

Hillside Federation
Tuesday, March 19, 2024
7:00 PM – 9:00 PM
Video Conference
Minutes

I. Call to Order

President Charley Mims called the meeting to order at 7:06 pm

Guests: Natural Resource Protection Plan – Paul Edelman

Paul Edelman, Chief of Natural Resources and Planning for the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority, spoke on the Natural Resource Protection Plan, adopted December 31, 2021. The City did not acknowledge the Natural Resource Protection Plan, but the City did pass a motion adopting habitat maps. The Big Wild Topanga State Core Habitat Area Planning Map was adopted in June 2021. The Eastern Santa Monica Mountains Habitat Linkage Planning Map was first adopted in January 2017, updated in 2020. The Griffith Park Area Habitat Linkage Planning Map was adopted in December 2017. The Laurel Spring water source is a key hub for getting animals along Laurel Canyon Boulevard. Paul stated that we need the wildlife ordinance; it is a tool.

LA County 3rd District – Dylan Sittig

Climate Action Plan Project

As of January, Dylan has worked in the unincorporated county areas to the West Mn the Santa Monica mountains through Lindsay Horvath's office. The LA County's Climate Action Plan was adopted in 2015. The first update to the Climate Action Plan is meeting greenhouse gas reduction targets by the years 2030, 2035 and 2045. Over 75% of the greenhouse gases come from transportation and building sectors. Dylan works with Mandy Laflen.

CD 4 Update – Mehmet Berker – Not Available

CD 5 Update – Haley Martinez – Not Available

CD 11 Update – Michael Amster

On March 1st the Public Safety Committee will discuss the disrepair of fire stations throughout the city, including station 109 on Mulholland.

At the annual Brentwood HOA meeting Directive 1 on the hillsides was discussed, including affordable housing in sensitive areas.

Potholes should be reported to 311 with pictures on Sunset, San Vicente, hillside roads.

Charley Mims asked how the Hillside Federation will be included in deliberations with the councilwoman.

AD 51, ASM Rick Zbur – Joshua Marín-Mora

Joshua Marin-Mora discussed Assemblymember Rick Zbur's bills that he is working on. The Assemblymember is working on environmental bills, retail theft bills, climate action bills, offshore wind bills.

Steve Twining brought up insurance, the California Fair Plan, Wendy-Sue Rosen said that last year the Fair Plan rates doubled and offered that the insurance commissioner could be invited to speak. Wendy-Sue said that we don't want to see CEQA weakened.

Ellen Evans said that landlines are important in the hillsides. Joshua said that there will be 2 more public hearings on this and said that if there are no alternatives, AT&T will not cut service.

II. Approval of Minutes – Robin Greenberg

The minutes were approved as written.

III. Officers' Reports

A. President's Report - Charley Mims

a. HF Nominating Committee

Three members of the nominating committee were announced: Steve Krawchuk, Lois Becker and Beth Dymond.

b. Election Results – Wendy-Sue Rosen

The incumbents had a very good election. The present results will be certified in April.

CD 4 Raman won with 50.7%.

CD 6 Padilla won with 78%.

CD 8 Dawson won with 78%.

CD 10: there will be a runoff between Heather Hutt and Grace Yu

CD 12 John Lee

CD 14 Kevin de Leon will be in runoff with Isabel.

The progressive candidates are winning.

The County Supervisors won outright: Mitchell, Barger, Hahn

Laura Friedman is in 1st place for Adam Schiff's seat.

Proposition 1 did narrowly pass.

c. Dodger Stadium Gondola – Marian Dodge

The Gondola Project has a lot of problems; the gondola would go right over the heads of the residents of Chinatown.

On Friday, LA City Council Councilmember's motion CF 23-0011 will be brought forward: support to suspend advancing the gondola project until an independent comprehensive traffic assessment is completed. Public comments will be accepted by Thursday.

B. Operations/Treasurer Report - Don Andres

a. Membership Dues

37 associations have paid, there are 46-member associations.

The insurance has been paid.

The Federation raised funds for the Jerry Daniel Overlook to be spent on a 4-way water fountain with a small plaque that indicates the Hillside Federation's donation.

b. Oppose Billboard Legal Fund

5 associations contributed to the fund to oppose billboards legal fund to date. Hollywood Dell noted they are donating to the legal fund.

IV. Old Business – If No Update, please state just that

A. Digital Billboards (Lawsuit) – Wendy-Sue Rosen

A lawsuit has been filed against County Metro and the first hearing was a week ago. The next case will be in May regarding putting digital billboards on bus benches.

B. Zoo Vision Plan (Lawsuit) – Marian Dodge

Nothing new

C. Harvard-Westlake River Park Project (Lawsuit) – Beth Dymond

There will be a rally on March 24th at 10 am

The facility will close April 3rd

On April 26th there will be a SaveLA open space challenge

D. Berggruen Institute Project – Steve Drimmer – no report

E. Short Term Rentals – Ellen Evans

April 3rd is the next hearing at 2:30 in the housing committee.

F. Updated CEQA Thresholds and Methodology – Ellen Evans

Nothing new

V. New Business

Wendy-Sue Rosen said that American Jewish University was purchased by Milkin East using a conditional use permit; they will use the auditorium for plays and performances and they will create a new sports facility. They are also negotiating on the parking lot of the Church.

Suggestions at the next meeting in April:

LAFD Fire Chief

Fire ecologist as a speaker John Casey: Institute of Fire

Speaker on insurance rates

VI. Adjournment at 8:29 pm.

Robin Greenberg

Recording Secretary

Hillside Federation Attendees - 19 March 2024

Members

Stephen
Mark
Robin
Eric
Carolyn
Wendy-Sue
Steven
Krista
Lois
Ellen
Charley
Don
Malek
Jeff
Jamie
Marian
Stephen
Ben
Jay
Joann
Alan & Beth
Tom
Joan

Krawchuk
Stratton
Greenberg
Edmunds
LoBuglio
Rosen
Kates
Michaels
Becker
Evans
Mims
Andres
Adel
Swofford
Hall
Dodge
Drimmer
Nunemaker
Weitzler
Deutch
Dymond
McWilliams
Cashel

20 Member Associations

Argyle Civic Association
Bel Air Skycrest Property Owners' Association
Bel-Air Hills Association
Brentwood Hills Home Owners Association
Brentwood Hills Home Owners Association
Brentwood Residents Coalition
Cahuenga Pass Property Owners Association
Cahuenga Pass Property Owners Association
Canyon Back Alliance
Doheny/Sunset Plaza Neighborhood Association
Franklin Hills Residents Association
Franklin/Hollywood West Residents Association
Hollywood Dell Civic Association
Hollywoodland Homeowners
Laurel Canyon Association
Los Feliz Improvement Association
Mountaingate
Outpost Neighborhood Association
Sherman Oaks Homeowners Association
Studio City Residents Association
Studio City Residents Association
Sunshine Hill Residents Association
Upper Nichols Canyon Neighborhood Association

Officials and Reps

Joshua Marin-Mora CA AD51 Rep - ASM Rick Zbur
Alan Kishbaugh Chair Emeritus
Steve Twining Chair Emeritus
Michael Amster LA City CD11 - Field Rep
Dylan Sittig LA County SD3 - Regional Planning Deputy

Guests

Paul Edelman Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy