

SUMMARY ACTION MINUTES

(Action Items Displayed in Italics)

FRIDAY, JULY 7, 2023 — 9:00 a.m.

I. ROLL CALL

Commissioners Jones and Weigand were present. Chair Shawver, Vice Chair Ashland, and Commissioners Diaz and Hanson were absent.

II. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

At this time, members of the public may address the Commission on items of public interest that are within the jurisdiction of the Commission and are not contained in tonight's agenda.

Jim Mosher commented on a parcel dispute involving property in the Back Bay of Newport Beach and requested that the Commission be more inquisitive about the sale of public land.

III. UPPER NEWPORT BAY NATURE PRESERVE TOUR

Upper Newport Bay Nature Preserve is a 135-acre facility with 4.5 miles of trails that offer running, hiking, biking, horse riding, and birding opportunities for the public. It is one of California's largest remaining natural estuaries and it is home to several sensitive, rare, or endangered bird and plant species. Upper Newport Bay Nature Preserve also features the Muth Interpretive Center which provides information and displays about the estuary. This tour will showcase the Muth Interpretive Center, along with its new amphitheater and nature documentary, and the Delhi Channel which flows nearby.

- **9:00 a.m.:** Upper Newport Bay Nature Preserve
Address: 2301 University Drive, Newport Beach, CA 92660
 - Park in the public parking lot located near the corner of Irvine Avenue and University Drive and then follow the signage to the Muth Interpretive Center located to the east of the parking lot.
- **9:10 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.:**
 - Stop #1 – Muth Interpretive Center Library
 - Brief overview of Upper Newport Bay Nature Preserve
 - Stop #2 – Muth Interpretive Center Tour
 - Tour the Muth Interpretive Center and learn about the Newport Bay Conservancy
 - Watch “Newport, Our Bay”, a new nature documentary shown at the facility
 - Tour the new amphitheater
 - Stop #3 – Delhi Channel
 - Enjoy a short hike to the Delhi Channel to learn about the role of the estuary and observe local wildlife

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Derrick Ankerstar, OC Parks Supervising Park Ranger II, led the tour of Upper Newport Bay Nature Preserve, provided information about the facility, and answered the Commissioners' questions.

Heather Cieslak, Newport Bay Conservancy Operations Director, provided background information about the facility and the Newport Bay Conservancy and answered the Commissioners' questions.

Jennifer Naegele, OC Parks Natural Resources and Trails Manager, provided information about the restoration efforts at the facility and answered the Commissioners' questions.

IV. ADJOURNMENT 10:16 a.m.