

## Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Areas Steering Committee

Minutes — January 28, 2003

The meeting was chaired by Rosemarie White and was also attended by David Avshalomov, Glenn Bailey, Sharon Brewer, Tish Gillenson, Gene Greene, Steve Hartman, Muriel Kotin, Joyce MacKinnon, Ranger Anne Waisgerber, James Ward, Melanie Winter and guest Mike Aubrey from the Archery Range. MTA did not attend, although they were expected. Steve H reported on meetings with MTA he has attended. Muriel will chair this committee for the next 6 months.

Minutes of the November, 2002 meeting were approved after two changes. The spelling of Councilmember Galanter's name was corrected, page 2. Page 3: Glenn attended the IRP meeting, as well as Melanie and Rosemarie.

Sharon Brewer expected to address Carvel Bass and this committee tonight about her concerns at Lake Balboa. However, when Sharon spoke to Carvel before this meeting, he told her that would not be appropriate, since she had already addressed the committee. James said that Recreation and Parks (R&P) has spoken with Fish and Game who are not able to be very helpful. R&P are trying to minimize the impact of fishing on the wildlife. R&P has not heard anything further about federal rangers from the ACOE — they may hear at a meeting coming up, as the ACOE is apparently pursuing getting rangers. Committee members discussed brochures, signage to improve behavior towards wildlife at Lake Balboa. Rosemarie will try to have Carvel send us an e-mail with his comments on this.

Melanie commented that at today's Integrated Resources Plan (IRP) meeting, City Sanitation mentioned the rapid busway as a way to get reclaimed water to Pierce College for irrigation.

R&P (James Ward): The new clubhouse restaurant is open for lunch and dinner, and is very nice. City Forestry Division is working on planting trees and shrubs along the west side of Woodley Ave. The committee strongly requested that the trees and plants be ALL NATIVE! The plantings will be watered manually until established. The committee suggested using reclaimed water from City San's median project. Parts of the entrance road leading to R&P headquarters from Woodley Ave. will also be landscaped. The design will be reworked to be all native plants and use reclaimed water — and be an educational showcase. They're applying for a MWD grant. James has not heard from Kevin Regan about R&P being represented at the IRP meetings. James will follow up. Rosemarie mentioned that City San will probably attend our February meeting. The next release of a report will be mid Feb. James is getting mixed instructions about the future roles of Park Advisory Boards (PABs), so he is going slow on dissolving the Users' Committee and Friends of Lake Balboa. Volunteers on PABs will no longer have to be fingerprinted unless they work with

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children. James should know in a month or two. R&P is aware of the graffiti on the rock monument south of Burbank Blvd. James will follow up.

Japanese Garden (Gene Greene): Springtime in the Garden will be in May (2<sup>nd</sup> weekend?) Perhaps we should have tables and tours of the WA. Gene will bring info on the schedule next month. Joyce complained of the gunlike sounds from the Japanese Garden frightening the schoolchildren on a recent nature tour. They are used to deter white pelicans from devouring the fish the garden uses to control algal growth in their waterways. The homeless problem along Haskell Creek seems to be getting controlled.

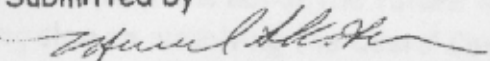
Archery Range (Mike Aubrey): He is concerned that the preservative used for their hay bales may be antifreeze, which poisonous to birds and other wildlife.

Committee Reports: Tish Gillenson reported for the Canada Goose Project that the geese are starting to leave the area for the season. For California Native Plant Society, Steve Hartman passed out a sheet on coyote bush.

Glenn Bailey announced that the Resource Conservation District / SMM's acting director is now Rebecca Barkin. The RCD received Rosemarie's request on behalf of this committee for grant writing assistance and it will be followed up. RCD has joined an organization that can help identify potential private granting sources. The Proposition K competitive grant application process is coming up. James said R&P would support an application from one of our organizations for weed control in the basin, etc.

Rosemarie White announced the Sierra Club is doing a workshop this weekend on desert archaeological monitoring. For The River Project, Melanie Winter took the Rancho Sierra Botanic Garden people on a tour of the Sepulveda Basin and Tujunga Wash. A lot of grading for the Tujunga Wash golf course has already happened there. David Avshalomov said that TreePeople have a continuing commitment to plant and do plant care in the basin. TreePeople as well as CNPS are interested in any grants for education any of us come across. Ranger Anne Waisgerber is developing an in-class parks program for inner-city youngsters. She is setting up a junior ranger program and an educational trailer and would like our help reviewing the educational material before it is printed. Audubon had no announcements.

Submitted by



Muriel S. Kotin, Member Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Areas Steering Committee