

**CONEJO OPEN SPACE CONSERVATION AGENCY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING**

**September 12, 2007
Civic Arts Plaza Board Room
2100 Thousand Oaks Boulevard**

SUMMARY MINUTES

1. **CALL TO ORDER AND FLAG SALUTE:** for Regular Meeting at 6:32 p.m.
2. **ROLL CALL:** Chair Skei, Vice-Chair Bill-de la Peña, Director Berger, Director Fox, Director Jacobsen

Also present were:

CRPD General Manager Friedl
Assistant City Manager Pappas Diaz
Deputy City Attorney Hehir
Deputy Community Development Director Towne
COSCA Manager Foord
Associate Planner Austin
Administrative Secretary Maguire

3. **PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Dave Hettwer, Newbury Park.
4. **SPECIAL PRESENTATION:**

A. Certificate of Appreciation from Conejo Valley Botanic Garden Board of Directors and Members. – Received

Speakers: Beverly Brune, Westlake Village, gave a PowerPoint presentation about the Conejo Valley Botanic Garden.

5. **CONSENT CALENDAR:**

A. Minutes of July 11, 2007 meeting.

Director Berger moved to approve minutes of July 11, 2007, Director Jacobsen seconded the motion. Motion passed (5-0).

6. **NEW ITEMS:**

A. Introduction of Kristin Foord, new COSCA Manager.

Deputy Community Development Director Towne introduced new COSCA Manager, Kristin Foord. She comes from Massachusetts with experience in land acquisition, conservation finance and land stewardship.

B. Proposed 2007-2008 COSCA Budget.

COSCA Manager Foord reviewed the proposed COSCA budget for 2007-2008. City of Thousand Oaks and Conejo Recreation and Park District approved their budgets in June, 2007. Five major capital improvement projects were outlined.

Director Fox moved to approve staff recommendation; Vice-Chair Bill-de la Peña seconded the motion. Motion passed (5-0).

Speakers: Frank Greenway, Thousand Oaks.
Statements Cards: None

C. 2008 Board of Directors Meeting Schedule.

Director Berger moved to approve staff recommendation, Director Fox seconded the motion. Motion passed (5-0).

Speakers: None
Statements Cards: None

D. Acceptance of Conservation Easement over Portion of Parcel 4 of Parcel Map LD 249 (HPD 2002-80) (Location: 1,200 Feet North of Terminus of Briar Bluff Circle).

Deputy Community Development Director Towne explained that a condition of approval imposed by both Planning Commission and City Council for HPD 2002-80 required that a portion of Parcel 4 of Parcel Map LD 249 remain in natural condition, either through a deed restriction or a conservation easement between the property owner and COSCA. Staff recommended authorization to accept and execute this conservation easement, after resolution of ongoing lawsuits.

Director Berger moved to approve staff recommendation, Director Fox seconded the motion. Motion passed (4-1, Bill-de la Peña opposed).

Speakers: None
Statements Cards: None

7. STAFF REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

A. Status Report on Open Space Encroachment Program (verbal report).

Deputy Community Development Director Towne reported that there have not been any new cases since the last Board meeting and that this will be one of the programs that new COSCA Manager Foord will be taking over. The COSCA brochure has been finalized and will be mailed to property owners adjacent to open space, pending the hiring of a contract employee to assist with the program.

B. City Purchase of 2.2 Acre Parcel at Conejo Ridge Open Space (Located 1,200 Feet Northwest of Willow Lane/Ventura Freeway Intersection).

Associate Planner Austin announced that escrow closed on August 31

on a parcel in the Conejo Ridge Open Space area. The parcel is adjacent to existing COSCA open space and is visible from both the 101 and 23 freeways and the Civic Arts Plaza. There are now over 400 acres of open space in this area and the acquisition is another step in completing the planned ring of open space around the City.

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Conejo Open Space Trails Advisory Committee (COSTAC) Reports

A. 2007 Trail Work Day (October 13, 2007; rain date October 20th).

Elizabeth Brown, Thousand Oaks, announced another Trailhead Outreach is planned for the Wildwood area on Saturday, September 29 and Sunday, October 7. An outreach table will be set up to distribute maps and information.

Ginny Bowers, Newbury Park, reported the annual Trail Work Day will be held Saturday, October 13th with a rain date of October 20th. The event will begin near the Conejo Valley Botanic Garden. Carlson's Building Materials is sponsoring the barbecue and Bill's Bike Shop of Camarillo has donated a mountain bike for the bike giveaway.

9. BOARDMEMBER COMMENTS AND REPORTS:

Director Fox requested that staff provide a report to the Board outlining the steps that have been taken to address accessibility in open space areas.

Vice-Chair Bill-de la Peña suggested COSCA work with State Parks and Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy on trail accessibility.

Chair Skei suggested looking into grant opportunities to address the accessibility issue.

10. ADJOURNMENT: Meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., November 14, 2007, Civic Arts Plaza Board Room.

Submitted by:



Rorie Skei, Chairperson

Date:

