



THE FEDERATION

OF HILLSIDE AND CANYON ASSOCIATIONS, INC.

POST OFFICE BOX 1673
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213-368-6120

email: president@hillsidefederation.org
website: www.hillsidefederation.org

FOUNDED IN 1952

President

Joan Luchs

CHAIRMAN

Lynette Berg Robe

VICE PRESIDENTS

Charley Mims

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Liz Tigar

RECORDING SECRETARY

Ann Walnut

TREASURER

Dan Palmer

MEMBER ASSOCIATIONS

BelAir Knolls Property
BelAir Skycrest Property
Benedict Canyon
Briarcliff Improvement
Cahuenga Pass Neighborhood
Crests Neighborhood Association
Encino Property Owners
Forest Hills Homeowners
Franklin Hills Residents
Franklin Ave/Hwd.Blvd.West
Glassell Park Improvement
Glenridge Homeowners
Highland Homeowners
Hollywood Dell Civic
Hollywood Heights
Hollywoodland Homeowners
Holmby Hills Homeowners
Laurel Canyon Association
Lookout Mountain Alliance
Los Feliz Improvement
Mt. Olympus Property Owners
Mount Washington Association
Mt. Wash. Homeowners Alliance
Nichols Canyon Association
No. Beverly Dr./Franklin Canyon
Oak Forest Canyon Association
Outpost Estates
Pacific Palisades Residents
Residents of Beverly Glen
Roscomare Valley
Shadow Hills Property
Sherman Oaks Association
Tarzana Property Owners
Torreyson-Flynn
Upper Mandeville Canyon
Whitley Heights Civic

CHAIRMEN EMERITUS

Jerome C. Daniel
Patricia Bell Hearst
Gordon Murley
Polly Ward

CHAIRMAN IN MEMORIUM

Brian Moore

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

A Tribute to Robert W. Nudelman

The Hillside Federation has lost a friend as have all Angelenos who cherish the all-too-fast disappearing elements of Los Angeles' historic past. Preservationist Nudelman, long time director and President of Hollywood Heritage, died of a fatal stroke on May 9th while visiting his father in Arizona.

Robert Nudelman was born in Hagerstown, Maryland in 1956 to Sol Nudelman and the former Ruth Donovan Wood. His father was a professor of radiology and optical science at the University of Arizona and his mother, who recently died, was psychologist. He grew up in Illinois and Rhode Island and spent time in Germany before studying theater arts at the University of Arizona.

Moving to Los Angeles in 1977, he soon became a leader of the movement to preserve and protect Hollywood icons. A nostalgia buff, Nudelman launched his activism in 1978 by fighting to save MGM's old Lot 2 in Culver City, a 10-acre site that included sets from the films "Gone With the Wind" and "King Kong." That effort failed, but he dedicated the rest of his life to the preservation of Hollywood history and landmarks.

Continued on page 2 ...

*Important Information
Enclosed*



NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, June 4, 2008

Social Hour at 7 PM/Meeting at 7:30 PM

Meeting to start promptly at 7:30 pm

UNIVERSAL CITY NISSAN

3550 Cahuenga Blvd. West

between Lankershim-Universal Drive bridge
off ramps; park underground
garage/street; take elevator to 2nd floor
conference room

AGENDA

Introductions: Members/Guests

Minutes: May

President's Report:

- A. New member: Oak Forest Canyon Assoc.
- B. Future Newsletters will only be emailed
- C. County Housing Element Hearing continued to June 18th
- D. Pioneers of Environmental Preservation Die: 1. Robert Nudelman:

Guest Speaker/Marc Wanamaker

2. Jill Swift Memorial June 22nd

Guest speaker/close friend: Jean Rosenfeld

New Business:

- A. Motion/Vote to contribute \$1,000 extending the purchase option of 6 acres at Laurel Canyon and Mulholland/Paul Edelman,
- B. Motion/Vote to support Griffith Park nomination as 'Historic Cultural Monument' Marian Dodge, Los Feliz Improvement

Executive Secretary Report: Liz Tigar

- A. Buckley School Appeal: results from City Planning Commission hearing still a threat to Camino de la Cumbre/Arnold Newman

Old Business:

- A. Baseline Mansionization Ordinance-becomes effective June 29, 2008

Adjournment:

Continued from page 1 ...

