

Hillside Federation  
June 6, 2018  
Minutes

## **I. Call to Order**

Chairman Marian Dodge called the meeting to order at 7:15 pm. Members and guests introduced themselves.

### **Guest: Paul Edelman, SMMC**

Paul explained that the MRCA only does brush clearance on properties controlled by the MRCA in the Community Facilities Districts. The Mission Canyon Park belongs to LA County Bureau of Sanitation. They pay the MRCA to operate the park; however LA County is responsible for brush clearance. Wendy-Sue-Rosen noted that the SMMC saved the land from going to a developer. Prop 68 will allow them to make more acquisitions. The MRCA has first right of refusal to surplus land owned by public agencies in the Santa Monica Mountains. Property near the Ford Theatre would be great for a wildlife corridor. They participate in county land auctions and try to get easements at the Mulholland Design Review Board.

SMMC filed an appeal with the Board of Public Works regarding the approval of protected tree removal at 2251 Nichols Canyon Rd. The Federation has supported their appeal. A man has been illegally dumping across a SMMC easement in Chatsworth for three years. Eric Edmunds is the SMMC attorney on that case. The dumper has counter-sued the SMMC. There will be another bond measure on the ballot in November.

Richard Klug commented that the SMMC has helped Torreyson Flynn Association a lot.

### **Guest: Walt Young, MRCA - Tour bus permits**

Approximately 15% of the tour vans operating along Mulholland Drive do not have correct permits. Vans are required to obtain a no-fee permit to assure that they are insured and operating legally with a city business license. The permit is free to keep vans from parking on the dirt along the street instead of in the paved overlook parking lots. MRCA will cite companies without a permit. Because vans at the Jerry Daniel Overlook above the Hollywood Bowl are out of control, they are charging \$10/visit. Equipment will automatically log when the vans enter the parking lot. The program starts July 1. The fee is expected to generate \$100,000–150,000 per year. They are installing a portable toilet. The city needs better signage to enforce the no parking along Mulholland Drive; we should talk to CM Ryu about it.

## **II. Approval of minutes**

The May minutes were approved as written.

## **III. Officers' Reports**

### **A. President's Report - Marian Dodge**

Dr. Niles Chapman, the long-time HF representative from Sherman Oaks died. The Federation sent a condolence card.

Developer Arman Gabay was charged in a federal bribery case. (The Federation unsuccessfully opposed his request for a height variance at 10550 Bellagio Road.)

Steve Twining announced a hearing on Hadid's violations at 901 Strada Vecchia.

Don Andres announced that the comment period for the Hollywood Center project (aka Hollywood Millennium project) has been extended to June 30. It is applying as an Environmental Leadership Development Project (ELDP) for fast tracking. All are urged to submit comments.

### **B. Treasurer's Report - Don Andres**

We have 40 paid member associations with two still outstanding. All expenses are paid. The money from the City was received and forwarded to the Sunset Traffic Study contractor. The study needs a more in depth study to include the Mount Saint Mary's expansion. Don Keller is donating \$5,000 to cover the extra expenses.

MOTION: To pay the Sunset Traffic consultant to include the proposed expansion of the Mount Saint Mary's school in the traffic study. The motion passed.

#### **IV. Old Business**

##### A. Accessory Dwelling Unit Ordinance – Marian Dodge

Charley attended PLUM committee meeting on ADU. It has to go back to the City Planning Commission, probably in a few months, then to PLUM, then to the full Council. ADUs are banned in Very High Fire Severity Zones per state law (Sen. Ben Allen). [Ed. Note: This turned out to be incorrect.] In the current version of the ordinance a separate ADU structure or add on to the existing structure cannot be built in the hillsides.

##### B. Retreat at Benedict Canyon - Nickie Miner

The developer cancelled a meeting with the community. Koretz has not taken a position; he wants the developer to go through the process.

##### C. Sunset Traffic Study - Don Andres

(See Treasurer's Report.)

##### D. 2251 Nichols Canyon Rd. - Linda Whitford

There is no appeal date yet.

#### **IV. New Business**

##### A. CEQA appeal fee increase - Marian Dodge

The City is planning to drastically increase the fee to appeal a CEQA decision. This would seriously restrict the ability of HOAs to file appeals. You must file a CEQA appeal before you can file a lawsuit. MOTION: Wendy-Sue Rosen moved that the Hillside Federation object to the CEQA appeal ordinance proposal as currently drafted and request that the City codify the process that is currently in place while considering substantial changes to ensure that it does not have the effect of limiting public participation in the planning and land use process. The motion passed.

#### **Announcements:**

Wendy-Sue Rosen - Brentwood Residents Coalition and Sunset Coalition filed a lawsuit against Elon Musk's company (TBC – The Boring Company) project to tunnel under Sepulveda Blvd. from West LA to Culver City, which did not go through the normal City approval process. Councilmember Koretz ushered it through. TBC filed a Categorical Exemption. The Mayor supports Musk's project, which may interfere with Metro's plan to have high speed rail along I-405.

Don Andres thanked Don Keller for his donation to complete the Sunset Traffic Study.

#### **VI. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 8:49.

Respectfully submitted,  
Stephen Benson, Secretary  
Next meeting July 18, 2017

#### **Members in Attendance:**

Bel-Air Assn	Maureen Levinson
	Linda Whitford
Bel Air Hills Assn	Steve Twining
Benedict Canyon Assn	Nickie Miner
Brentwood Hills	Eric Edmunds
Brentwood Residents	Don Keller
Canyon Back Allian.	Wendy-Sue Rosen
Franklin/Hlywd Bl W	Don Andres
	Yvonne Hessler

Kagel Canyon Civic	Kit Paull
Los Feliz Impvmt	Marian Dodge
Oaks HOA	Gerry Hans
Oak Forest	Bruce Hollihan
Res of Beverly Glen	Stephen Benson
Sherman Oaks HO	Jay Weitzler
Studio City Res Assn	Alan Dymond
	Beth Dymond
Torreyson Flynn	Richard Klug
Upper Nichols Cyn	Joan Cashel

**Guests:**

SMMC	Paul Edelman
MRCA	Walt Young