

# Hillside Open Space Education Coalition Steering Committee MINUTES

Wednesday, February 25, 2004  
7:00 p.m.

Council Chambers, 13230 Penn Street. Whittier, CA

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## 1. Introductions

Temporary Chair Henderson, Whittier, called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m.

### **Committee Members Present:**

- Russell Bell, Rowland Heights Community Coordinating Council
- Jeff Yann, Hacienda Heights Improvement Association
- Bev Perry, Councilmember, Brea
- Bob Henderson, Councilmember, Whittier
- Bruce Douglas, Councilmember, La Habra Heights
- Rose Espinoza, Mayor, La Habra
- Mike Popovec, Rowland Heights Community Coordinating Council
- John Beaman, Mayor, Brea (arrived at 7:22 p.m.)

### **Staff Present:**

- Steve Helvey, City Manager, Whittier
- Terry Matz, Assistant City Manager, Brea
- Brad Bridenbecker, City Manager, La Habra
- John Hendrickson, City Manager, La Habra Heights
- Charlie View, Development Services Director, Brea
- Cindie Ryan, Communications & Marketing Manager, Brea
- Melinda Kwan, Management Analyst II, Brea
- Eva Solis, Assistant City Clerk-Treasurer, Whittier

### **Consultants Present:**

- Roger Faubel, Waters & Faubel
- Dan Wooldridge, Waters & Faubel

## 2. Matters from the Audience

Jeff Miller, 1441 Sierra Vista, La Habra, requested information regarding the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) timeline and the public comment period.

Mr. Miller was informed that the Draft EIR has a circulation period of at least 45 days for public comments, which could occur sometime during the summer.

Committee Members provided the following representation information:

<u>Member Community</u>	<u>Voting Delegate</u>	<u>Alternate</u>
Rowland Heights CC	Russell Bell	Mike Popovec
Hacienda Heights IA	Jeff Yann	N/A
City of Brea	Bev Perry	John Beauman
City of Whittier	Bob Henderson	Owen Newcomer
City of La Habra Heights	Bruce Douglas	Fred Klein
City of La Habra	Steve Simonian	Rose Espinoza

**3. Approve February 11, 2004 Minutes**

It was moved by Committee Member Bell, seconded by Committee Member Espinoza, and carried, with Committee Member Perry abstaining, to approve the February 11, 2004 Minutes as submitted.

Committee Member Perry requested that future minutes reflect speaker names and where they are from.

**4. Elect Chair and Vice Chair**

Following discussion, it was moved by Committee Member Perry, and seconded by Committee Member Espinoza, to nominate Committee Member Henderson for Committee Chair. The motion was approved unanimously by acclamation.

It was moved by Committee Member Yann, and seconded by Committee Member Perry, to nominate Committee Member Douglas for Committee Vice Chair. The motion was approved unanimously by acclamation.

**5. Designate Committee Staff and Secretary**

Following discussion, it was moved by Committee Member Perry, seconded by Committee Member Yann, and carried unanimously, to designate the City of Brea to act as Committee Staff and Secretary.

**6. Review and Approve 2004-2005 Budget and Work Plan**

Committee Member Beauman arrived at 7:22 p.m.

Following discussion, it was moved by Committee Member Perry, seconded by Committee Member Bell, and carried unanimously, to approve the 2004-2005 Budget and Work Plan presented by Waters & Faubel, as modified to remove the constituent contact items (Direct Mail, Newspaper Advertising, and 30-Second Cable Spot) from the first year budget unless, and until, the EIR is made available from AERA. At such time that happens, staff can return to the Steering Committee for direction. Staff asked for and received clarification that funds and allocation may be adjusted in terms of timing and specific categories as long as the total program is not modified. The Steering Committee further directed the Executive Committee to consider how to deal with the following issues and program them into the Work Plan for future consideration by the Steering Committee:

- Gather scientific information on habitat value in the Wildlife Corridor, including quality of life issues;
- Identify funding sources that can be used for the purchase of the property;
- Identify and list funding sources for the advocacy action plan so that those funds are available to the group and support the grass roots campaign, including non-profits;
- Develop a mailing list for Steering Committee review to include all persons who have expressed an interest, either formally or informally, in receiving meeting agendas; and
- Develop a negotiations timeline with landowners.

#### **7. Confirm Role of Executive Committee**

Following discussion, it was moved by Committee Member Perry, seconded by Committee Member Yang, and carried unanimously, to confirm the role and responsibility of the Executive Committee as amended to include review by the Steering Committee Chair or Vice Chair on an ad hoc basis for public information pieces and any policy direction.

#### **8. Approve Form of Letter of Agreement for Expenditures and Reimbursements**

It was noted that Rowland Heights and Hacienda Heights have committed to funding the program, and their contribution amounts will be included in the legal agreement once their final amounts are determined. Committee Member Yang reported he had a check in the amount of \$500, which is half the amount being committed by the Hacienda Heights Improvement Association.

Following discussion, it was moved by Committee Member Perry, seconded by Committee Member Douglas, and carried unanimously, to approve the Form of Letter of agreement for Expenditures and Reimbursements.

**9. Appoint AERA Property Acquisition Committee**

Following discussion, it was moved by Committee Member Bell, seconded by Committee Member Yann, and carried unanimously, to appoint Chair Henderson, Committee Member Perry, Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy Executive Director Joe Edmiston, and Executive Committee Member O'Donnell (Brea City Manager) to the AERA Property Acquisition Ad Hoc Committee, with the notation that the Ad Hoc Committee can call upon any Executive Committee member on matters in their different areas of expertise.

**10. Introduce Draft Mission Statement**

Following discussion, it was moved by Committee Member Perry, seconded by Committee Member Bell, and carried unanimously, to approve the Draft Mission Statement, with finalization by the Executive Committee and approval by the Chair and Vice Chair to basically read:

“To advance the long-standing and unwavering goal of member communities to preserve and protect open space in the hills bordering Los Angeles and Orange Counties in order to safeguard important habitat and wildlife corridors, maintain a high quality of life, and mitigate traffic congestion.”

**11. Select Location for Next Meeting – April 14, 2004 at 7:00 p.m.**

Committee Member Espinoza offered La Habra City Hall as the site for the April 14, 2004 meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Chair Henderson requested that staff add the item “Comments by Committee Members” to future agendas.

**12. Adjournment**

Chair Henderson adjourned the meeting at 8:08 p.m. to April 14, 2004 at 7:00 p.m. in La Habra City Hall.