Among his notable preservation successes are Grauman's Chinese, the Egyptian, the Pantages and the Music Box. In 1990, he helped persuade Disney to spend \$6 million to restore El Capitan to the theater's original 1926 splendor. Demolition was underway when he sent an investigator equipped with mountain-climbing gear behind the walls of the Hollywood Boulevard theater. The inside of the building was found to be 90% intact.

Most of his research methods were far less cloak and dagger. He would uncover historical details about buildings and arm himself with historical photographs and then deliver the trove of information to property owners.

The Hillside Federation is particularly indebted to Robert Nudelman for alerting us to the fact that the application of Hollywood Heritage to the Los Angeles Cultural Heritage Commission for nominating Yamashiro as an Historic-Cultural Monument would be taken under consideration.

At the January Federation Board meeting, directors were urged to support that application, and on January 24 both Federation Director Lannette M. Pabon, President of Hollywood Heights Association, and Federation President Joan Luchs appeared before the Commission meeting to plead on behalf of the Hollywood Heritage application. It should be noted that Magic Castle, that is part of the same acreage on which Yamashiro is located is already designated an Historic-Cultural Monument.

The L. A. Cultural Heritage Commission has informed us that the designation for Yamashiro has been approved, and information has been forwarded to the Los Angeles City Council with the request that this item be placed on the City Council agenda for consideration as soon as possible.

Yet another sad chapter of this family has been written as we just learned that only a week after Robert Nudelman's death, his father also passed away.

We are indebted to Fran Offenhauser, Vice President of Hollywood Heritage, for a substantial part of this information.

JOAN LUCHS

President

REMINDERS: ISSUES & MOTIONS



Federation meetings start with a Social Hour at 7:00 PM and the meeting to begin promptly at 7:30 PM and end by 9:30 PM.

In order to end on time, issues to be brought to the Board require a complete outline and a background, including a motion or what is being requested, then emailed to president@hillsidefederation.org at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting along with a direct home and fax number or phone and email address if available.

MOTIONS to be made at the meeting should be well thought out and printed so that they are clear and concise, with enough copies for all member associations. Each presenter will be given 5 minutes to make a presentation so that meetings can be kept on time. All requests to agendaize an issue MUST be approved in writing by the President before the item will be placed on the agenda.

**REQUEST TO EXTEND PURCHASE
OPTION OF 6 ACRES AT LAUREL
CANYON AND MULHOLLAND**

**The following letter has been sent in support
of Councilman Weiss' motion 5/28/08.**

May 28, 2008

ATTENTION:

President Eric Garcetti and Council Members
Los Angeles City Council
City Hall
200 North Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

RE: Support to extend purchase option at **Laurel Canyon/Mulholland** CF 08-1327 Agenda #39:
MOTION (Weiss-Wesson) 6 acre acquisition

Dear Honorable President Garcetti:

The Federation of Hillside and Canyon Associations is pleased to approve Councilman Weiss' motion requesting to extend the option period to purchase six (6) acres at Mulholland and Laurel Canyon. This acquisition will preserve a significant wildlife corridor by connecting Laurel Canyon Community Park through the Mulholland Drive right-of-way adjacent to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) parkland.

Located in three Council Districts: 2, 4 and 5 (Councilmembers Weiss, Greuel and LaBonge), exercising of this option will guarantee that 6 acres will permanently remain open space for the public and forever preserve an important Conservation Easement for wildlife movement. Please use the following website (www.mrca.ca.gov) or click on these links to view the aerial photographs of the proposed purchase:

Maps:Laurel Mulholland wildlife corridor.pdf
Laurel mulholland trail.pdf

The Hillside Federation wants to thank Jack Weiss for his generous offer and ask that other council members consider contributing to the purchase of this critical wildlife connection across Laurel Canyon Boulevard between Fryman Canyon and Griffith Park.

