



AGENDA & MINUTES

COASTAL GREENBELT AUTHORITY



Wednesday, July 10, 2019

3:00 p.m.

Laguna Woods City Hall
24264 El Toro Road
Laguna Woods, CA 92653

Mary Feagraus, Chair

Park Neighbors, Non-voting Members

Tiffany Ackley

City of Aliso Viejo, Council Member

Farah N. Khan

City of Irvine, Council Member

Melody Carruth

City of Laguna Hills, Council Member

Alison Giglio, Parks and Recreation Director

City of Laguna Niguel

Grace Leung

City of Newport Beach

William A. Phillips, City of Aliso Viejo,

Council Member, Alternate

Pamela Baird, Alternate

Dennis Chiotti

City of Irvine

Ron Rivera, Recreation Manager, Alternate

City of Laguna Niguel

Sean Levin, Deputy Director, Recreation/Sr. Services

Derek Breaux, Recreation Supervisor

Alternate, City of Newport Beach

Voting Members

Mary Feagraus, Chair

Environmental Groups

Cynthia Conners, Vice Chair

City of Laguna Woods, Council Member

Toni Iseman

City of Laguna Beach, Council Member

Lisa A. Bartlett

Board of Supervisors, 5th District

Tom Maloney

Member at Large

Kate Clark, Alternate

Environmental Groups

Shari Horne, Alternate

City of Laguna Woods, Council Member

Christa Johnson, Alternate,

City of Laguna Beach, Assistant City Manager

Tom Wilson, Alternate

Board of Supervisors, 5th District

Gene Felder, Alternate

Member at Large

Those persons addressing the Authority are requested to give their names for the record. Except as otherwise provided by law, no action shall be taken on any item not appearing on the following agenda. However, items may be taken up in a different sequence. Written materials must be received 24 hours in advance to ensure consideration by the Authority. A limited number of staff reports are available at the Authority meeting. The public may address the Authority on items of public interest that are within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Authority during the public participation section of the meeting.

1. ROLL CALL

2. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Members of the public are welcome to address the Authority on items of public interest that are within the jurisdiction of the Authority and are not listed as an agenda item. *Penny Milne shared information about the concern that the City of Laguna Beach Open Space and Conservation element of the General Plan has outdated maps. In particular, the watercourses. Any map updates since the 1980s have not been added to the Coastal Plan. Milne asked the CGA for a letter of support for a higher priority of updating the map.*

3. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REPORTS –

A. Meeting Minutes, May 8, 2019. Corrections/Additions.

Action: The Minutes of May 8, 2019, as amended, were approved unanimously on a motion by Conners and second by Horne.

B. Report by Laguna Canyon Foundation by a LCF representative. *As shared by Executive Director Hallie Jones – the new Laguna Canyon Foundation facility is closer to occupancy, the gardens and grounds will be completed after the building's occupancy. The Center will be used as a training center, office and eventually have a nursery to assist with plants for restoration activities.*

C. Report by Natural Communities Coalition by a NCC representative. *Milan Mitrovich, PhD, Science Director shared the following: The newly formed NCC Land Management Committee will meet July 31st at 9:30 a.m. at the Muth Center. The new committee chaired by OC Parks Director Blackwood will build and reinforce the Reserve partnerships to become better stewards of the protected natural resources. This is the beginning of a series of meetings for the review and implementation of various topics. CGA Member Maloney added that the June NCC tour of the Crystal Cove State Park restoration was very informative and the restoration successful.*

D. Report by City of Laguna Beach regarding open space in Laguna Beach. *Assistant City Manager Johnson shared that Mayor's Subcommittee on Wildlife Mitigation & Fire Safety Report has been released and is available on the city's website; the city is working on acquiring three small parcels adjacent to existing open space – findings for acquisition are under review now by the city's Planning Commission; noted that there are more proposals for intensification within Laguna Canyon. Iseman shared that the City of Laguna Beach General Plan includes a process for land acquisitions.*

E. Update on the City of Irvine's Open Space Preserve. *As shared by Dennis Chiotti, City of Irvine, Landscape Superintendent: Darin Loughrey has retired, Pamela Baird, Mgr. of Public Services has been appointed as the Alternate and requested that Chiotti attend to observe the CGA meeting. No updates at this time.*

F. Update on the City of Newport Beach's Open Space. *Derek Breaux, Recreation Supervisor, on behalf of Alternate Sean Levin, shared: additional information about the illegal activities in Buck Gully, the City of Newport Beach has a 5-year contract with Irvine Ranch Conservancy for the restoration of Buck Gully and the Buck Gully trail, Also looking at solutions for slowing down the bike speed on the Buck Gully trail; also noted that the investigation is ongoing about the previous illegal uses in Buck Gully.*

G. Update regarding Open Space from Aliso Viejo *Not at this time.*

H. Update regarding Open Space from Laguna Niguel *Not at this time.*

I. Park Operations Spotlight

Park staff will highlight recent accomplishments, activities and upcoming events.

