

MEETING RECORD

San Gabriel Mountains Community Collaborative

Tuesday, May 12th

9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Knollwood Country Club, Granada Hills Golf Course

Attendees

Adam Lane, *Los Angeles Business Council*
Ann Croissant, *San Gabriel Mountains Regional Conservancy*
Armond Ghazarian, *Los Angeles Department of Public Works*
Belinda Faustinos, *San Gabriel Mountains Forever Coalition*
Chuck Myers, *National Forest Homeowners*
Claire Robinson, *Amigos de Los Rios*
Dan Rosenfeld, *Community Partners*
Daniel Lovato, *Angeles National Forest*
Daniel Oaxaca, *San Gabriel Valley Conservation Corps*
Daniel Rossman, *The Wilderness Society**
Dennis LaMoreaux (for Mike McNutt), *Palmdale Water District*
Diane Erskine Hellrigel, *Community Hiking Club*
Donn Christiansen, *Angeles National Forest*
Greg Galindo, *San Gabriel Valley Water Association*
Henry Herrera, *CalFire*
Jack Sahl, *Friends of the Angeles*

Jacqueline Ayer, *Association of Rural Town Councils*
John Monsen (for Nidia Erceg), *The Sierra Club*
Joseph Lyons, *San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments*
Judy Nelson, *Glendora*
Linda Wucherpfennig, *California Off-Road Vehicle Association*
Margaret Clark, *Rivers & Mountains Conservancy*
Mark Masaoka, *Asian Pacific Policy & Planning Council*
Nino Mascolo, *Southern California Edison*
Omar Gomez, *Consejo de Federaciones Mexicanas en Norteamérica (COFEM)*
Robert Garcia, *City Project*
Ron Ellingson, *Mt. Baldy Lodge*
Shawn Troeger, *Community of Wrightwood*
Steve Messer, *Concerned Off-Road Bicyclists Association*
Tim Brick, *Arroyo Seco Foundation*

* Only attended a portion of the meeting

CONVENORS/FACILITATION TEAM

Mary Mitsos, Edward Belden and Emily Olsen, *National Forest Foundation*

Welcome & Introduction

Mary Mitsos welcomed all participants to the San Gabriel Mountains Community Collaborative meeting. Twenty-eight Community Collaborative members, two Forest Service staff, and three National Forest Foundation staff were present during the meeting. Mary noted that the March 31st meeting record was approved via email prior to the meeting.

Seek Agreement on Membership Proposal

Jack Sahl presented the Membership Working Group's proposal to address Community Collaborative membership issues. The Working Group met twice (April 20th and April 29th) and formed a series of consensus recommendations for the full Collaborative's consideration.

Following vigorous discussion, the Collaborative agreed upon the following recommendations, which are reflected in the attached spreadsheet:

- Number of Community Collaborative members: Increase the number of members from 45 to 46 (in order to add an additional seat for the Recreation interest category)
- Public Safety/Emergency Response interest category: Change to "Public Safety/First Responder"
- Public Health interest category: One seat is currently vacant. Reallocate the vacant seat to a different interest category so that Dan Rosenfeld is the sole public health representative. NFF will confirm that Dan Rosenfeld is comfortable with this.
- Local government interest category: Invite the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments (SGVCOG) to select a representative to fill one vacant seat. Provide the SGVCOG with a current membership list that includes geographic areas to help inform their decision.
- Youth interest category: Hold one vacant seat for youth. In order to fill the seat, create a youth committee (made up of youth) and ask the committee to select one member to be the committee chair *and* youth representative on the Community Collaborative. A subset of the Community Collaborative would need to provide leadership to form the committee; Daniel Oaxaca volunteered as one member who could help. The Membership Working Group will recommend to the full Collaborative a youth to fill the seat on a temporary basis until the representative is selected by the youth committee.
- Recreation: Hold one vacant seat for recreation and create one new seat (total of two additional recreation seats). In order to help fill these seats, NFF staff will gather data from the Forest Service on recreation uses on the National Forests in southern California, and the Membership Working Group will discuss the research/information and bring a recommendation back to the full Collaborative. The recommendation will address the number of seats to fill (following discussion of potentially adding three new seats), and which interests should fill the seats (i.e., hunting/shooting, angling, and/or equestrian representative or other).
- Native American tribes: The three federally recognized tribes with cultural territory on the Angeles National Forest declined invitations and will continue to participate in the planning process via official consultation with the U.S. Forest Service. However, the Community Collaborative would like to fill one vacant seat with a local, non-federally recognized Native American Tribe who would represent and take input from broad tribal interests in the San Gabriel Mountains. The Gabrieleno Band of Mission Indians (Kizh Nation) will be invited to select an appropriate representative based on collaborative criteria given to other organizations.

- Academia/Science: Invite Dr. Chris Solek to fill one vacant seat. Based on whether or not Dr. Judy Baca can participate as a second academic/science representative, the Community Collaborative may extend a second invitation in the future.
- Next Steps related to membership:
 - NFF staff will convene at least one additional Membership Working group meeting before the June 2nd Community Collaborative meeting.
 - NFF staff will gather data from the Forest Service on recreational use on the National Forests in southern California.
 - NFF staff will contact Judy Baca seeking a confirmation that she can meet participation requirements in the future.
 - NFF staff will send invitations on behalf of the Community Collaborative to the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments, Gabrieleno Band of Mission Indians (Kizh Nation), and Dr. Chris Solek.