Currently, the \$100,000 option payment expires May 28th but an extension is pending. The MRCA has already contributed the first \$200,000 but is tapped out to pay more. All contributions are tax deductible. All checks should be made payable to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority or MRCA and referenced 'Mulholland and Laurel Canyon' and mailed to:

MRCA

Attention:

Paul Edelman, Chief, Natural Resources
5810 Ramirez Canyon Road
Malibu, California 90265

(310) 589-3200 ext. 128

Keeping Laurel Canyon wild !!!!!

Respectfully submitted,

JOAN LUCHS

President
Hillside Federation
3309 Carse Drive
Hollywood Hills, CA 90068
(323) 851-1597



**MULHOLLAND SCENIC PARKWAY
DESIGN REVIEW BOARD**

**Meets the first and third Thursday of the month at
6:30 PM**

**MARVIN BRAUDE CONSTITUENTS
SERVICE CENTER**
6262 Van Nuys Blvd., Van Nuys, CA
First Floor Conference Room

Free parking under the building:
Entrance just east of Van Nuys Blvd.
On Sylvan Street



**BASELINE MANSIONIZATION
ORDINANCE BECOMES
EFFECTIVE JUNE 29, 2008**

The Baseline Mansionization Ordinance has been signed by all parties involved and has been posted by the City Clerk. It has been given the ordinance number of 179,883 and becomes effective June 29, 2008.

The ordinance establishes the following new regulations for all Single-Family Residential zoned properties (RA, RE, RS and R1) not located in a Hillside Area or Coastal Zone.

1. Amends the existing Buildable Area and Floor Area definitions to reflect the new changes and adds a new Residential Floor Area definition (what square footage is counted).

2. Includes new Residential Floor Area limits (a.k.a. Floor Area Ratios, or FARs) and an optional 20% Residential Floor Area Bonus in each Single-Family Zone. In order to make it easier to find the FAR corresponding with each zone, the following list is the applicable section in the ordinance followed by the page number in parenthesis: RA – Section 5 (page 3), RE – Section 7 (page 5), RS – Section 9 (page 8) and R1 – Section 11 (page 10).

3. Revises the existing height requirements to include a different height for flat roofs.

4. Adds a new Single-Story Height District, available for single-story neighborhoods that would like to remain single-story.

5. Amends the Zoning Administrator authority to include 10% Adjustments to Residential Floor Area limits. It is a discretionary action which will require a notice and public hearing and that findings be made – refer to Section 12.28 of the Los Angeles Municipal Code

(LAMC) for more information on the hearing process and findings. For additional information, the municipal code may be accessed at http://www.amlegal.com/los_angeles_ca/.

6. Adds a new “RFA” Residential Floor Area District which enables neighborhoods to increase or decrease their baseline FAR to fit their needs.

Any projects already in the Plan Check process, with a complete set of plans and fees paid before the effective date will be subject to Section 12.26 A.3 of the LAMC, which deals with “Vesting of Development Plan(s).” This section locks the regulations in place at the time a project is determined to be vested by the Department of Building & Safety.

One of the provisions that City Councilman Tony Cardenas insisted upon was that the Baseline sunset in two years if no Hillside Mansionization Ordinance was presented. However the Baseline Mansionization Ordinance may be extended by resolution. It appears that the momentum is present to complete these ordinances.

**DESTRUCTION OF
CAMINO DE LA CUMBRE
TREES REMAINS THREAT**



The decisions of the City Planning Commission hearing of May 22 failed to bring this issue any closer to the desired conclusion and, indeed, had ominous implications for the trees which line Camino de la Cumbre in that road repair is still required as part of the Buckley School Campus Enhancement Plan.

