

Hillside Federation Newsletter March 2017



www.hillsidefederation.org

Reminder: Primary / Municipal Election Tuesday, March 7

Hillside Federation members are reminded to vote in the upcoming Primary and Municipal Election on Tuesday, March 7. The ballot includes contested races for Mayor and odd-numbered council districts. The races for City Attorney, City Controller, and CD 3 are uncontested.

Voters will also consider several ballot measures, including Initiative Ordinance S. The Hillside Federation voted to support Initiative S at its February meeting. The Federation joins a long list of community leaders, organizations, affordable housing advocates, and environmental groups and notable CEQA attorneys endorsing the measure. These include former Mayor Richard Riordan, Congresswoman Diane Watson (ret.), California State Senate Majority Leader Gloria Romero (ret.), Los Angeles Audubon Society, Citizens for Los Angeles Wildlife (CLAW), Ballona Wetlands Institute, and Los Angeles Tenants Union. A more complete list of Measure S endorsements is available at: <http://www.voteyesons.org/>.

This month we will discuss the Abode at Glassell Park project, proposed protected tree removals in Bel Air, and our annual officers nominating committee. Please join us!

Agenda March 1, 2017 7:00 pm

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

I. Call to Order

Guest: Janet Turner, office of Rep. Ted Lieu

II. Approval of minutes

III. Officers' Reports

A. President's Report

Officers Nominating Committee

B. Treasurer's Report

IV. Old Business

Abode at Glassell Park (Walnut Canyon)
– Eric Tallman

IV. New Business

Protected Tree Removal 11007 Bellagio Rd.
– Linda Whitford

VI. Adjournment

next meeting

April 5, 2017

7:00 p.m.

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

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.*



National Park Service photo.

Los Angeles Mountain Lions Featured in Numerous Articles

Our well-known Los Angeles mountain lions have recently been featured in several stories in the Los Angeles Times and New Yorker Magazine.

P-22, resident of Griffith Park and perhaps the most famous mountain lion in the country, was featured in an LA Times article by Thomas Curwen on February 8, available at: <http://www.latimes.com/projects/la-me-griffith-park-mountain-lion/>. The online version of the article features compelling graphics by Joe Fox that outline P-22's activities over the course of the first week of December 2016. The story also notes the sad deaths of P-39 and two of her three cubs within six weeks on the 118 Freeway.

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.

Reminder

2017 Hillside Federation Dues

As a reminder, 2017 Hillside Federation dues are \$150 and are due March 1. If you have not already done so, please send a check payable to the Hillside Federation for \$150 to Don Andres, HF Treasurer, 7470 Franklin Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90046-2242. Alternately, bring your organization's check to our March 1 meeting. For questions, please email treasurer@hillsidefederation.org.

The New Yorker published a lengthy feature article by Dana Goodyear on LA's mountain lions in its February 13 & 20, 2017 issue. (See <http://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2017/02/13/lions-of-los-angeles>.) It discusses P-22, but also describes recent conflicts in the western Santa Monica Mountains. Local residents claim that mountain lion P-45 is responsible for the death of sixty animals, including goats, sheep, llamas, alpacas, a miniature horse, and a 450-pound heifer. An LA Times article places the toll considerably lower, at only about a dozen animals. (See <http://tinyurl.com/hryrp4z>.)

In late November, a local property owner obtained a depredation permit allowing P-45 to be killed or relocated. Fortunately, in early December, an agreement was reached between the owner and local wildlife activists and environmental groups to allow state wildlife authorities to decide the best way to handle the conflict.

As the New Yorker article notes, the best hope for local mountain lions is development of a planned wildlife crossing at Liberty Canyon, currently undergoing preliminary environmental review. The privately funded crossing is expected to cost \$50M. It will ensure that lions can safely cross the 101 freeway to reach the Santa Susana Mountains and the Los Padres National Forest.

Hillside Federation

February 1, 2017
Draft Minutes

I. Call to Order – Charley Mims

President Charley Mims called the meeting to order at 7:09 pm.

II. Approval of minutes – Marian Dodge

The January minutes were approved as written.

III. Officers' Reports

A. President's Report – Charley Mims

The Accessory Dwelling Unit Ordinance will not be scheduled for PLUM until March. Let your council person know your organization wants the ADU Ordinance scheduled ASAP. Krekorian's deputy will be proposing a new ordinance similar to the one Mitch Menzer presented to the Federation. They are lining up support for it now.

Members and guests introduced themselves.

Special Presentation — Measure S (Neighborhood Integrity Initiative)

Measure S proposes a two-year moratorium on development that requires a change in the General Plan or height variance (spot zoning).

Jill Stewart (former Managing Editor at LA Weekly) and Marcia Hanscom (Executive Director of the Ballona Institute) represented the pro side. The con side was represented by Brian VanRiper and Tanner Blackman (Councilmember Huizar's former Planning Deputy, now teaching and working on Re:Code LA).

Each side made a presentation which was followed by a question and answer period that clarified many items:

Stewart—The measure would affect 5% of projects, only those requesting a General Plan amendment or height change. These are mostly luxury hotels and residential towers.

