

**Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Areas Steering Committee
Meeting July 25, 2017 -- Approved Minutes**

Chair Glenn Bailey called the meeting to order at 6:37pm. Introductions were made and a quorum established.

Voting members attending were Shelly Backlar, Glenn Bailey, Theresa Brady, Muriel Kotin, Robert Munsey, Joe Phillips, and George Waddell. Non-voting alternates and members were Patricia Bates, Cindy Kurland, Paola Jaramillo and David Troy. Visitors included Anne Abramson, Alyssa Boyle, K. Flores, Xienophon Gilkas, Barb Heideman, Beverly Lewis, Robert McBroom, Esteban Olivares, Evelyn Solano, Phil Serpa, and several LAFD personnel from Fire Station 88 who did not sign in.

Fire Department: There's a proposal to do a controlled burn near model airplane field. There tend to be a half dozen of fires there every year. They are concerned a fire will jump Woodley or Burbank on a windy day. There are 82 acres. They would burn 2 or 3 acres at a time in the cool season, very controlled and careful. Training advantage. CNPS concerned for native plants and will there be any mitigation of fire-following weeds? Phil Serpa of the ACOE hadn't known about the proposal. ACOE will be consulted. Captain Deide is the main Fire Dept. contact.

LAPD: SLO Evelyn Solano, Captain Beverly Lewis, and SLO Steve Olivares attended. Captain Lewis is aware of many of our concerns. They need to prioritize. She met with CM Nury Martinez and secured funding for overtime details in the park weekends Aug 5 thru Labor Day weekend. CM Koretz has also provided some money. Unpermitted events, illegal parking, drinking, etc. will not be tolerated. LAPD is monitoring social media. Some bike patrols, as well as on foot and in patrol cars. They are going into the Wildlife Reserve too. Calls to 877--ASK LAPD about problems in the park are considered level 2, medium urgency. There will be responses when feasible. Zero tolerance. She will ask for similar funding for next summer. LAPD will be trained on relevant Municipal Codes for Wildlife Reserve and Sepulveda Basin in general. LAPD won't be going after bouncy houses. Glenn requested that SLO Parra also visit us. They will try to get volunteer cavalry.

Membership Requests: Shelly Backlar will be the representative for FoLAR (friends of the LA River) and Stephen Mejia their alternate. Joe Phillips will try to get an alternate for Sierra Club Angeles Chapter.

Cleanup of Haskell Creek on Sept 16: Muriel will email flyer to all.

Minutes of Meeting 5/23/17: Approved without change.

ACOE: Phil Serpa reported that Ken Wong is back on the VMP for So Reserve and expects to have it complete this fiscal year. This should allow the ACOE maintenance people to do some work this fall. There has been extensive internal review and there will be more after Ken updates it. Glenn noted that the committee would be interested in giving more input on the almost final version.

Regarding homeless encampments south of Burbank Blvd., they've requested weekday closing of one lane eastbound to do the work. This is Corps' land, near where city easement was cleared by city in March. Only non-native vegetation and debris will be removed. Trespassing notices will be posted. Joe recounted recently finding shopping carts near Burbank Blvd on both sides, just west of the 405 and a lot of junk. He sees a great need for the City and Corps to clean up trash in that rather inaccessible area. When we see something like that, we should feel free to email Phil.

Trenching is going on in the agricultural fields south of the dam. What is this about? Not our purview.

Federal Park Rangers will be hired in Sept or Oct, two of them for Corps jurisdiction in LA Co and OC, primarily focused on Sepulveda Basin and Santa Fe Dam. Hopefully some weekend and early evening coverage. The Rangers hopefully will meet and work with us including helping organize cleanups and outreach/interpretive services, the latter on city-managed parts of the Basin.

RAP: Paola. Plexiglas has been ordered for informational displays in the WR. Boulders along Wildlife Way don't look like an option; she and Jorge are looking at other possibilities. Graffiti is an ongoing issue, they're working on daily. Pat B said the city did a great job cleaning up the Bull Creek restoration, using a skip loader. Trash building up again. Albert Torres is best person to notify. City can't take away personal possessions. Pat is working with housing services who are starting to get Prop H funds. Joe commented that the trails are clean east of Haskell Creek, but not west side. Muriel requested vegetation trimming at viewing areas and along paths very soon after 9/15, like RAP did last September. No new fencing yet. They're looking at new products.

Reconsideration of Neighborhood Council Representatives' role on SBWASC: Glenn read the text of the proposal he made 11/22/16. Cindy K spoke in favor. George Waddell against. Terrie against. Robert Munsey in favor. Glenn in favor. Muriel against. Shelly B uncertain. Joe in favor. Pat in favor. Karin Flores against. David Troy against. For: 3, Against: 3, Abstentions: 1 (Backlar). **Motion Fails.**

Park Rangers (City): Glenn to write to General Manager as per last month's motion requesting rangers and send copies to others.

Ticks/Lyme disease: Bob Munsey reported on an increasing problem, half of cases from back yards, many children affected. [Www.lymedisease.org](http://www.lymedisease.org).

SBWASC Walkthrough of Bull Creek Ecosystem Restoration Area: Pat would be happy to lead a walk there. 4:30 the day of the September meeting (9/26), park on the dirt parking lot. She's very concerned about dry mustard over her head and homeless using fire.

BirdFest: Does SBWASC want to have its own booth? The Sense of the Committee is to ask for all member organizations booths clustered together, hopefully many of them featuring the SBWR. Muriel to see how many brochures there are, look into update and the Consortium reprinting.

Yahoo Group for WASC? Only 5 of 16 have signed up. Discussion.

Weeding: -- Steve H submitted a bill for knives \$46. Handed to Pat B for the *Consortium account* to reimburse Anne Abramson.

Public Comments: Karin Flores made an update on Proposed Styrofoam Ban. City of Burbank banned use of Roundup in city parks. David Troy is part of the weeding group and wants to end use of Roundup. He and Terrie requested the chair agendize the topic again. Glenn will consider the request.

Reports and Updates:

FoLAR: LA City RFQ (Request for Qualifications) out for Parcel G-2.

Sierra Club: There will be a meeting tomorrow about Bike Path

Lake Balboa NC meets 8/2.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00PM.

Next meeting is September 26, preceded by meeting at 4:30PM for a tour of Bull Cr.

Submitted by

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