Joining Arnold Newman's International Society for the Preservation of the Tropical Rainforest appeal of the Board of Engineering (BOE) requirements were the Federation of Hillside and Canyon Associations, The Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, The Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council, The San Fernando Valley Federation, The Sierra Club, The Ecology Center of Southern California and a great many residents of the community who are members of the Oak Forest Canyon Association.

Continued from page 4 ...

* In the end the City Planning Commission CPC still requires Buckley School to install a concrete curb and gutter and replace the existing asphalt along 1800 feet of Camino de la Cumbre. BUT, they stipulated that along 200 feet of the street retaining walls up to 18 feet tall be dug into the hillside where necessary, using smaller footings along much of the remainder of the street.

* These retaining walls are the most impacting aspect of the entire Buckley project and the worst feature of the original road widening scheme, because it will, if necessary, still cause the removal and mortality of perhaps 49 mature trees along Camino, including 11 native trees comprised of mature coast live oak and California black walnut, which come under the Protected Tree Ordinance, as well as an additional 38 mature non-native tree species.

* This considerable environmental impact on the hillside is entirely unnecessary as the curb and gutter already lie on solid roadbed in the hills, and is stable in deeply rooted in trees. The proposed repairs are easily facilitated with asphalt as now exists, without the need for concrete which will require retaining walls.

* Camino de la Cumbre is the entrance to and runs through both Fossil Ridge and Oak Forest Canyon Parks. The resultant tree loss will severely impact the aesthetics of both parks and be a considerable detriment to its wildlife, which rely on it for perch, cover and nesting. Further, the forest of trees serves as a buffer between the school and the community, as well as visitors to the parks.

It has taken decades, with the Federation's able assistance, to create these parks, which unless City Council mitigates these conditions, will then severely impact these wildlands by removing the trees which wildlife depend on for perch, nesting and cover.

We are eternally grateful to the Federation Board for their more than able support in this traumatic issue.

Arnold Newman, Ph.D.

Executive Director/International Society for the Preservation of the Tropical Rainforest

PIONEER OF ENVIRONMENTAL PRESERVATION DIES



Jill Swift, long time resident of Tarzana died at her home on May 19, 2008 after a twelve year battle with multiple myeloma. Her impact on the environment was enormous and benefited the entire city of Los Angeles and the state of California.

A true pioneer of environmental preservation, Jill was a City of Los Angeles Recreation and Parks Commissioner, an officer/board member of many groups such as Friends of Caballero Canyon which she founded, Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Reserve Steering Committee, Santa Monica Mountains Task Force, California Urban Forests Council, Stanford Junior Alumni Association, Recreation & Youth Services Planning Council and many, many others.

One of Jill's first victories was organizing and leading a 5,000 person demonstration in 1971 to stop San Fernando Valley's 'dirt' Mulholland Drive from being turned into a four lane highway. That protection continues to be jealously guarded today creating a beautiful, winding dirt road overlooking the entire San Fernando Valley. Of note is the fact that this was also a turning point for the Los Angeles Chapter of the Sierra Club when it first became involved in opposing incompatible development and destruction of open space at local levels.

On a more personal level, Jill's friends say she was an amazing woman.....she looked like a pussycat but was a tiger in steel. She was a courageous activist who was a source of joy and fascinating conversations. All during her life she had the support of her husband, Mel Swift, a brilliant attorney who shared and applauded her work.

Friends wishing to join together for a walk can meet at the trailhead to Caballero Canyon on Reseda Blvd. across from Braemar Country Club's entrance at 2 PM. Others unable to make the walk may meet at 3 PM at her home.

MAY MINUTES

DRAFT MINUTES

HILLSIDE FEDERATION

General Membership Meeting: May 7, 2008

The meeting was convened at 7:25 p.m. A quorum was present. An updated roster of Federation organizations and representatives was distributed with the caution of confidentiality and restricting use to Federation purposes. **The list for requesting Federation newsletter by regular mail/hard copy was circulated.** Self introductions and introductions of guests were made. La Tuna Canyon Association headed by President **Linda Greco** was welcomed back into membership. Two appointments were announced: **Polly Ward** appointed by Councilperson **Wendy Greuel** to the Ventura/Cahuenga Blvds. Plan Review Board and **Dr. Niles Chapman** to the Citizens Oversight Committee of the MRCA Benefit Assessment District.

