

SEPULVEDA BASIN WILDLIFE AREAS STEERING COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes of Tuesday, 26 August 2008

Held at Recreation and Parks Valley Region Headquarters

6335 Woodley Avenue; Van Nuys, California

The meeting was called to order at 6:42 p.m. by Snowdy Dodson.

Those present introduced themselves:

Voting representatives/alternates: Snowdy Dodson, California Native Plant Society; Rosemarie White, Canada Goose Project; Glenn Bailey, Resource Conservation District of the Santa Monica Mountains; Robert Munsey, L.A. Audubon Society; Mark Osokow, SFV Audubon Society; Sharon Ford, SFV Group Sierra Club.

City staff: Abel Perez, Recreation and Parks

Other attendees: Joyce MacKinnon, Sharon Brewer, Ed Michalec (signed in but did not stay for the meeting).

Determination of Quorum: Six voting organizations present constituting a quorum.

Minutes of July 29, 2008 Special Meeting: Motion made (M. Osokow), seconded (R. Munsey) and passed to approve the minutes as edited (insert Friends of Lake Balboa).

Announcements: M. Osokow noted fence along Bull Creek has been set up; cow birds are in one place along lake.

Public Comments: No comments were made.

Special Agenda Items: None on agenda.

CONTINUING BUSINESS:

Caltrans Selection Of Alternative 1 - discussion, follow up, news, to do's:

Muriel Kotin sent letter for SFV Audubon Society commending Caltrans selection of Alternative 1 and commenting on "bridge" on Burbank Blvd., area west of Haskell Creek mitigation site, planting of vegetation, dredging areas in Basin to compensate for loss of areas south of Dam (attach copy to original minutes).

J. MacKinnon opposes bridge on Burbank Blvd. or the taking anyone's homes.

Motion made (M. Osokow) and seconded (G. Bailey) that the WASC write a letter to Caltrans opposing Burbank Boulevard bridge extension in Initial Study/Environmental

Assessment. Following extensive discussion, an amendment was made (R. White) and seconded (R. Munsey) to add if letter sent out under name of WASC, it would be in our best interest to include that the "WASC is not opposed to Alternative 1." Following discussion the amendment passed by a 4-0-2 vote. The maker of the original motion withdrew same.

The original motion as amended was moved again (G. Bailey) and seconded (R. Munsey), and passed by a 4-0-2 vote.

The previously distributed State Department of Fish and Game letter will be reviewed at the next meeting.

A motion was made (R. Munsey) and seconded (S. Ford) to defer any letter writing (on Caltrans project) until the next meeting. Motion failed by 3-3-0 vote.

Ron Kozinski of Caltrans will be invited to the January meeting.

Bull Creek Restoration Project - ongoing updates: A. Perez stated walkway may be reopened for the upcoming holiday weekend; ACOE emailed him today. In that regard, he looks for safety, irrigation, electrical, and tree replacement issues. He stated contractor is good and on schedule. The WASC would appreciate receiving monthly updates from the ACOE.

Extra Garbage Cans For Sepulveda Basin: A. Perez reported they are now in use with the lids but there is a problem with a woman who takes off lids and doesn't replace them.

Russian Thistle Weed Abatement Program: S. Dodson said Steve Hartman reports Bill Neill of Riparian Repairs is to eradicate by spraying "here and there" rather than everywhere; it is a bad year for Russian thistle.

Signage Issues Update - behavioral signs: Kathleen Hanover to email when any update.

Lake Balboa Advisory Committee Update: A. Perez reported on the second meeting held on Thursday of last week. Discussion included inviting DOT Parking for enforcement, community cleanup, inviting CD 6, agenda, and minutes. A flyer was mailed out for the meeting and the next meeting will be the third Thursday of October. He stated the meetings are not covered by the State Brown Act.

Brown Act: It was observed that this meeting agenda was not posted in bulletin board as required.

Standing Rules Amendment To Establish An Assistant Chairperson: G. Bailey gave a historical overview of the proposal. There was discussion of the title i.e., secondary rotating chair versus previous rotating chair. The subject will be considered at the next meeting and G. Bailey will revise proposal language accordingly.

NEW BUSINESS:

REPORTS AND UPDATES:

Agencies and Officials:

City Department of Recreation and Parks: A. Perez is trying to get "no overnight parking" signs on Woodley Avenue between dusk and dawn. This will be discussed next month. There are persons changing oil and illegally dumping on Woodley and Burbank.

Committee Members:

California Native Plant Society: S. Dodson distributed latest newsletter and flyer for plant sale October 11 and 12.

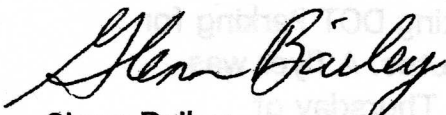
Canada Goose Project: R. White reported on new counters training class at Chatsworth Nature Preserve; co-sponsoring with the Department of Recreation and Parks Re-enchanting The City conference October 18 at Friendship Auditorium; goose count starts first Sunday of October.

San Fernando Valley Audubon Society: M. Osokow reported next membership meeting September 25 at Encino Community Center; the Sepulveda Basin educational program will begin next month.

Sierra Club, San Fernando Valley Group: S. Ford reported taking the SFV Group Management Committee on a walk through; discussed doing clean up in the Fall. Discussion followed about using recyclable trash bags.

The meeting adjourned at 8:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Glenn Bailey