Forest Service Update – National Monument Planning Process

Daniel Lovato provided an update on the San Gabriel Mountains National Monument planning process and introduced new interim National Monument Manager Donn Christiansen. Updates included:

- A U.S. Forest Service Enterprise team has been hired to manage the planning process.
- Public meetings have been tentatively scheduled for late June. Meeting times, and the Palmdale meeting venue, are still being determined following Community Collaborative feedback. The Community Collaborative recommended holding the Palmdale meeting at the Chimbole Cultural Center. Members also recommended starting meetings late enough for people to attend after work, and ending meetings by 8:00 PM.
 - June 22nd – Pacific Community Center, Glendale
 - June 23rd – Palmdale (Location TBD)
 - June 24th – Public Library, Glendora
 - June 25th – Pico House, Los Angeles
 - June 26th – Big Pines Lodge, Wrightwood
- The draft Need to Change document will be released prior to the public meetings.
- The contract to hire a third-party facilitator for public meetings was recently released. Angeles National Forest staff will share the solicitation with Community Collaborative members to pass along to parties who might be interested.

In response to the final Public Involvement Plan (PIP), Community Collaborative members asked several questions about the public comment period and public meeting venues. Members also brought up the importance of using language translation headsets. Lovato asked Community Collaborative members to send information to the NFF (who will pass suggestions on to the Forest Service) about which languages would likely be necessary to translate, based on meeting venue.

Next Steps related to the Forest Service update:

- Angeles National Forest staff will invite Deb McLaughlin, Enterprise team leader, to the next Community Collaborative meeting to discuss the planning process and public meetings in more detail.
- Angeles National Forest staff will discuss priority projects at the June 2nd meeting.
- Community Collaborative members are encouraged to send suggestions for languages to translate at each meeting venue to NFF staff.

Discuss Committee Organizational Structure & Determine Next Steps

Community Collaborative members discussed the proposed committee organization provided by NFF staff. Key membership considerations discussed by members included:

- Committee membership will be composed of Community Collaborative members and people from outside of the Community Collaborative who have relevant expertise and/or experience.
- In addition to regular committee membership, each committee may invite scientists and other experts to inform the committee on specific topics on an ad-hoc basis. For example, committees could convene scientific panels to assist with joint fact-finding, organize field trips to project sites, or request review/interpretation of technical data.
- Geographic diversity and diversity in areas of interest should be taken into consideration when forming committees.
- All committees should incorporate environmental justice issues and concerns.

Collaborative members discussed the draft committee organization, and suggested (1) adding committees on youth, recreation, business, science, and private landowners/land lease owners, and special use permits, and (2) changing "Access Cities Committee" to "Bordering Communities Committee." Members also discussed combining many of the existing categories and re-organizing all committees under the same headings of the Community Collaborative's overall goals (public safety, watershed, recreation, visitor services, stewardship, educational, cultural and historical resources).

- Next Steps related to committee organization:
 - NFF staff will take a second stab at organizing committees and send the list to Community Collaborative members prior to the June meeting.
 - NFF staff will create an online survey to gauge the interest of Community Collaborative members to serve on a committee. The survey will incorporate a two-step process asking for input on those who would like to serve on developing the purpose of the working group and those who would be willing to serve on the group. Survey results will be used to inform a second discussion of committees at the June 2nd meeting.

Miscellaneous

Some collaborative members expressed interest in consistently holding meetings in a centrally located venue. Members are encouraged to send centrally located venue ideas to Edward (ebelden@nationalforests.org); based on suggestions received, the topic will be discussed at a future meeting.

Action Items

- ✓ NFF staff will convene at least one additional Membership Working group meeting before the June 2nd Community Collaborative meeting.
- ✓ Prior to the Working Group meeting, NFF staff will gather data from the Forest Service on recreational uses on the National Forests in southern California.
- ✓ Prior to the June 2nd meeting, NFF staff will contact Judy Baca seeking a confirmation that she can meet participation requirements in the future.
- ✓ Prior to the June 2nd meeting, NFF staff will send invitations on behalf of the Community Collaborative to the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments, Gabrieleno Band of Mission Indians (Kizh Nation), and Dr. Chris Solek
- ✓ Prior to the June 2nd meeting, Angeles National Forest staff will invite Deb McLaughlin, Enterprise team leader, to the next Community Collaborative meeting to discuss the planning process and public meetings in more detail.
- ✓ Community Collaborative members should send suggestions for languages to translate at each meeting venue to NFF staff.
- ✓ NFF staff will take a second stab at organizing committees and send the list to Community Collaborative members.
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- ✓ Angeles National Forest staff will discuss priority projects at the June 2nd meeting.

Record of Decisions

Decision	Consensus
Increase the number of Community Collaborative members to 46	Yes
Change the interest category "Public Safety/Emergency Response" to "Public Safety/First Responder"	Yes
Invite the following to fill vacant Community Collaborative seats: San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments, Gabrieleno Band of Mission Indians (Kizh Nation), Dr. Chris Solek	Yes
Hold vacant seats open for: youth (1), recreation (2)	Yes