MINUTES: April minutes were approved as submitted.

Presentation: President Luchs presented crystal clocks to 2007-2008 officers and expressed her appreciation for their support during her initial year as Federation president.

Induction of officers: Joseph Edmiston, Executive Director of the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, delivered the oath of office to the following 2008-2009 officers: **President, Joan Luchs; Vice-president, Charley Mims; Executive Secretary, Elizabeth Tigar, Recording Secretary, Ann Walnum; Treasurer, Dan Palmer.** Elected **Board Chairman Lynette Berg Robe** was inducted in absentia as she was unable to attend.

Guest Presentation: Joseph Edmiston outlined Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy history as growing out of the "Homeowners Movement" of the late 60's and 70's, supporting bond issues and creating political power for mountain area protection. He cited **Congressional Representative Adam Schiff's** "Rim of the Valley" bill as recent progress. The current and future challenge is to counter the "intensification" policy planned by the City of Los Angeles Planning Department with Open Space for balance and learning to live sensibly with nature. The importance of the Hillside Federation was stressed: "We need all residential associations linked together . . . a resurgence of those folks who care about the mountains."

Very good news for mountain fire area residents is that the Conservancy is now doing annual brush clearance on 500 acres at a cost of one million dollars.

Guest Presentation: Atty. Rob Glushion spoke on the Los Angeles 'Densification Ordinance', the local implementation of SB1818 and the EAHCLA response (Environmental and Housing Coalition of Los Angeles). The Coalition lawsuit was filed by '**Chatten-Brown and Carstens**' on April 14. The desired outcome of this action is to get the City to revisit the ordinance. "It doesn't have to give away more to developers than the state density bonus law . . . without regard to environmental consequences." **Glushion** believes the City and at least four council members are desirous of a settlement. He also believes that in the continuing contest of money versus people power, people power eventually trumps money, although "the work is never done; the work goes on."



**VIEW
FEDERATION
WEBSITE
at**

www.hillsidefederation.org

**February Newsletter, News and Update
Links are available**

**If there is something else you'd like to see, or
if you want to send an article for the
newsletter, let us hear from you.
Call Joan Luchs at (213) 368-6120
with your suggestions.**

MAY MINUTES

Baseline Mansionization Ordinance: The ordinance for the flat lands was reported on by **David Garfinkle** and **Joan Luchs**. Although it is less stringent than those of other cities around us and needs to additionally codify plans for hillside and hillside adjacent areas, it overcame “red herring” statements about causing a drop in property values and similar arguments. City Council Planning and Land Use Management Committee (PLUM) Chair, **Councilman Ed Reyes**, was praised by **Joan Luchs** for a “fabulous job as general for the troops,” coming out strongly for the ordinance and shepherding its passage.

Long Range Transportation Plan: A meeting on Long Range Transportation plans is scheduled for May 13th.

Ventura/Cahuenga Boulevard Corridor Specific Plan: The final and “electrifying” report of the evening was made by **Lisa Sarkin**, Studio City Neighborhood Council Board member and Coalition member. Billboards are appearing without approval or consideration by the Specific Plan as legally required. Many startling examples were cited, including one on Cahuenga Blvd. costing \$500,000 which has electronic flashing equipment changing images every four seconds. The intransigence of sign companies and city agencies refusing to give lists of all sign locations and legal locations was commented upon. The so-called compromise permitting Billboard Corridors adjacent to freeways was discussed. **Sarkin** stressed the efficacy of using Public Records Request Act to gain needed data.

President Joan Luchs closed the meeting with the notation that nineteen board members out of thirty-seven were in attendance along with 5 more duplicating Board of Director’s representatives.

