA River Open Space

Community members have fought to have the property protected and maintained as public open space. Community members are concerned that Harvard-Westlake School, which purchased the property, is planning development of the property that is out of scale with its surroundings, including a 500-space subterranean garage. Because of the high water table, water will have to be pumped out of the subterranean garage and locker rooms. They are not changing zoning but requesting a CUP. Harvard-Westlake is now the largest land owner in Studio City. Harvard-Westlake held invitation only meetings with alumni to garner support for the project. Save LA River Open Space is working with Councilmember Krekorian to scale back the project. The golf course will be removed, but they are trying to save tennis courts for public use.

B. 3003 Runyon Canyon Rd. update — Don Andres, Joan Cashel

Three organizations wrote letters opposing the project. The community has hired an independent consultant to analyze the DEIR. The owner did not tell the Federation about a tunnel. The plan would consider the existing Headley/Handley House as an accessory dwelling unit (ADU), even though the maximum size of an ADU is 1200 square feet. The Headley/Handley House, at more than 2,000 sq. ft., doesn't qualify.

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 www.hillsidefederation.org) and send it to RFA@hillsidefederation.org along with supporting documents no later than 10 days prior to the meeting. This will help you organize your presentation while providing the necessary information to allow the Federation to consider your organization's request.

V. New Business

A. 11472 W. Laurelcrest Dr. — Diana Zogran, Sunshine Hills Neighborhood Residents Assoc.

The Board of Public Works (BPW) approved the tree removal permit and determined the project was exempt from CEQA. Community members have argued the project is within a special Sensitive Natural Community with numerous protected Coast Live Oaks, and a California Bird Refuge. Sunshine Hills filed an appeal with the BPW, supported by the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and are seeking support from the HF in opposition to this project. The council file for the appeal is CF 19-1134.

MOTION: Don Andres moved that the Federation write a letter to CM Krekorian in support of Sunshine Hills' appeal of the 11472 Laurelcrest Dr. project on the grounds of CEQA and the protected tree ordinance. The motion passed.

Announcements:

Burbank Airport noise issue is ongoing. The next meeting has been rescheduled to 6:30 p.m. on Nov. 6 at the Los Angeles Marriott Burbank Airport, 2500 N. Hollywood Way.

VI. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:56 pm.

Next meeting November 19, 2019.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen Benson
Recording Secretary

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Bel Air Hills Assn	Robin Greenberg
Bel Air Skycrest POA	Mark Stratton
Benedict Canyon Assn	Nickie Miner
Brentwood Hills HOA	John Given
Canyon Back Alliance	Lois Becker
Doheny-Sunset Plaza NA	Ellen Evans
Franklin/Hlywd Bl W	Don Andres
Hollywood Dell Civic	Mary Ledding
Kagel Canyon Civic Assn	Kit Paull
LFIA (Los Feliz)	Dennis Chew
	Marian Dodge
Nichols Cyn N Assn	Julie Kremkus
Residents of Bev Glen	Stephen Benson
Shadow Hills POA	Cindy Bloom
Sherman Oaks HA	Jay Weitzler
Studio City Res Assn	Joann Deutch
	Chip Meehan
	Joan Cashel

GUESTS:

Supervisor Kuehl's office	Fernando Morales
Chair Emeritus	Patricia Bell Hearst
Nichols Cyn N Assn	Pam Wick
Studio City RA	Diana Zogran
Tujunga resident	Mark Dutton
Berry Hilltop resident	Nina Heller
Sunshine Hill resident	Natasha Garcia

The Federation of Hillside and Canyon Associations, Inc.
P.O. Box 27404
Los Angeles, CA 90027
president@hillsidefederation.org
www.hillsidefederation.org

PRESIDENT

Charley Mims

CHAIRMAN

Marian Dodge

VICE PRESIDENTS

Mark Stratton

John Given

TREASURER

Don Andres

SECRETARY

Stephen Benson

ORGANIZATIONS

Argyle Civic Assn.
Beachwood Canyon
Bel Air Association
Bel-Air Hills Association
Bel Air Knolls Property Owners
Bel Air Skycrest Property Owners
Benedict Canyon Association
Brentwood Hills Homeowners
Brentwood Residents Coalition
Cahuenga Pass Property Owners
Canyon Back Alliance
Crests Neighborhood Assn.
Doheny-Sunset Plaza NA
Franklin Ave./Hollywood Bl. W.
Franklin Hills Residents Assn.
Highlands Owners Assn.
Hollywood Dell Civic Assn.
Hollywood Heights Assn.

Holmby Hills HOA
Kagel Canyon Civic Assn.
Lake Hollywood HOA
Laurel Canyon Assn.
LFIA (Los Feliz)
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
Residents of Beverly Glen
Save Coldwater Canyon!
Shadow Hills Property Owners
Sherman Oaks HOA
Silver Lake Heritage Trust
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
Steve Twining

CHAIRPERSONS IN MEMORIAM

Brian Moore
Gordon Murley
Polly Ward