VanRiper—In all developments five to ten units are set aside for affordable housing.

Stewart—Development will continue if the ordinance passes. Projects with 100% affordable housing are not affected. Most homeless housing is proposed on PF-zoned land (Public Facilities).

Blackman—Measure S would stop the Weingart Tower with skid row housing because the parcel is

zoned M2 (housing cannot be built on industrially zoned land).

VanRiper—The Yes on S campaign has spent more and has billboards all over.

Stewart—The AIDS Healthcare Foundation has a social issues component. Homelessness is a social issue; the homeless are being displaced by large developments. Developers aren't building affordable housing because they claim not to make enough profit. They can pay an in-lieu fee or a deferral fee that could be used for other uses.

Blackman—The fees will go to an affordable housing trust fund.

Stewart—The opponents are funded by Westfield Malls who wants to build a big stadium in Woodland Hills, Kohn Development from Florida, and other out-of-state development companies. She thinks they won't donate to councilmembers if they know they won't get anything out of it. Passage of S will mean City rules will be followed because Council Members can no longer grant special favors to developers who make campaign contributions, and CEQA reviews will not be developer controlled.

Blackman—The Planning Department created a list of approved CEQA reviewers. It is a full cost recovery system. The developer selects which company he wants.

Stewart—The moratorium is only for two years because that is the longest allowed by state law.

VanRiper—With lawsuits generated by Measure S, Community Plans could be delayed ten years.

The Federation board had further discussion on the measure after the presenters left the room. The Planning Dept. needs more funding to update Community Plans in a timely manner. We all need to read the details in Measure S to see if it will accomplish what it claims. As always there is the question of how the City will enforce its policies. Measure S isn't perfect, but we have to start somewhere or the status quo will continue.

MOTION: Steve Twining moved that the Hillside Federation support Measure S. The motion passed.

B. Treasurer's Report – Don Andres

The Federation's insurance cost has gone up. Dues are due March 1; 17 organizations have already paid. Thank you!

IV. Old Business

A. BMO/BHO Amendments Update – Marian Dodge

Tom Freeman sent a letter to Councilmember Koretz expressing the Federation’s concern that institutions were being exempted from the BHO. After two reminders requesting a response, we have had no reply from Koretz.

B. Sign Ordinance – Marian Dodge

At its hearing on January 31, PLUM Committee Chair Huizar gave the Planning Department another set of instructions for the Sign Ordinance. They are still considering on- and off-site digital signs, Tier 3 signs, and allowing digital signs on public property (libraries, police & fire stations, and public parks). Members are urged to send new position letters to their councilmembers and the following City staff:

phyllis.nathanson@lacity.org
tom.rothmann@lacity.org
sharon.dickinson@lacity.org

C. Abode at Glassell Park (Walnut Canyon) – Charley Mims

The Federation sent a letter expressing our concerns about the project in 2015. DEIR comments are due February 21. Members agreed that the Executive Committee should review NELA Greenspace’s attorney’s comments on the DEIR and submit a comment letter.

IV. New Business

Steve Twining urged everyone to read the LA Times article on the Laurel Canyon landslide on in today’s paper.

VI. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:55 pm.

Marian Dodge,
Acting Secretary

Members Present:

Bel-Air Hills	Steve Twining
	Robin Greenberg
Bel Air Knolls	Georgia Alkov
Bel Air Skycrest	Mark Stratton
Brentwood Hills	Eric Edmunds
Cahuenga Pass POA	Steven Kates
	Karen Riesenfeld
Canyon Back Alliance	Lois Becker
Franklin Av./Hlwd Bl	Don Andres
	Yvonne Hessler
Franklin Hills Res.	Charley Mims
Hollywood Dell Civic	Mary Ledding
Hollywoodland HOA	Jack Conrad
Kagel Canyon	Kit Paull
Los Feliz Impvmt.	Marian Dodge
Oak Forest Canyon	Bruce Hollihan
Oaks Homeowners	Bob Young
Res. of Beverly Glen	Stephen Benson
Save Coldwater Cyn!	Heidi Mackay
	Suellen Wagner
Studio City Res.	Claudia Freedle
Tarzana POA	David Garfinkle
	Sandy Middleman
Upper Nichols Canyon	Stacy Sillins
Guests:	
Chair Emeritus	Patricia Bell Hearst
Pro Measure S	Jill Stewart
	Marcia Hanscom
Con Measure S	Brian VanRiper
	Tanner Blackman

The Federation of Hillside and Canyon Associations, Inc. P.O. Box 27404 Los Angeles, CA 90027 president@hillsidefederation.org www.hillsidefederation.org	ORGANIZATIONS Beachwood Canyon Bel-Air Association Bel Air Hills Assn. 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. 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 Residents of Beverly Glen Save Coldwater Canyon! Save Sunset Blvd. 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 Gordon Murley Steve Twining CHAIRPERSONS IN MEMORIAM Brian Moore Polly Ward
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