Meeting adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Ann Walnum, Recording Secretary.

FEDERATION OFFICERS PRESENT:

President	Joan Luchs, Cahuenga Pass
Vice Presidents	Conrad Schoeffter, Holly/Hts. Charley Mims, Franklin Hills Residents
Treasurer	David Garfinkle, Tarzana
Executive Secretary	Liz Tigar, Tarzana

FEDERATION DIRECTORS PRESENT

Barbara Dohrman	Belair Knolls
Mark Montgomery	Benedict Canyon
Philip Feldman	Briarcliff Improvement
Michael George	Cahuenga Pass
Don Andres	Franklin Ave/Holly West
Sharon Katz-Kunde	Highland Owners
Linda Greco	La Tuna Canyon
Don Seligman	Los Feliz Improvement
Mel Remba	Mt. Olympus
Ann Walnum	Mt. Washington
Dan Wright	Mt. Wash. Alliance
Madeline O’Donnell	Nichols Canyon
Bob Levy	No.Beverly/Franklin Canyon
Dan Palmer	Residents of Beverly Glen
Dr. Niles Chapman	Sherman Oaks
Alison Connell	Whitley Heights

NON-VOTING MEMBERS – GUESTS

Roberta Dacks	Cahuenga Pass
Yvonne Hessler	Franklin Ave.Holly/West
Marian Dodge	Los Feliz Improvement
Tensie Palmer	Residents of Beverly Glen
Liz Tigar	Tarzana
Polly Ward	HF Chairman Emeritus
Patricia Matsch	
Lisa Sarkin	Studio City NC
Barry Johnson	Studio City NC
Joe Edmiston	SMMC, Executive Director
Rob Glushion, Esq.	Encino NC

NEXT MEETING

June 4, 2008

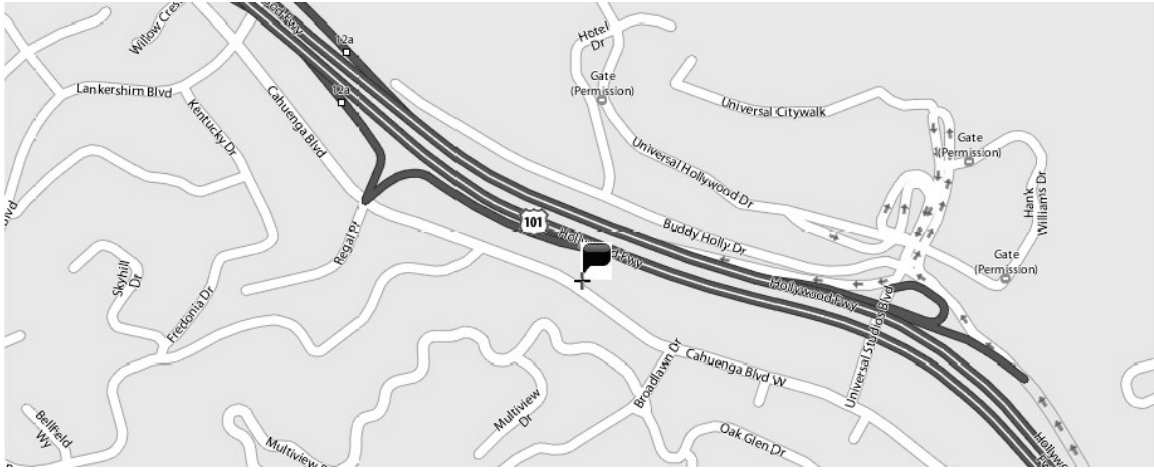
Social Hour at 7 PM - Meeting at 7:30 PM

UNIVERSAL CITY NISSAN

3550 Cahuenga Blvd. West
Los Angeles, CA 90068

Between Lakerishim and Universal Drive bridge off ramps:

Park on street or in underground garage; take elevator to "S" street level or enter through showroom, turn left; follow signs to 2nd floor conference room



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