

MEETING RECORD**San Gabriel Mountains Community Collaborative**

Thursday, January 28, 2016

9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Altadena Community Center, Altadena, CA

Attendees**Adam Lane**, *Los Angeles Business Council***Andrew Silva**, *San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors***Angel Perales** (for Daniel Oaxaca), *San Gabriel Valley Conservation Corps***Armond Ghazarian**, *Los Angeles Department of Public Works***Belinda Faustinos**, *San Gabriel Mountains Forever Coalition***Bill Reeves**, *Fisheries Resource Volunteer Corps***Chris Solek**, *Council for Watershed Health***Chuck Myers**, *National Forest Homeowners***Claire Robinson**, *Amigos de los Rios***Cliff Hamlow**, *San Gabriel Valley Legislative Coalition of Chambers***Daniel Rossman**, *The Wilderness Society***Dianne Erskine Hellrigel**, *Community Hiking Club***Gary Stickel** (for Andrew Salas), *Gabrieleno Band of Mission Indians - Kizh Nation***Henry Herrera**, *CalFire***Jack Sahl**, *Friends of the Angeles***Jeffrey Vail**, *Angeles National Forest***John Monsen**, *The Sierra Club***Joseph Llewellyn**, *Angeles National Forest***Joseph Lyons**, *San Gabriel Valley Council of Government***Judy Nelson**, *City of Glendora***Linda Taira** (for Dale Benson), *Caltrans District 7***Liz Reilly**, *San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments***Margaret Clark**, *Rivers & Mountains Conservancy***Mark Masaoka**, *Asian Pacific Policy & Planning Council***Michelle Nuttall**, *Southern California Edison***Nancy Negrete** (for Robert Garcia), *The City Project***Richard Guttenberg**, *Archaeology/Culture***Shawn Troeger**, *Community of Wrightwood***Steve Messer**, *Concerned Off-Road Bicyclists Association***Tamera Robinson**, *Equestrian***Tim Brick**, *Arroyo Seco Foundation***Wendy La** (for Ann Croissant), *San Gabriel Mountains Regional Conservancy***William Estrada**, *Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County***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. Thirty-one Community Collaborative members, two Forest Service representatives, and three National Forest Foundation staff were present.

Forest Service Updates

Angeles National Forest (ANF) Supervisor Jeffrey Vail shared his appreciation for the Community Collaborative's work. Supervisor Vail spoke of the ANF's struggles, as well as the impossible things he believes will happen with patience, trust, and determination. Supervisor Vail also shared several updates with the Collaborative:

- **Staffing changes:** John Thornton retired in January after nearly 40 years of service. Currently, Matthew Bokach is Acting District Ranger in the Santa Clara/Mojave Rivers Ranger District, and Sonja Bergdahl is Acting Deputy Forest Supervisor. The ANF is working to hire new employees to fill fifteen permanent positions in FY2016.
- **Current forest priorities:** (1) Obligating funding and completing projects funded, (2) Employee and public safety and wellness, (3) Monument Management Plan effort and related ANF reorganization, and (4) Improving administration of special use permits, including special interests, utilities, and outfitters. The ANF administers 14,000 special use permits (the most of any National Forest).
- **Monument Management Plan schedule:** Released public comment scoping document in December 2015. The first two chapters of the Environmental Assessment (EA) are in process; the ANF will release chapters as they are prepared. The ANF will likely host public meetings for the draft EA in June. The ANF will release a schedule of milestones in February and share it with the Collaborative.
- **Finances:** A Region 5 contractor completed an assessment of the ANF's finances and public-private partnerships. The ANF is set to receive \$1.5M additional funding in FY2016, but does not have a final budget.

Collaborative members asked how members could support Supervisor Vail and the ANF in the coming year. Vail noted that the Collaborative could add value to the following efforts:

- Continuing to work on the Monument Management Plan. Many National Forests are learning to get the 2012 Rule right.
- Help the ANF look for ways to highlight how the new Gold Line connections along the Foothills will expand access to the Forest (opening in March).
- Help illustrate why the Angeles is a good investment.
- Put forth new ideas about opening trails and volunteering.
- The ANF is hoping to set up a workshop in April with the Southern California Association of Governments to discuss the transportation plan component of the Monument Management Plan. Supervisor Vail will provide information to the Collaborative for those members who are interested in the transportation plan.

ACTION ITEMS:

- The ANF will release the schedule for upcoming Monument Management Plan milestones in February, and will send the schedule to the NFF to share with the Collaborative.
- The ANF will share relevant information about the internal transportation plan workshop that the ANF is tentatively planning for April.

Proposals for SGMCC Committees

Three new committees – Communications & Engagement Committee, Monument Plan Coordinating Committee, and External Projects and Impacts Committee – presented proposals for committee structure and function. After much discussion, the Collaborative decided that the proposals should be revised before final approval.

- Joe Lyons noted committees should be cognizant of communities adjacent to the National Forest, and consider how to address local community issues.
- Members suggested that the Collaborative form a steering committee to oversee committee work, manage a process for members to nominate new committee tasks, and work on other issues. Daniel Rossman, Belinda Faustinos, Margaret Clark, and Joe Lyons volunteered to work on a steering committee proposal for the February meeting.

ACTION ITEMS:

- Within two weeks, each committee should revise the structure and function proposals, and share with the NFF to circulate to the Community Collaborative prior to the February meeting. Members who have concerns with the proposals should share feedback with the individual committee ASAP.
- Daniel, Margaret, Belinda, and Joe will work on a steering committee proposal to present at the February Collaborative meeting.

