

MEETING RECORD

San Gabriel Mountains Community Collaborative

Thursday, February 25, 2016

9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Altadena Community Center, Altadena, CA

Attendees

Jacqueline Ayer, *Association of Rural Town Councils (Antelope Valley)*

Tim Brick, *Arroyo Seco Foundation*

Margaret Clark, *Rivers & Mountains Conservancy*

Ann Croissant, *San Gabriel Mountains Regional Conservancy*

Ron Ellingson, *Mt. Baldy Lodge*

Dianne Erskine Hellrigel, *Community Hiking Club*

William Estrada, *Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County*

Kelly Gardner, *San Gabriel Valley Water Association*

Armond Ghazarian, *Los Angeles Department of Public Works*

Richard Guttenberg, *Archaeology/Culture*

Cliff Hamlow, *San Gabriel Valley Legislative Coalition of Chambers*

Joseph Lyons, *San Gabriel Valley Council of Government*

Mike McNutt, *Palmdale Water District*

Brian Mejia (for Kathryn Barger), *LA County Board of Supervisors – 5th District*

Steve Messer, *Concerned Off-Road Bicyclists Association*

John Monsen, *The Sierra Club*

Chuck Myers, *National Forest Homeowners*

Nancy Negrete (for Robert Garcia), *The City Project*

Judy Nelson, *City of Glendora*

Michelle Nuttall, *Southern California Edison*

Angel Perales (for Daniel Oaxaca), *San Gabriel Valley Conservation Corps*

Bill Reeves, *Fisheries Resource Volunteer Corps*

W. Lee Smith (for Rick Travis), *California Rifle & Pistol Association*

Claire Robinson, *Amigos de los Rios*

Tamera Robinson, *Equestrian*

Jack Sahl, *Friends of the Angeles*

Chris Solek, *Council for Watershed Health*

Jessica Strickland (for Belinda Faustinos), *San Gabriel Mountains Forever Coalition*

Linda Taira (for Dale Benson), *Caltrans District 7*

Shawn Troeger, *Community of Wrightwood*

Linda Wucherpfennig, *California Off-Road Vehicle Association*

FOREST SERVICE

Sonja Bergdahl, Joseph Llewellyn, Sherry Rollman, and Justin Seastrand, *Angeles National Forest*

CONVENERS/FACILITATION TEAM

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

Welcome & Introduction

Mary Mitsos welcomed all participants to the San Gabriel Mountains Community Collaborative (SGMCC) meeting. Thirty-one SGMCC members, four Forest Service representatives, and four National Forest Foundation staff were present.

National Monument Management Plan Update

Justin Seastrand, Angeles National Forest (ANF), shared an update about Monument Management Plan milestones. Based on the most recent timeline, the ANF will finalize chapters 1 and 2 of the Environmental Analysis (EA) in March, and release the full EA/Monument Management Plan for a 45-day public comment period in June. The ANF will also host public meetings in June. For a full timeline, please see the detailed schedule (**Attachment 1**). Justin also shared a presentation about planning process objectives and milestones (**Attachment 2**). SGMCC members asked about the feasibility of extending the 45-day public comment period to 60 days. Justin said it might be possible, but that Jeffrey Vail would need to consider it.

Justin also updated the SGMCC on a transportation workshop that the Southern California Association of Governments will host with the ANF and other agencies in April. The SGMCC is invited to attend the workshop, tentatively scheduled for April 28th. In response to questions, Justin clarified that the transportation plan will be part of the Monument Management Plan. Jacqueline Ayer emphasized the need for the transportation plan to protect resources mentioned in the National Monument Proclamation, such as the Aliso-Arrastre Special Interest Area. Joe Lyons emphasized the importance of studying transportation to and within the Monument.

ACTION ITEMS:

- ANF staff will send details about the April 28th transportation workshop to the NFF to share with the SGMCC.
- Sonja Bergdahl will take the SGMCC's request to extend the public comment period back to Jeffrey Vail, and will discuss other approaches to provide the SGMCC with enough time to develop recommendations (such as providing draft materials earlier, if possible).

Discuss & Approve Proposals for Three Standing Committees

SGMCC committees shared committee proposals with revisions following the February meeting. During discussion, Mary Mitsos shared the SGMCC purpose statement to remind the SGMCC of the original goals. Upon review, members felt the standing committees will address the goals.

Members discussed each committee proposal, suggested revisions, and asked clarifying questions. Following the discussion, the SGMCC made the following **consensus decisions**:

- Move forward with a Communications & Engagement Committee
- Move forward with a Projects & External Impacts Committee
- Move forward with a Monument & Transportation Plan Coordinating Committee

Consider Proposal for Steering Committee

SGMCC members discussed and approved a proposal for a steering committee. Steering Committee members who volunteered during the meeting:

- Margaret Clark (at large)
- Belinda Faustinos (at large)
- Joe Lyons (at large)
- Daniel Rossman (Monument & Transportation Plan Coordinating Committee Rep.)
- Jack Sahl (Communications & Engagement Committee Rep.)
- Chris Solek (Projects & External Impacts Committee Rep.)
- Linda Wucherpfennig (at large)

ACTION ITEMS:

- Prior to the March SGMCC meeting, NFF staff will schedule a steering committee conference call to help the group develop a committee plan and establish duties.

Committee Breakouts & Work Plans

The three standing committees spent time during the meeting finalizing proposals, designating a chair/co-chairs, and developing a six-month work plan. Summaries from each committee are below. For a full committee list, see SGMCC Committee Lists (**Attachment 3**). Committees also asked for clarification regarding committee decision-making processes. Mary Mitsos clarified that the committees should follow the same procedures as the full SGMCC to make proposals, but committees do not have decision-making authority. All proposals will come back to the full SGMCC for approval.

