

**Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Areas Steering Committee**  
**September 27, 2011 -- Minutes**

The meeting was called to order at 6:35PM by Chair Steve Hartman. A quorum was established. Self introductions were made. Also attending were voting members Glenn Bailey, Muriel Kotin, and Bob Munsey; and non-voting members and guests Jan Kidwell (Sierra Club Rim of the Valley Group -- Conservation Committee), Tom Leveque, Malea McKeown, Oscar Urrutia, and Cynthia Weichelt,.

Minutes of the special meeting on August 23, 2011 were approved with a correction at the end of the first line to show that it was a special meeting.

Announcements: The California Native Plant Society (CNPS) plant sale will be October 29 & 30 at the Sepulveda Garden Ctr.

San Fernando Valley Audubon Society's (SFVAS) Beginners & Family Birdwalks will resume on second Saturdays October through March at 9AM. These walks have not gotten onto the Events Calendar yet, despite Muriel's request a month or two ago.

**A walkthrough of the Wildlife Reserve will take place Tuesday October 25 at 3:30 to 6PM.** Meet at Stonehenge. A proposed location for a Commemorative Grove will be selected during the walkthrough. There will not be a committee meeting that evening.

Public Comment:

*Possible Festival at Lake Balboa:* Oscar Urrutia of GEC Events: He helps organize large public events in the SFV, usually with non profits. He is organizing a festival on Oct 13, 2012 for his company and is looking at Hansen Dam and Lake Balboa as the site. He wants the event to be as clean & green as possible. Orange Line is a plus for Lake Balboa. There will be one stage that would be designed to represent a local native animal and there would be background sounds of that animal. No sales except food from trucks. Artists and musicians that focus on nature. The

festival will be "small," kept it to maybe 2,000 people for the first year. The Steering Committee could have booths, lead hikes. A percent of the ticket sales would go to the SB Wildlife Consortium. The Basin location would either be north of Lake Balboa or the Kite Area northeast of Balboa Blvd and the LA River.

Glenn was concerned that Lake Balboa park not be closed to the public. Pierce & Valley colleges would charge \$5 to park and then many of attendees could take the Orange Line. There would probably be pay parking in the SB. No streets would be shut down. Hours would be something like 11 - 4. Perhaps our organizations can offer nature walks at the WR before the entertainment begins.

*Filming Blocking Access to WR:* Malea McKeown runs several mornings a week in the WR. On September 21 in the early morning, she and her boyfriend Farhad Hooshivar (who emailed Steve H through the website) found all the parking lots taken over by film crews and security guards turning people away from parking. A few days before the filming, Muriel had spoken to Nicole of the R&P Film Office who had agreed to always hold at least 10 WR parking spaces for the public for this filming and all other filming. Tom Leveque will speak to Nicole. Glenn suggested that film permits get posted ahead at the WR. He also suggested that Malea carry and use the OPS phone number when she sees misbehavior in the WR.

Master Plan: Steve has been in contact with the ACOE who asked him to review their vegetation maps and to discuss the advisability of trimming up of trees along Haskell Cr in the south reserve.

Large Events: The recent Children's Festival in Woodley Park did not impact access and seemed to work OK.

WR Updates:

*Interpretive signs:* Regarding the notice board on the side of the restroom building, Muriel would like to see the Lexan door replaced and a 2<sup>nd</sup> one added

where there's now exposed, torn corkboard. Steve suggested Tom let Abel know that the Consortium might pay for both doors if the city will replace them.

Ron Fegan suggested designs for Do Not Harm the Wildlife signs. The committee did not think the signs would help.

*Security Camera:* Bob asked about the status of this possibility. Muriel described her homeowner associations lack of success with them. Cynthia said it might work if they were linked to a police monitoring room.

*Street Address for Wildlife Reserve:* Tom will see if he can do something about an address for the WR.

Committee member Reports:

Resource Conservation District of the Sta. Monica Mts.: Their board voted to send a letter to the ACOE about the Bull Creek erosion. Encino Patch has new editor who will be interested in events.

Sierra Club: Jan doesn't know whether they will continue to be active on this committee. She is looking for someone from one of their local groups to do it.

CNPS: Has been weeding on a regular basis in the WR. The orange fences in Bull Creek Restoration Area have been taken down. Steve attended the first meeting of the SMM Watersheds Council, which is of areas that drain to SM Bay and northwest to Arroyo Sequit. That may lead him to the IRWMP.

SFVAS: The family walks and field trips for school classes will resume in October.

Fran Pavley is hosting a workshop on the LAR on Oct. 12, per an invitation that Sharon Ford forwarded to committee members.

Next meeting will be November 22 at 6:30, November 7 the deadline for agenda items. On the agenda will be selecting an emergency committee meeting place for when Basin is closed. (There will be a walkthrough October 25 at 3:30, as above.)

Submitted by

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