SGMCC Membership Applications

The Collaborative discussed membership issues and made two decisions:

- **Consensus:** The Collaborative agreed to invite Rick Travis (California Pistol and Rifle Association) to join the Collaborative as the (hunting/shooting) representative.
- **Consensus:** Tammy Robinson will be the equestrian representative. Mary Kaufman, the invited member, has been unable to participate, and will be the alternate.

Additionally, Belinda Faustinos reached out to the Gateway COG to inquire about Brent Tercero's membership. She will continue working on this issue. The Collaborative will make a decision on the issue in February.

ACTION ITEMS:

- NFF staff will send membership invitations to Rick Travis (hunting/shooting) and Tammy Robinson (equestrian).
- Edward Belden will follow up with the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors and ask a representative to attend Community Collaborative meetings. Belinda Faustinos recommended that we ask for a staff representative (not a member of the public).
- Joe Llewellyn, in response to a request, will find out if there are any licensed hunting outfitters/guides on the ANF.

Discuss Decision Rule Proposal & Code of Conduct Language

The Community Collaborative discussed and reached consensus on a new decision rule. The Code of Conduct will be revised to read:

Strive for consensus. Decisions on recommendations will be made by consensus of all named Collaborative members. Consensus means the willingness to go along with the decision either in active support of it or in not opposing it.

- a. Tentative agreements may be made at meetings pending the opportunity for members to consult with their constituencies. This will be done on a timely basis.
- b. The commitment to work for consensus means that members will:
 - i. Participate in the give and take of the process in a way that seeks to understand the interests of all;
 - ii. Generate proposals thought to be workable for all; and,
 - iii. Work together to reach consensus.
- c. If the group is in general agreement on an issue, dissenting members are responsible for proposing alternatives they believe might achieve group consensus.
- d. **NEW LANGUAGE** - If the Community Collaborative cannot reach consensus after at least two attempts at the same meeting that include discussions with members present who cannot agree, another attempt at consensus will be made at a subsequent meeting. If that attempt at consensus is not successful, the Community Collaborative will vote on the issue. The issue will be approved if at least 90% of those Community Collaborative members present in the room agree.
 - i. When a vote is taken, names of members who do not approve will be recorded in the meeting record. If/when a proposal is made to the Forest Service or shared publically, language will be included to say, "The Community Collaborative reached super majority approval on this issue. Please see the meeting record dated [DATE] for details on dissenting votes."
 - ii. Dissenting member(s) and their represented organizations shall have the opportunity to provide public comment, on the dissenting item, outside of the Community Collaborative's process.

Upcoming Meetings & Members Announcements

Discussion items related to monthly meetings:

- Approval of the December meeting record is due via the Doodle poll by February 4th.
- Members proposed setting aside time for committee work during future in-person monthly meetings.
- **Next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 25th from 9:00 AM-1:00 PM at the Altadena Community Center.** Members are encouraged to send the NFF any items they wish to be on the February meeting agenda.

- NFF staff are unavailable to facilitate the April meeting. Community Collaborative members decided to keep the in-person meeting on the calendar because the group will likely be working on Monument Management Plan-related issues and will need to meet.

Member discussion and announcements:

- Members were disappointed to learn that Michelle Nuttall might be transferred out of her seat on the Collaborative. Claire Robinson volunteered to draft a letter in support of Michelle Nuttall, and the Collaborative shared consensus support for Michelle's continued involvement in the Collaborative due to her knowledge, expertise, leadership, and ability to work collaboratively.
- Members discussed their appreciation for Forest Supervisor Jeffrey Vail, including his honesty, collaboration, and leadership. The Collaborative decided to draft a letter in support of Supervisor Vail to send to Region 5 leadership. Cliff Hamlow volunteered to draft the letter.
- Collaborative members are invited to attend meetings hosted by the Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation as part of the [Los Angeles County Park Needs Assessment](#). The next meeting will be February 23rd at the ANF Forest Supervisor's Office.
- Collaborative members are invited to participate in the [Golden Streets](#) event on June 26th to celebrate the new Gold Line stations.
- Collaborative members should keep an eye out for a new Mojave Hills National Monument.

ACTION ITEMS:

- Claire Robinson will draft a letter to request that Michelle Nuttall remain a member of the Community Collaborative, NFF will send the letter on behalf of consensus support from the Community Collaborative.
- Cliff Hamlow will draft a letter in appreciation of Jeffrey Vail. NFF will send the letter on behalf of consensus support from the Community Collaborative.

RE-CAP: ACTION ITEMS & NEXT STEPS

- The ANF will release the schedule for upcoming Monument Management Plan milestones in February, and will send the schedule to the NFF to share with the Collaborative.
- The ANF will share relevant information about the internal transportation plan workshop that the ANF is tentatively planning for April.
- Within two weeks, each committee should revise the structure and function proposals, and share with the NFF to circulate to the Community Collaborative prior to the February meeting. Members who have concerns with the proposals should share feedback with the individual committee ASAP.
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Record of Decisions

Decision	Consensus
The Collaborative agreed to invite Rick Travis (California Pistol and Rifle Association) to join the Collaborative as the Recreation (hunting/shooting) representative.	Yes
Tammy Robinson will be the equestrian representative. Mary Kaufman, the invited member, has been unable to participate, and will be the alternate.	Yes
Adopt new decision rule language to allow super major vote in special circumstances	Yes
The Collaborative will send a letter to request that Michelle Nuttall remain a member of the Community Collaborative.	Yes
The Collaborative will send a letter in appreciation of Forest Supervisor Jeffrey Vail.	Yes