

SEPULVEDA BASIN WILDLIFE AREAS STEERING COMMITTEE
Minutes of January 23, 1996

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Muriel Kotin (San Fernando Valley Audubon Society) at 7:30 pm.

1. **Self-Introduction:** Sandy Wohlgemuth (L.A. Audubon); Jill Swift (Sierra Club, San Fernando Valley Group); Glenn Bailey (Conservation District of the Santa Monica Mountains); Ted Carr (Army Corps of Engineers); James Ward (Recreation and Parks); Rosemarie White (Goose Project); Clyde Ade (substituting for Steve Hartman, California Native Plant Society).

2. **Minutes** of the Nov. 28, 1995, meeting were approved without change.

3. **Additions** to the Agenda:

#11: Unauthorized path east side of Reserve

#12: Secretaryship

#9: Add "Septage Guidelines Meeting, Feb. 2, 1996, 10 a.m., rm. 350, City Hall."

4. **Status of Expansion of the Wildlife Reserve:**

(Ted Carr first reported that the Lake Balboa project P.C.A. has been signed and the notice to proceed has gone forward.)

Ted further indicated that EDAW is in the process of revising elements of the Wildlife Plan; hopefully it will be ready for next meeting. There is no "split" of moneys (\$4.5 million) between Lake Balboa and the Wildlife Areas. "Contract bids came in higher than expected". Downsizing is in the sizes of plants. Construction is still high priority. Priorities (which the SBWASC formulated) are not known by staffs of the Corps or Recreation and Parks.

There was discussion of **change orders**. *Chairman Kotin offered to contact the Corps (Debbie Lamb) to suggest that change order figures be brought to us.* Glenn Bailey asked for clarification on the Wildlife planning process and status: it has been downsized; cost figures will come to us next meeting; there is joint agreement between the City and the Corps. James Ward stated that the (City Recreation and Parks) Commission will have to approve the project budget.

5. **Hummingbird Hill Update:** Sandy Wohlgemuth stated that the "grubbing" (exotics removal) has been done; irrigation has been worked out (water supply fixed). The initial \$5,000. has been paid. Signs (south of Wildlife Area and at the tunnel area, facing east) will indicate "Hummingbird Hill Revegetation Area", etc. Timing of spraying and planting are not known at this time. (Probably will use Roundup.)

6. **Balboa Blvd. Bridge Revegetation:** Glenn Bailey explained that the Resource Conservation District (RCD) had submitted a proposal after consultation with Carvel Bass (Corps), Jean Dillingham (RCD), Ron Strong (Rec. & Parks, Valley), and Kathleen Bullard (RCD). The contractor is not known at this time. Request was made to *put this item (6) on the agenda* for the February 27th meeting.

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7. Cleanup of Wildlife Reserve 4/17-96 and Public Nature Walks: There will be another cleanup in conjunction with Earth day. *James Ward promised to run it by Steve Moe.* Weather might be a problem so choose an alternate raindate (May 4).

Chairman Muriel Kotin announced that Family Beginners Birdwalks will be held Saturday, February 10 and Saturday, March 9th.

8. Spill into Bull Creek: Sandy Wohlgemuth reported that a December freeway accident on rain-slick streets (Highway 14 and the 405) spilled light petroleum oil which flowed into channels and could possibly affect parts of the Basin. California Department of Fish and Game has monitored this spill, has no report as yet. It may be a month before results are known. Regional Water Quality Control Board will receive the report. Chairman Kotin offered that if there were fine moneys, the Consortium might benefit.

9. Draft EIR on Septage Receiving Station: Jill Swift announced the Public Hearing Date (Feb. 6, 1996, Airtel Hotel, 7-9 pm) and commented that of the ninety (90) "alternatives" to the site, only five (5) have been considered and three (3) of the five are the Sepulveda Basin site.

10. Updates from Public Agencies: Muriel Kotin has not been able to write those letters yet, but will do it the end of the week in consultation with Glenn Bailey.

11. Unauthorized Path: Sherry Goldsmith has seen people using the path in the north portion of the Reserve along the dam and suggests a barrier or deterrent. Sandy stated that there is no sign there; *James Ward* felt people do not read signs but *he will look at the traffic pattern and perhaps put up a sign "Wildlife Area" or "Sensitive Area"*.

12. Secretaryship: The idea of "rotating" secretaryship was discussed. Conclusion: Jill will act as secretary during Chairman Kotin's stint and Muriel Kotin will serve as secretary for Jill.

There was informal discussion of a brochure to raise funds for the Consortium (*Jill Swift to explore options with Melanie Ingalls on Feb. 5*): also, possibility of a voice mail system for queries on the wildlife areas, etc.

Glenn Bailey asked for a meeting to discuss education
Chairman Kotin ^{will invite} Melanie Ingalls to March 96 meeting
Mtg day 8:45 pm