RANCHO SIMI RECREATION AND PARK DISTRICT

MINUTES
SPECIAL MEETING
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
SYCAMORE DRIVE COMMUNITY CENTER
1692 SYCAMORE DRIVE, SIMI VALLEY

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21, 2015, 6:30 P.M.

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Chair Freeman.

II. ROLL CALL

Director Johnson, Chair Freeman, Director Cavanaugh, Vice Chair Hostetler, and Director O’Brien were in attendance.

The following staff members were present: Wayne Nakaoka, Carol Odenberg, Brian Pierik, Esq. and Robin Walker. Guests in attendance were: Mike Harris, Dave Matthews, Gary Palmer, E.J. Remson, Melissa Simon.

III. PUBLIC DISCUSSION (ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA)

None.

IV. SCHEDULED ITEMS AND PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. Receive and Consider Public Input in Regards to the Proposed Acquisition of Alamos Canyon for Preservation as Public Open Space 178-15-b

Sr. Management Analyst Walker said this is the second of two public hearings regarding the proposed acquisition of Alamos Canyon. She then introduced E.J. Remson, Senior Program Manager for The Nature Conservancy, who provided further information on this subject utilizing a PowerPoint presentation. He pointed out the various locations that are key wildlife linkage points along the designated Santa Monica and Sierra Madre Mountains areas and explained the interest in preserving natural open space in this area. He mentioned that he has worked on this wildlife corridor linkage and trail project for 10 years and is excited to be involved in the recent progress. He spoke further about the Waste Management holdings and the woodlands area indicated for acquisition, the Habitat Corridor and 118 freeway crossing, and their consideration of a fee for land vs. conservation easement expense for a total of 734 acres. Sr. Management Analyst
noted that to ensure public access to the Alamos Canyon property/trail staff feels that Oak Park County Park and its parking area could provide a useful trailhead entry point. Chair Freeman mentioned that the City of Moorpark has expressed an interest in purchasing property from Waste Management west of Alamos Canyon and that it may result in another trailhead entry area.

Chair Freeman opened the Public Hearing at 6:46 p.m.

David Matthews, a Simi Valley resident, stated that he strongly supports the acquisition of the property at Alamos Canyon.

Gary Palmer, a Simi Valley resident, asked where the proposed shooting range will be in relation to the Alamos Canyon property. Chair Freeman said it will be on the east side of the landfill.

As there were no further public comments, the Chair closed the Public Hearing at 6:50 p.m.

B. Approval of Resolution of the Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District Board of Directors Approving the Application for Land and Water Conservation Fund Alamos Canyon Acquisition Project 178-15-c

ACTION: Director Johnson moved to Approve Resolution No. 1897 of the Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District Board of Directors Approving the Application for Land and Water Conservation Fund Alamos Canyon Acquisition Project; Director O'Brien seconded the motion. Motion carried with the following roll-call vote:

Ayes: Directors O'Brien, Hostetler, Cavanaugh, Freeman, Johnson
Noes: None
Absent: None
Abstain: None

V. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Freeman announced that Nancy Acosta, who was with the Montalvo Community Services District and an active member of VCSDA, and Jim Howard, who was active in this community since the 1960s, both recently passed away. She asked that the Board adjourn the meeting in their memory.

ACTION: Director Cavanaugh moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:52 p.m. in memory of Nancy Acosta and Jim Howard; Director Johnson seconded the motion. Motion carried with a unanimous vote.

Wayne Nakaoka, Director of Planning and Maintenance