

SEPUVEDA BASIN WILDLIFE STEERING COMMITTEE
Minutes -- October 24, 2006

Dexter Kelly chaired the meeting. Also attending were other voting members Glenn Bailey, Sharon Ford, John Holmes, Muriel Kotin, and Rosemarie White, as well as non-voting members, alternates and guests Carvel Bass, Sharon Brewer, David Honda, Lynda Levitan, Joyce MacKinnon, Bob Munsey, Kris Ohlenkamp, Abel Perez, Stefanie Smith, and Michael Tou.

There were self introductions. Rosemarie White is the rep of the Encino Neighborhood, which it was clarified is a non-voting position. Minutes of 9/26/06 meeting were accepted without change.

San Fernando Valley Fair in Woodley Park: David Honda, President explained the fair promotes agriculture, technology and livestock. Four-day fair. They estimate 14,000 people over a 4-day period. State's funding of \$180,000 annually will be eliminated. So they need to be self supporting and hope the more central location of Woodley Park will enhance their gate and allow them to be revenue neutral. They will include a small carnival, food vendors. They will not be in the Wildlife Reserve!

Rosemarie opposes the Valley Fair being in Woodley Park because of the migratory birds and impacts on neighbors. Dexter asked whether access to the Wildlife Reserve will be closed; it is up to R&P. Where will the livestock be located? The fair will be in Woodley 1 and much of Woodley 2. The livestock will be small animals: rabbits, pigs, steer. They clean things up well. The livestock will be in pens. Carvel commented that the fair has worked only marginally well in the area they have used in Hansen dam, but that communications have been lacking. An unauthorized road was built there by the fair. The fair will need to propose in writing with great deal what they propose and commit to. The fair will try to coordinate with schools more this year. Muriel and Kris opposed large gatherings in Sepulveda Basin and have concerns about the impact of livestock on nesting songbirds. Glenn expressed regret that the Fair has not been able to coordinate with LA Pierce College. David Honda agrees that logically the Fair should be there, but there is a lot of politics in the way. Glenn expressed concern about the R&P permitting process is last-minute. Access to the Wildlife Reserve and soccer fields would likely be lost during the fair. Glenn feels that the hours and extent of entertainment need to be clarified: normally 8 pm to 9 pm. The carnival is small

and intended to be for children. Carvel commented that the Fair has worked at Hansen and things got put back to normal, despite some chaos. He would like to see environmental assessment up front. He recommends that committee member organizations have outreach booths. Glenn asked about set up and break down days: a few days before and also after. Rosemarie asked about closing down Woodley; answer, probably only Saturday night and Sunday. They will have a shuttle service. Sharon Ford asked about the number of people when the fair was at the Burbank Equestrian Center. 40,000, but that was with a rodeo. They need 25,000-30,000 attendance to break even. Carvel urged that all parties analyze the various environmental issues, not just say yea or nay.

Glenn suggested that we get something from the Fair about their plans and invite Mr. Honda and CEO Catherine Garcia. Stefanie said R&P supports having the Fair here, if problems can be worked out. Carvel said the questions need to be asked and the Valley Fair needs to come back and with the answers. What will be the traffic plan? Where are you going to put things? Route of shuttle buses? Members should all e-mail questions to Dexter. Dexter will combine them and send them to Mr. Honda.

John Holmes reported they're finding lizards and garter snakes in the fields west of Woodley Avenue (WR area near the airplane fields). Bob Munsey asked if the parking at the Air National Guard might be used. Muriel was concerned about something being said about the carnival being located west of Woodley; this is part of the Wildlife Reserve, except for the model airplane fields.

Wildlife Reserve Status as Mitigation Project: Dexter is getting all the EIRs from the Bureau of Sanitation on a CD and will try to dig out whatever he can about the mitigation status. Dexter will miss next meeting and hopes his alternate for LAAS Bob Munsey will bring the information. Carvel said that a mitigation area doesn't necessarily preclude in law putting a freeway on it. But the law does insist that taking or impacting a good, important area requires mitigation.

Fall Festival and Publicity: Muriel asked for participation.

Wildlife Reserve Brochure: Rosemarie will give Muriel the printers' information or

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the plates. Then Muriel should get printing quotes.

Sandy Wohlgemuth Memorial: Trees In Tribute program charges \$150/tree. Or we might plant a grove with trees paid for by consortium or donated by DWP. Glenn requested that Dexter consult Sandy's family to learn their wishes.

Dexter will miss November and January meetings. Bob Munsey will chair with the help of the committee. Please submit agenda items by 11/9.

US Army Corps of Engineers: Carvel said the colonel signed the FONSI (Finding of No Significant Impact) for the fireroad. It requires improving 3 acres in Basin for 1 impacted acre. Steve H suggested removing the exotic species (Shamel Ash) in Haskell Cr. He hasn't heard back from the fire chief on this. Lynda requested that Carvel e-mail her what he e-mailed the fire chief. Carvel had nothing to report on Bull Creek. Nor did Michael Tou.

Recreation and Parks Department: Stefanie announced that Abel Perez is taking over for her. 818.756-8189. There was a small fire in the flight field area this afternoon. Signs for Wildlife Way: Ken Novak says it will take 6-9 months more. The armed robbery on 9/23 resulted in the victim's binoculars being taken. The robber fled. Glenn complained that the Users' Committee meeting that was held two weeks ago was not announced and requested that Stefanie pass his complaint.

Congressman Brad Sherman: Michael Tou said formalities for Bull Creek approval are still pending in the ACOE. Hopefully there will be more on this and funding next month. The Tapia Bros. land will be up for bid November 2007. It will remain agricultural lease land until the city is ready to request it as recreational land. It will be leased for 5 years, the first 2 years firm, then with options each year for 3 years to give the city a chance to incorporate it as recreational land.

Council District 6: Lynda said Saturday's Senior Health Fair was successful and would have been a great opportunity for publicity.

Canada Goose Project: Rosemarie said the migratory geese seem to have started arriving. Mary Nichols will be the moderator of a discussion on the Endangered

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Species Act on 11/12 at the Autry Museum. 1-2:30.

Southwestern Herpetologists Society: John said they are working on their survey.

Resource Conservation District of the Sta. Monica Mts.: Glenn announced their education coordinator is taking a leave of absence.

Submitted by

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