Laguna Coast Wilderness Park report: *Supervising Park Ranger Brad Barker shared: as part of the staff reorganization he will join the staff at Aliso and Wood Canyons Wilderness Park as Supervising Park Ranger, May 2019 release of 29 pocket mice, they have chips in their tails for tracking – a total of 156 mice now; a number of interpretive activities scheduled for the summer including Birds of Prey exhibit, full moon hike, August 24th Astronomy Night and more.*

Aliso and Wood Canyons Wilderness Park report: *Barbara Norton, Operations Manager shared that the Visitor Center construction now includes flooring completion and that the sewer hook-up is scheduled for August; weed abatement and mowing is on schedule for both parks; Tot Walks will continue; as part of the reorganization Supervising Park Ranger Salazar is moving to OC Parks Headquarters with new responsibilities. Other staff changes will include Matt Stegner as Supervising Park Ranger for Laguna Coast Wilderness Park, Adam Martinez as Mason Park Supervising Ranger; and Anneliese Gannaway Park Ranger at Mason Regional Park, and there will also be a new ranger at AAWCWP, Park Ranger I Bobbie Skruggs.*

Eric Hull, OC Parks Entitlement also noted that the agreement for the sewer with the Church of Latter-Day Saints will be on the August agenda at the OC Board of Supervisors. OC Parks is hoping for a soft opening of the Visitor Center in October.

Additional Staff Report if available.

4. Update on request to the Board of Supervisors by the City of Laguna Woods for a Lease Amendment at Woods End section of Laguna Coast Wilderness Park.
Action: Receive and File *Laguna Woods Mayor Connors noted approvals by OC Parks and State of California and that the City of Laguna Woods is awaiting final approval by the OC Board of Supervisors.*
5. Laguna Ridge Trail Update. Report by OC Parks.
Action: Receive and File *No report at this time.*
6. Status Report, if available, on the Aliso Creek Super Project and the Locally Preferred Alternative Plan.
Action: Receive and File *Jones, Laguna Canyon Foundation shared that: the Army Corps of Engineers announced that there is not public support for the project and have abandoned the Super Project. The Corps agrees that a scaled down project is more appropriate and is seeking supporters and funding; there is a project at the Coastal Commission for the replacement of the sludge pipeline along Aliso Creek.*
7. Status report on CALTRANS Safety Lane project and Additional Laguna Canyon Road project.
Action: Receive and File *Jones, Laguna Canyon Foundation shared that CALTRANS is proceeding with the project with no plans for abandonment; safety is the main issue for CALTRANS, there is an acceptable mitigation plan, question of geologic stability at the El Toro Road and Laguna Canyon Road intersection, wildlife agencies and City of Laguna Beach still need to issue permits; LCF will continue to work with the City of Laguna Beach on the key issues; also ongoing lawsuit by Anneliese Pre-School, CALTRANS not willing to change plans for the drainage improvements. Scott Thomas, OC Parks noted that CALTRANS is moving*

forward with meeting deadlines – hydrology by end of July, 65% plans by end of September which will trigger negotiations with the resource agencies, still a question of park abandonment and how that process will affect the plans.

8. Aliso and Wood Canyons Wilderness Park Visitor Center Update by OC Parks
Action: Receive and File *Shared in the Park Spotlight Reports*
9. Report on Wildlife Corridor, Camera Study project by Laguna Greenbelt by Chair Feagraus
Action: Receive and File *Feagraus shared that the Wildlife Camera Study Report will be presented at the September 11, 2019 Coastal Greenbelt Authority meeting. Kevin Clark, San Diego Natural History Museum and John Foley, Laguna Greenbelt Board and Wildlife Camera Study Team will present the report. Feagraus noted that as yet support letters, as approved at the May 8, 2019 Coastal Greenbelt Authority meeting, for the Wildlife Study and a new grant for the continued restoration of the Pectin Reef area of AWCWP have not been requested.*
10. Amendments to the Bylaws. Continue to review the Bylaws for a total list of amendments to be considered by the park's landowners – Orange County and the cities of Laguna Beach and Laguna Woods. Discussion if a committee should be appointed to review the Bylaws and possible amendments. If so, a motion to do so.
Action: Receive and File *CGA Member Kate Clark volunteered to help with the review of the Bylaws.*
11. ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS, under consideration:
 - OC Vector Control Mosquito Exhibit
 - Woods End Trail reclassification, discuss process and timeline. Dependent on OC Parks schedule and budget.
 - Update on San Diego Creek at PA 39 and 18 regarding wildlife corridor functions
 - AWCWP Canyon Vistas entry issue
 - Aliso Creek OCTA Restoration Update
 - The Ranch and trail connections. Need an update from City of Laguna Beach.
 - Review of trails acquired through the Prop 12 funding and their incorporation into the GDP/RMP and the process and timeline for this action
 - Proposal for the Dilley entrance at LCWP
 - Future meeting sites include new Laguna Canyon Foundation headquarters, AWCWP Visitors Center
 - E-Bikes in the wilderness park
12. AUTHORITY MEMBERS COMMENTS AND REPORTS;
NON-AGENDIZED ITEMS OF INTEREST TO CGA *Feagraus shared that she gave a summary of the role of the Coastal Greenbelt Authority to the City of Laguna Beach Council at their July 9, 2019 meeting.*
13. **Recommended Action for all Agenda Items, Announcements and Reports unless separately noted:**
Action: Motion to Receive and File: *On a motion by Maloney and second by Conners it was unanimously approved to Receive and File all the noted agenda items.*
14. MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT TO WEDNESDAY, September 11, 2019 AT 3 P.M.
On a motion by Feagraus with a second by Iseman it was unanimously approved to adjourn the Coastal Greenbelt Authority to the September 11, 2019 meeting.