



A G E N D A & MINUTES
COASTAL GREENBELT AUTHORITY



Wednesday, January 8, 2020

3:00 p.m.

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

Mary Fegraus, Chair

Park Neighbors, Non-voting Members

Tiffany Ackley
 City of Aliso Viejo, Council Member
Farrah N. Khan
 City of Irvine, Council Member
Vacant
 City of Laguna Hills, Council Member
Alison Giglio, Parks and Recreation Director
 City of Laguna Niguel
Grace Leung
 City of Newport Beach
Pamela Baird, Manager of Public Services
 City of Irvine, Alternate
William A. Phillips, City of Aliso Viejo
 Council Member, Alternate
Dennis Chiotti, Alternate
 City of Irvine
Ron Rivera, Recreation Manager, Alternate
 City of Laguna Niguel
Sean Levin, Deputy Director, Recreation/Sr. Services
 Alternate, City of Newport Beach
 Staff: **Justin Schmillen** – Recreation Manager
Derek Breaux – Recreation Supervisor

Voting Members

Mary Fegraus, 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
Vacant, 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** *By Rick Shaffer, OC Parks*
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. *Welcomed Phillip Bettencourt, former president of Cortese Properties and helpful with purchases of additional land for Laguna Coast Wilderness Park, including Woods End, owned by City of Laguna Woods and leased to the County of Orange for parkland.*
3. **MINUTES**

Meeting Minutes, November 13, 2019. Corrections/Additions
Recommended Action: Approve meeting minutes or modifications as appropriate. *On a motion by Maloney with a second by Conners, the minutes were approved unanimously.*
4. **CGA MEMBERS AND PARTNERS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPDATES – Unanimously Received and Filed on a motion by Clark with a second by Maloney**
 - A. Update by Laguna Canyon Foundation by a LCF representative. *Paula Olson shared the following: LCF received a 4-year grant awarded through our CDFW Local Assistance Grant Program with the \$709,000 funding by the CA Wildlife Conservation Board. The AWCWP 21-acre restoration project is between Pacific Park and Avila Rd. The riparian transitional and coastal sage scrub restoration will improve conditions for the southwestern pond turtle and Least Bell's Vireo. It involves site preparation, plant installation, hydroseeding and site maintenance in support of plant establishment. During 2019: 123 Long term volunteers served 7,288 hours, 487 short term volunteers served 1,593 hours, and 610 volunteers for 8,881 hours. These volunteers made possible the restoration activities - 17,000 plants and 1,200 pounds of seeds. Also, the Education activities: 12 Partner Schools – grades second through fifth, 3,267 students, 101 teachers, 232 parents/chaperones participated in 66 field trips. LCF now has a Team of 7 educators. LCF is officially in their headquarters!*
 - B. Update by Natural Communities Coalition by a NCC representative. *Jim Sulentic, Executive Director and Danny Fry, Wildland Fire Management Coordinator shared: Laguna Greenbelt's December Wildlife Corridor presentation to the NCC board, current restoration of 4 areas for Western spade-foot toad habitat which will include intermittent ponds and 40 cactus clumps.*
 - C. Update by City of Laguna Beach regarding open space in Laguna Beach. *Christa Johnson, Assistant City Manager shared: In 2019 as part of the wildfire safety program city utilized 1,200 goats in 3 herds for fuel modification, other funded programs for fuel modification in Laguna Canyon and Top of the World area, council approved funding for full-time LB Fire Department Fire Prevention position; a major parcel in Rimrock Canyon has been donated to UCLA and Pepperdine – question of*

what will happen to the non-buildable parcels without street access. Another large section of Rimrock Canyon was preserved as open space with state bond funding.

- D. Update on the City of Irvine's Open Space Preserve. *Not Available*
- E. Update on the City of Newport Beach's Open Space. *Not Available*
- F. Update regarding Open Space from Aliso Viejo. *Not Available*
- G. Update regarding Open Space from Laguna Niguel. *Ron Rivera, Recreation Manager stated there was no new information at this time.*

5. OC PARKS STAFF UPDATE – Unanimously Received and Filed on a motion by Johnson and second by Clark

- A. Park Operations – All Departments Update: *John Gannaway, OC Parks shared: New Park Ranger 1 Academy class with 12 participants underway now – 10 weeks in class, 14 weeks out in the parks. Rigorous 1 year training in many disciplines. Currently OC Parks has 52 rangers, many retirements creating vacancies, new recruitment program underway.*
- B. Spotlight on Laguna Coast Wilderness and Aliso and Wood Canyons Wilderness Parks: Park staff will highlight recent accomplishments, activities and upcoming events.
Laguna Coast Wilderness Park Update: *Ranger Stegner shared the Ridge Trail re-route; restoration of Pacific Pocket Mice habitat to prevent predators from burrowing under the barrier fencing and that more mice will be re-introduced; trails in good shape due to careful preparation before the rainy season – trying to slope the trails to allow the water to drain off and to prevent standing water on the trails.*
Aliso and Wood Canyons Wilderness Park Update: *Ranger Barker shared more than 8 inches of rain in December which caused 20 days of park closure, but trails held up well; delay with Visitor Center opening due to fire sprinkler issue*

6. RECEIVE AND FILE MATTERS

- A. Status report on CALTRANS Safety Lane project and Additional Laguna Canyon Road project.
Recommended Action: Receive and File *No presentation at this time.*

7. ACTION ITEMS

A. Election of Officers for 2020 – Chair and Vice-Chair

Action: Nominations and Motion to elect 2020 Officers. *On a motion by Conners with a second by Maloney, Fegraus was unanimously elected to serve as the 2020 Chair. On a motion by Maloney with a second by Clark, Conners was unanimously approved to serve as the 2020 Vice-Chair.*

8. CGA MEMBERS COMMENTS AND REPORT

At this time CGA members may comment on non-agenda matters and ask questions of staff, provided that no action may be taken on off-agenda items unless authorized by law. *Johnson shared that the City of Laguna Beach has a new trial Dog Park at Moulton Meadows. Clark noted that the Laguna Greenbelt Inc. annual meeting is February 27th at 7 p.m. Elisabeth Brown, retiring president will be honored. Dr. Brown served on the CGA from 1991 to 2011 as a representative of Laguna Beach Environmental organizations and the Laguna Canyon Homeowners.*

9.. MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT TO WEDNESDAY, March 11, 2020 AT 3 P.M. *On a Motion by Conners with a second by Maloney it was unanimously approved to adjourn to the March 11, 2020 meeting.*