

Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Areas Steering Committee Minutes Jan 27, 2004
The meeting was called to order by Tom Persons at 0714Pm.

Voting Members present were: Tom Persons, Sandy Wohlgemuth, Rosemarie White, Glenn Bailey, Steve Hartman, John Holmes, and Melanie Winter.

Alternates, Non Voting members and Visitors present were: Sharon Brewer, Gene Green, James Ward, Linda Levitan, and Joyce MacKinnon.

Corrections to Minutes of Nov. 25 2003.

Steve said there was only a small infestation of Pampas Grass in the west reserve area.

Glenn stated that there was no indication of members present in Minutes. Also that the Chair is responsible for bringing last eight month member attendance sheets to every meeting.

Those present then approved the minutes with these corrections.

Rosemarie announced she is the Chair of the Sierra Club Membership Committee.

Voting Rules Discussion

Glenn inserted preserving and enhancing the wildlife, habitat. Rosemarie stated that people in wildlife could join or in active conservation could join group. Melanie stated that voting member should be an environmental group. Steve called the question on voting rules. And all were in favor. The following is an updated version of the voting rules with addition words added or changed in capital letters.

Voting Members of the Committee shall consist of one representative from any active organization interested in PRESERVING AND ENHANCING the wildlife, habitat, natural, and open-space RESOURCES of the Sepulveda Basin, or an alternate representative from such organization. An organization will be considered active if a representative has attended at least four of the immediately preceding eight meetings. Organizations interested in the above in a general or peripheral way, such as park user organizations NEIGHBORHOOD Councils and homeowners associations may be ex-officio (non-voting) members.

Steve asked to call the question on voting rules. All members present were in favor.

Rules should be on letter head including representatives and alternatives. Book of Minutes kept by Chair. The suggestion was to vote at next meeting on Voting Procedure. Muriel was the person suggested to send around E-mail on voting procedures.

Wildlife Area Web Page:

The current page is static because no one updates this page. Steve suggested the name site be Sepulvedabasinwildlife.org. He would like to be the bottleneck for the product. Members should send Steve blurb of events in the area.

Glenn suggested that they call a Consortium Meeting next month. Melanie made a motion to receive all information. Rosemarie 2nd the motion. The motion passed.

Ljnda Levitan Field Deputy for Council Member Tony Cardenas: She noted that recently 9 cars were parked in the red curb no parking zone. Approximately a hundred homeless people were removed from the So. Area of the Reserve. 9 tons of trash was removed. The fence by the bus way was sealed up. The problem is that new homeless people come. James Ward stated that there is another nine tons of trash which needs to be removed.

Steve added A-G-O-E plan for over pass plans from 405 to 101 needs to be obtained. He suggested writing Sen. Brad Sherman, Cal. EPA. and that we be notified of its meetings. We need more information as the plan may involve land in the Wildlife Preserve. Also ask Carvel Bass for the person responsible for the design.

Recreation and Parks: James announced that there is a new General Manager appointed. His name is Jon Mukri and he will come on board the 2nd week in Feb. He met him but does not know what his agendas will be. The first user committee was held with Ken Novak. The

CalTrans

Flight Field requested removing remote control cars from entrance to park. A place will be designated and this place will be funded by the Flight Field Group.

Japanese Garden: Gene Green reported that two planes from The Flight Field have flown over The Tillman Plant in the past month. Steve asked when The Sepulveda Garden Center will be opened? James said that they are 4 to 6 months behind and it will not be opened until the first of the year 2005. Glenn asked about the Wildlife boundary on the site proposed for the remote controlled cars. He also asked about the schedule for large events and perhaps it should be available for our next meeting. Melanie asked about budget considerations as R & P is a funded group. The Japanese Garden Wetlands report is not ready yet. If it is approved it will be built in about 2 years. Spring Time in the Garden will celebrate its 20th anniversary May 15th and they will invite approximately 200 people. This group will be invited. Woodley median strip planting and irrigation project is in the planning. A sign will be requested for Wildlife Way, but this is not a fast process and we must be patient.

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L.A. Audubon Society: Sandy reported that in the Klamath River area they are using all their water for farming and not letting enough water run in the river for fish. There has been a huge Salmon kill.

S.F.V. Audubon Report: Joyce presented pictures of children on field trips for the audience to view. Also she told of problems in the North portion of the Wildlife area. There is at least one encampment in the north south east area up near the dam wall. There were alcoholic drinking problems in the north area. The first was on Tues. Jan. 27th at the outlet of the Lake. Three men were approaching a group of children. Two were holding plastic bags which appeared to be food and the third was holding a half gallon of amber colored liqueur of which approximately 1/4th was consumed. I either gave them an evil eye or an astonished look. The man quickly ducked the liqueur under his shirt. The second event took place on Jan 29th. Two men and two women came into the boat ramp area where we do our microscope station. They were talking loudly repeating themselves and drinking out of a box of wine in front of the children. One of the naturalists walked up to them with a very red face because she was angry. She told them they had to go right now because we had a class there. They apologized in loud voices, but left.

Canada Goose Project: Rosemarie reported that Sara Stone, David Eklund, and Trish Gill should be struck from mailing list. The count of geese in the basin is low and probably some geese will start migrating back next week. There is a B.F.I. meeting next week over restored wetlands. They are asking for an expansion in Sunshine Canyon and are willing to donate over 1000 trees.

CA. Native Plant Society: Steve handed out two excellent articles written by Bill Neill on Arundo Control. The weed project for the basin will cost approximately \$2400.00 next year. The C.N.P.S. has pledged \$1250 towards this project. At the next meeting Steve will ask for matching grants from this committee. Melanie added that the watershed council will be requested to leverage money for this project.

R.C.D.: Glenn stated that the education and restoration projects continue, but the Topanga Watershed Grant ran out.

Sierra Club : Rosemarie said that even though she is the Chair of the Environmental Conservation Comm. She wants to recruit new people to represent the Sierra Club. The Canada Goose Project is her main interest and she wants to represent them. The Sierra Club is in huge fight with management. She feels she is doing double duty and there is a lack of new blood in the organization. She will call Jill Swift about a new representative. Save the open space party and Re-enchanting the City will be held on Oct. 16th 2004.

The River Project: Melanie reported that 3 classes of students will visit the basin tomorrow. There will be a Poetry Jam Spam on C.B.S. in Feb. The LA River Master Plan Landscaping Guidelines and Plant Palettes booklet is almost done.

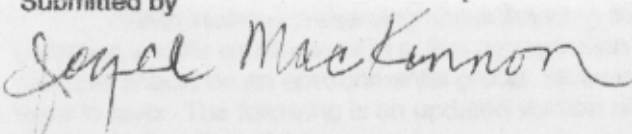
So. Western Herp. Society: John Holmes will represent them now. He reported that a Reptile Study begins in March. He will update us on this project.

Tree People: Tom stated that they are planning to plant 20,000 trees in the burn areas of San Bernardino County.

The next chair was chosen and Melanie Winters accepted the responsibility.

The meeting was adjourned at 10 PM.

Submitted by



Joyce MacKinnon, Alternate Member Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Areas Steering Committee