

**SEPULVEDA BASIN WILDLIFE AREAS STEERING COMMITTEE
MINUTES -- SEPTEMBER 24, 1996**

Jill Swift chaired the meeting. Others attending were Glenn Bailey, Marie Campbell (Sapphos Environmental), Robert Cardoza (Nuvis), Ted Carr, Steve Hartman, Peter Ireland, Muriel Kotin, Andy Lopez (ACOE), Patrick Marr (Ron Yeo, Architect), Thomas Munoz (Nuvis), Steve Patterson (Sapphos Environmental), Jennifer Rigby (The Acom Group), James Ward, Rosemarie White, Sandy Wohlgemuth, and Ron Yeo (Ron Yeo, Architect).

Introductions and agenda additions were made. Next month agenda will include a report on the recent Conference on the Southern California Landscape before 1900.

Background on the Expansion Project was presented by Andy Lopez, landscape architect for the ACOE. Nuvis will finalize detailed design documents.

The Design Team was introduced by Tom Munoz. They summarized the "map" of the expansion. Glenn requested that dollar amounts available be provided before the next meeting. (*Muriel should make a commitments list for the next meeting.*) There will be 3 bridges. The area east of the wildlife lake won't be changed. Blinds will be viewing areas, not blinds.

Muriel should check with Jean Dillingham and let Andy Lopez and Jill know when the next childrens' field trips will be and get any information pamphlets for the teachers to Andy.

Detailed Discussion of Preliminary Plans and Priorities followed.

Steve H said the priorities are to fix Haskell Creek and develop the area between the creek and Woodley Ave. There should be some plantings west of Woodley. Arundo and other exotics should be eradicated in the south reserve and trails fixed there. Muriel asked that viewing of the lake to the north be added to the southerly view near the northern blind. Steve would like to take a walk through the reserve with Nuvis.

Peter asked whether joggers or bicycles are a problem that would deter wildlife. How do we get involved with the decision on what barriers to improper traffic? Signage is important. Glenn inquired about what fencing will be used: redi-crete to make a picket fence. What about the west "buffer" area? There will be trees around the edge. The only pedestrian trail in that area will be near the southeast corner.

Nuvis does have recent soils information on the reserve. Glenn requested that plantings in the west area and the southerly part of the middle area be made in a manner that they not be a problem to the safety of nearby bike paths, considering falling branches, cones, etc and proximity to the paths.

Sandy asked what kind of forage will there be in the west area. It won't be planted. Whatever grows on its own will be disced.

Peter said that Hayvenhurst Creek was discussed earlier. Can it be given some re-thinking? What about a path near it? It could be beneficial to bicyclists also. James W

answered that that would be too costly and that the county maintains the creek and has it lined with gunnite.

Muriel asked if we will have the flexibility to experimentally plant various prairie plants in the undeveloped parts of the west area. Yes. Will the oak woodland north of the existing reserve be planted in this project? Yes.

Rosemarie said that the west area left alone would just be part of the model airplane field. She would like to be sure that that area is an important experimental part of the wildlife area and the Audubon YES! program could be put to work there with experimental plantings. James W said it will be a low-maintenance area that is disced at least annually.

Steve H said the south area, planted in 1979 by the ACOE, can provide a good laboratory of what works in the basin. The area east of the wildlife lake is only mowed, never disced since 1988. Look at what's growing there. What about overlooks? Nothing will be done with the overlook on Burbank Bl. There are not enough funds to develop an overlook to the north, along the face of the dam, so it will not be included in the plan.

Jennifer Rigby wants to have a 3-hour theme/goal/planning session to reflect the actual education program, including Jean Dillingham of the RCD.

Time Line: Andy Lopez said that Nuvis and its subcontractors have 130 days which began about a week ago to complete the plan. Committee members should feel free to phone Andy with concerns. His office tel. is 213/452-3879. He'll set up a walkthrough with Steve Hartman. The plan will be submitted to the committee in 30-45 days. He'll let Jill know about a week before we meet and she'll poll us as to whether evening or daytime is better. *Muriel should send him a list of educational material needed to be stored.*

Future Federal Funds: Sandy W talked to Tony Beilenson's office. Of the \$2 million Beilenson got for the basin, "a substantial amount," whatever that means, is for the wildlife reserve.

Themes/Goals/Objectives Meeting: will be held Monday September 30 at Muriel's house at 7 p.m.

Minutes of the 7/23/96 Meeting: were approved as submitted.

Treasury: of the Consortium is unchanged except for a interest accrued.

PTSA Oak Planting Project did not get the grant.

Tillman Plant Berm: Gene Greene called Jill to say he could not attend this meeting. Rosemarie was shocked at the disorganization apparent at the recent field trip of the berm. Muriel commented that the new contractor seems to be starting to plant on the berm. Steve H suggested we meet with Gene Greene who reported to Jill that the ROW is now being weeded.

Non-native Plants: Sandy asked why non-native camphor trees were planted on the new cricket fields. Why isn't the presidential memo about native species where possible being followed? Ted Carr said it's up to the city. James W said the city doesn't recognize the

memo as an order. In a heavily watered turf area, R & P's planning department will select whatever they feel is safest and best. Dalen Zamorzla (?) is head of the planning dept.

Hummingbird Hill: Steve H reported that the contractor turned over the keys to the irrigation to Steve Moe this morning. Environmental interests essentially abandoned the project in August and has done nothing since. Steve Moe will take over supervision of the irrigation. Anyone who wants to volunteer to weed should co-ordinate with Steve H. We'll also need to do some planting in the spring. *Bring calendars to the next meeting to schedule weeding.*

Bull Creek: There is no map of Bull Creek. The map of Lake Balboa stops 200 feet east of the creek. The area east of the creek is not assigned a land use. The ACOE has responsibility for the creek. The city has responsibility up to the edge of the bank. Peter would like to see the edge of the creek treated as a transition zone to the riparian corridor. *The January agenda should include a committee walkthrough of the creek.*

Arts Park: Jill said that R&P's Dave Attaway was instructed by General Mgr. Jackie Tatum to advise Ross Hopkins on Arts Park. It is being treated as a new project. A draft EIR will be submitted soon.

Funds for Oak Planting from Environmental Coalition: A check will be written soon for this purpose.

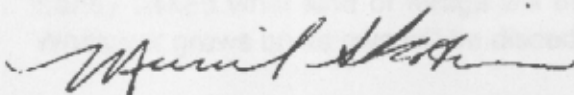
Signage and Municipal Wildlife Management Plans: will be discussed next month. Glenn withdrew the item about Prop A '96 after brief discussion. The Prop K finalized list of projects is the same as the list James W provided last month.

The Forage Crop Area will be planted as soon as the equipment is available. The seeds are on hand.

Canoeing Permits: Peter expressed dismay that FoLAR was apparently given a permit to canoe on the LA River within the basin for a recent publicity event. Ted and James said neither the ACOE nor city issued a permit. Peter asked what can we do to ensure canoes do not go out on the river here.

Mountain Lion: A helicopter pilot reportedly saw a mountain lion in the south reserve. What procedures apply? Steve Moe or the park rangers, Animal Regulations, Fish and Game, and maybe the police would be called. Sharp shooters would not be called in. Investigating agencies did not find the cat. Jill suggested signage warn people not to walk alone in the wildlife area.

Submitted by,



Muriel S. Kotin, Steering Committee Member