

Hillside Federation Agenda
November 8, 2017
Minutes

I. Call to Order

President Charley Mims called the meeting to order at 7:19 pm. Members and guests introduced themselves.

Presentation: Open Space Element, General Plan Revision - Diana Kitching, City Planner
(Diana.Kitching@lacity.org)

The Planning Department is updating the six elements of the General Plan: Community and Culture, Urban Form (land use), Economy, Open Space, Environment, and Resilience. The two areas that need the most focus are the open space and land use elements.

They are revising the city threshold to comply with CEQA. Every other city in California, except Los Angeles, uses the checklist in the appendix of the CEQA guide for their rules.

They are working with CD 5 to do an analysis of wildlife corridors and paths through the Santa Monica Mountains and other areas. They are copying extensively from LA County SEA. They are identifying the places in the city where new parks are needed. Tom Rothmann and Erick Lopez are working on the Ridgeline Ordinance to implement rules/guidelines on a city-wide basis.

They plan to have Scoping meetings next year, See OurLA2040.org for more information.

Members expressed concerns about aesthetics not counting for CEQA; lack of enforcement; and public/private partnerships bringing in advertising.

II. Approval of Minutes

The October minutes were approved as written.

III. Officers' Reports

A. President's Report - Charley Mims

Charley referred members to the Planning Department's Processes & Procedures, a section produced by RecodeLA. See <http://recode.la> for more info. Questions may be directed to Tom Rothmann tom.rothmann@lacity.org.

The 2300 Kimridge permits were revoked because of an outstanding Order to Comply regarding illegal excavation of a ridge. The applicant is appealing. The Federation will resubmit its letter objecting to the permits being reinstated.

B. Treasurer's Report - Don Andres

The Federation has 42 paid member organizations.

Don urged everyone to send in their checks for the Holiday party Dec. 14.

IV. Old Business

A. 6459 Innsdale Dr. (York vineyard) - Gerry Hans

The applicant failed to include the existence of a blue line stream on the property. He has to recirculate the MND. California Fish and Wildlife is requiring an assessment.

B. Harvard-Westlake School expansion - Suellen Wagner

Save Coldwater Canyon! received a surprise letter from Harvard-Westlake that they will not be building on the west side of Coldwater Canyon due to overwhelming resistance from the community and city recommendation. SCC would like Harvard-Westlake to give a property easement to the MRCA. Now the school has announced a plan to purchase and possibly develop the Weddington Golf & Tennis facility along the river.

C. Impact on LA River Natural Park - Alan Dymond

Studio City residents were caught by surprise when they got the announcement from CM Krekorian's office that Harvard-Westlake was purchasing the Weddington Golf and Tennis facility where they had

planned a park. Harvard-Westlake will control access and limit public access. H-W is planning to build underground parking under a new sports field. The area is zoned Open Space; there are limits to what you can build on open space. Their attorney is Doug Carstens.

D. 11580 Sunshine Terrace update - Alan Dymond

The applicant has to revise his plans in order to reduce the number of protected trees cut. Jamie Hall is monitoring the project for further developments. Getting organized early and staying coordinated is very important and has been key to making progress on projects in our hillside areas.

E. Let's Buy a Mountain - Don Andres

The purchase of the 17-acre Laurel Canyon property should be completed this month.

IV. Announcements

A. Airbnb and Second Dwelling Unit Ordinances - Wendy-Sue Rosen

Shouldn't the hillsides be exempted from higher density ordinances like the Airbnb and Second Dwelling Unit ordinances? Senator Ben Allen has a bill to exempt them in high fire severity zones.

B. Party House Ordinance - Steve Twining

The Party House Ordinance (CF# 12-1824-S1) passed the Public Safety Committee.

C. Curtis School - Marian Dodge

Curtis School announced they will not be building a secondary road.

D. Sidewalk repair - Heidi Mackay

The sidewalks repair program, part of a lawsuit settlement, is removing thousands of trees because they crack the sidewalk.

VI. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Next meeting - Holiday Party, December 14, 2017

Stephen Benson
Secretary

Members in Attendance:

Bel Air Hills Assn	Steve Twining
Bel Air Skycrest	Mark Stratton
Brentwood Hills	John Given
Brentwood Res. Coal.	Wendy-Sue Rosen
Cahuenga Pass	Steven Kates, Krista Michaels
Canyon Back All.	Lois Becker
Franklin/Hlywd Bl West	Yvonne Hessler
Franklin Hills Res Assn	Charley Mims
Los Feliz Imprv Assn	Marian Dodge
Oaks HOA	Gerry Hans
Nichols Canyon	Don Andres
Res of Beverly Glen	Stephen Benson

Save Coldwater Canyon! Heidi Mackay
Suellen Wagner
Studio City Res Assn Alan Dymond
Beth Dymond

Guests:

Dept. of City Planning Diana Kitching
Chair Emeritus Patricia Bell Hearst
Save LA River Open Laurie Cohen
Space Chip Meehan