External Projects Committee

- **Co-chairs:** Chris Solek, Linda Wucherpfennig
- **Members:** Tim Brick, Margaret Clark, Ann Croissant, Dianne Erskine Hellrigel, Belinda Faustinos, Kelly Gardiner, Richard Guttenberg, Steve Messer, Chuck Myers, Tamera Robinson, Dan Rosenfeld, Andy Salas, Chris Solek, Linda Wucherpfennig
- **Immediate objectives:** define and be able to communicate “external” in terms of how the committee is applying the term, develop a map to share during the April meeting, and develop a scoring matrix and criteria to rank forest projects
- **Meeting frequency:** monthly meetings
- The Committee will update the structure/function as necessary and share revisions with the full Collaborative.

Communications & Engagement Committee

- **Co-Chairs:** Jack Sahl, Judy Nelson
- **Members:** William Estrada, Cliff Hamlow, Mark Masaoka, Mike McNutt, Brian Mejia, Chuck Myers, Judy Nelson, Bill Reeves, Daniel Rossman, Jack Sahl

- **Immediate objectives:** develop talking points (elevator speech) for the SGMCC to use to share with others about the SGMCC's work
- **Suggestions and questions from full SGMCC:**
 - Perhaps add the objective of communicating with multi-lingual/multiple communities
 - Should this committee also work on funding?
- **Meeting frequency:** monthly meetings via WebEx; meet during SGMCC meeting
- The Committee will update the structure/function as necessary and share revisions with the full Collaborative.

Monument Plan & Transportation Coordinating Committee

- **Co-chairs:** Daniel Rossman, Michelle Nuttall, Claire Robinson
- **Members:** Jacqueline Ayer, Armond Ghazarian, Adam Lane, John Monsen, Nancy Negrete, Michelle Nuttall, Bill Reeves, Liz Reilly, Claire Robinson, Daniel Rossman, Lee Smith
- **Transportation Subcommittee Members:** Jacqueline Ayer, Margaret Clark, Belinda Faustinos, Richard Guttenberg, Judy Nelson, Lee Smith, Shawn Troeger, Linda Wucherpfennig
- **Immediate objectives:** follow Monument management plan, monitor Rim of the Valley Special Resource Area project, Adams/Schiff legislation, LA County Parks assessment, Environmental Assessment review for high-speed rail, and set up a Skype meeting to learn more about the Cattle Canyon Project
- Form a Transportation Subcommittee to engage with the Monument Management Plan transportation plan and other transportation priorities
- **Meeting frequency:** every two weeks now; less frequently later depending on tasks
- The Committee will update the structure/function as necessary and share revisions with the full Collaborative.

ACTION ITEMS:

- Standing committees will begin working on identified objectives. NFF staff will help coordinate meetings if requested by committee chairs/co-chairs.
- Committees will update the structure/function documents as necessary and share revisions with the full Collaborative.

Upcoming Meetings & Miscellaneous Business

Upcoming Meetings:

- **Next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 24th from 9:00 AM-1:00 PM at the Altadena Community Center.**
- Transportation workshop is tentatively scheduled for April 28th in El Monte; please stay tuned for more details. **There will not be a SGMCC meeting on April 28th.**

Miscellaneous business:

- **Youth alternate:** Members discussed the youth representative seat and lack of response from Jasmin Angeles (Katie Distelrath's alternate). Members decided that Katie could choose her own alternate. Ann Croissant also asked that Katie confer with Ann about potential alternates prior to designating someone.
- **Gateway COG representative:** Brent Tercero expressed his interest in staying on the SGMCC as a representative of the Gateway COG; however, Brent has not attended any recent meetings. Mary Mitsos asked the steering committee to address this issue.
- **Letters:** Members requested to see the final letters sent to Caroline Choi (Southern California Edison) and Randy Moore (Region 5 Regional Forester) in support of Michelle Nutall and in appreciation of Jeffrey Vail.
- **Every Kid in a Park:** Jack Sahl shared that funds are available to transport 4th graders to parks and National Forest lands through this program. Jack would like help from other SGMCC members to host a trip for kids, or connect with 4th graders. For more information, contact Jack or see <https://www.everykidinapark.gov/>.

ACTION ITEMS:

- NFF staff will send letters to Caroline Choi and Randy Moore to the SGMCC.
- Steering Committee will address the Gateway COG issue and bring a recommendation back to the SGMCC.
- Katie Distelrath will designate a new alternate and communicate with the NFF about the new alternate. Ann Croissant also asked that Katie confer with Ann about potential alternates prior to designating someone.
- Members interested in Every Kid in a Park will contact Jack Sahl about potential trips or groups of kids.

RE-CAP: ACTION ITEMS & NEXT STEPS

- ANF staff will send details about the April 28th transportation workshop to the NFF to share with the SGMCC.
- Sonja Bergdahl will take the SGMCC's request to extend the public comment period back to Jeffrey Vail, and will discuss other approaches to provide the SGMCC with enough time to develop recommendations (such as providing draft materials earlier, if possible).
- Prior to the March SGMCC meeting, NFF staff will schedule a steering committee conference call to help the group develop a committee plan and establish duties.
- Standing committees will begin working on identified objectives. NFF staff will help coordinate meetings if requested by committee chairs/co-chairs.
- Committees will update the structure/function documents as necessary and share revisions with the full Collaborative.
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Record of Decisions

Decision	Consensus
Move forward with a Communications & Engagement Committee	Yes
Move forward with a Projects & External Impacts Committee	Yes
Move forward with a Monument & Transportation Plan Coordinating Committee (including a transportation subcommittee)	Yes
Form a Steering Committee for the SGMCC	Yes