

Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Areas Steering Committee  
Minutes - November 28, 2006

No representative from Rec & Parks attended the meeting. Possibly this absence was due to the announcement letter and agenda reading "Tuesday, November 29, 2006," which was the correct day of the week, but the date should have been the 28<sup>th</sup>. The committee was admitted to the Rec & Parks conference room by a maintenance worker who said she had been told her there would be no meetings tonight.

Bob Munsey chaired the meeting. Attending were other voting members Glenn Bailey, Snowy Dodson, Sharon Ford, John Holmes, Muriel Kotin, Melanie Winter and Rosemarie White. Non-voting members, alternates and guests were Sharon Brewer, Gene Greene and Joyce MacKinnon.

Self Introductions were followed by Public Comment: Sharon Brewer said there have been many dead coots and other birds at Lake Balboa, some from fishing line, many from unknown causes. A lot of birds have been swallowing fishing line. Some birds have appeared drunk. Muriel said she would e-mail the committee the tel. no. of the county public veterinary health department. Sharon suggested that the SFVAS display board might include info about what the birds eat and that feeding them human food is inadvisable.

San Fernando Valley Fair, Woodley Park: Nobody from the fair attended the meeting. Glenn will e-mail the committee information about the coming meeting of the fair's board. The board of directors of the RCD feels we should push to be sure that there be no impact on our natural areas. Glenn wants this on next month's agenda. The fair will be June 7-10, 2007.

Wildlife Reserve Status as Mitigation Project: Gene said there was mitigation for the berm around Tillman and compensating excavation: plantings south of Burbank Blvd. and also north of the Wildlife Lake. Gene does not believe that the Wildlife Reserve was mitigation for the TWRP. Free water for the Wildlife Lake was, as was the Japanese Garden. It was agreed to leave this item on the next agenda so that Steve Hartman can be here for further discussion.

Fall Festival in the Wildlife Reserve: Muriel described the event as planned for December 2. Building the Reserve's constituency is the goal.

Truck Parking on Woodley: Muriel explained the history of the septage receiving facility located at the Tillman Water Reclamation Plant; that the approval for its use placed a limitation that septage hauling trucks enter and exit the facility only from Victory Blvd.; and that the septage trucks were banned from driving on Woodley Ave. In recent months she observed Wastec septage trucks parking on Woodley and transferring loads on the shoulder, as well as driving along Woodley. Gene said that he forwarded her concerns about this to the appropriate person who had already contacted Wastec and explained the rules. Wastec will follow the rules. Gene said that if we find big rig trucks parking on Woodley to be a problem, we should ask the Dept. of Transportation.

Japanese Garden: Gene asked for a member of this committee to help let him know what we would like for an informational kiosk. He described recent and planned cultural events at the garden. The garden currently needs a lot of maintenance. They're having a flooding problem: the Air National Guard to their north is building up their property so there is more runoff. Kawanna Pavilion is still being worked on.

Absence of a Rec & Parks Representative: Glenn suggested someone communicate with Abel Perez our concern that nobody showed up from Rec & Parks. Gene pointed out that the agenda shows the date of this meeting as Tuesday (tonight) 11/29 (tomorrow). Rosemarie will phone Abel tomorrow.

Committee Members Reports:

California Native Plant Society: Snowdy said their next meeting will be 12/12 at 7:30 at Sepulveda Garden Center with members' slides and Geoff Burleigh's pictures of mariposa lilies. The plant sale was very successful.

Canada Goose Project: Rosemarie reported there are about 500 geese here; some migrants have arrived. Rec & Parks Valley Region will have a Winter Solstice event at Lake Balboa Saturday 12/16, noon - 4:00, a free family event.

Southwestern Herpetologists Society: John Holmes announced they will have a booth with rehabilitated native animals at the Fall Festival.

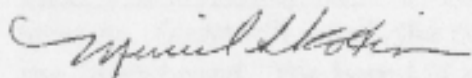
*Resource Conservation District of the Santa Monica Mts.:* Glenn said the status of their education coordinator - whether she will return from San Diego - is uncertain. Muriel highly praised Steven Vodantis who is handling the position. The RCD will relocate to Peter Strauss Ranch fairly soon. 2/4/07-2/7/07 the national association of conservation districts will meet locally for a conference and field trips. (See web.)

*Sierra Club:* Sharon Ford is trying hard to increase interest in the Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Reserve among the Sierra Club's Valley Group.

*San Fernando Valley Audubon:* Muriel's report came under Fall Festival. It was suggested that for the WR Brochure, she phone Betty Ethridge to learn whether it's on her or Gene's computer for updating and that Muriel ask Rosemarie and Steve H about printer.

Next meeting: Tuesday, January 23, 2007. Rosemarie suggested the chair e-mail us all in the interim.

Submitted by



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