

**Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Areas Steering Committee
Meeting November 27, 2018. Draft Minutes**

The 2018 Chair Terrie Brady called the meeting to order at 6:39 PM. Since the usual location was unavailable, the meeting was held at 18118 Sherman Way, Reseda, CA 91335. Thanks to Joe Phillips for use of the Reseda Neighborhood Council office location. A quorum was established.

Attending were voting members Theresa Brady, George Waddell, Glenn Bailey, Joe Phillips and Barbara Heidemann as Alternate for SFVAS. Non-voting members: Pat Bates, Ruth Doxsee and Cesar Lomeli. Community members: David Troy, Bill Neill. Guests were Chris Demonbrun and Melanie Winter.

Minutes of the special October meeting were approved with one correction.

WASC membership requests: Glenn Bailey is RCD Rep once again.

Announcements: Wildlife Pilot Study flyer was circulated. Joe attended and noted it was worthwhile. LA River Master Planning meetings continue, next in Studio City/North Hollywood, then in Reseda in February. Invasive Shot Hole Borer Workshops flyer for training 12/6-7. Due to the wild fires, Bird Fest was cancelled. The Padres Pioneros/Parent Pioneers will have an event in the basin on 12/1, including nature walks. Family Nature walks continue on the second Saturday of the month. The Chatsworth Nature Preserve Annual Open House is set for 4/6 from 10AM-3PM. Encino NC organizing a walk to view a potential site for Bridge Housing for homeless, reusing the former Nike Missile Battery, adjacent the AF recruiting site. The CNPS weeding group is growing in numbers from 3 to 8. Northridge Hospital Fun Run in the Sepulveda Basin area is scheduled for 4/20.

BAI Concert: BAI is planning to have the concert Labor Day weekend 2019 — in Woodley I. We should confirm early next year that they're staying in Woodley I only.

Program - Melanie Winter, of The River Project: Discussion of the LA City and County River plans. Discussed watershed management, not of just the LA River corridor, but including the critically important sub watersheds - i.e. Tujunga-Pacoima, Verdugo, Arroyo Seco, etc. Movement to "Unpave LA". The city was designed so that all properties drain at a 2% grade to move rainwater into the streets and out to the ocean. Today we need to capture the rain water so it can replenish our ground water and reduce flood risk, perhaps parcel by parcel. Today, channel capacity is not there for even a 100-year flood event, yet climate models make clear we will see much larger events in years ahead. Top priority goal for river plans should be to develop updated flood risk maps. Discussion of Flood Plain Buyback Programs and how they have worked in other parts of the country.

ACOE Tillman Plant Lease/Easement: Chris Demonbrun, LASAN, attended to make a brief presentation and answer SC questions. Tillman plant lease was for 49 years, until 2019 and

includes area from west of 405 to the edge of the plant. When asked about difference between Lease and Easement, Tillman sees no difference, but ACOE requested separation in their effort to keep approvals on a local basis and not stalled by requiring state and/or federal approvals. Easement is used for industrial components, like the Tillman plant; a Lease is required for recreational use, like the cricket fields. Long range, future expansions would need an EIA. ACOE is expected to respond to the EA responses. Concerns about the changes to the berm were discussed. Proposed mitigation would need directions from ACOE.

Recreation and Parks: Cesar reporting for Paola. Fencing repairs on hold as it is costly and will break again. Possibility of using boulders to block cars parking on lawns, requiring handoff from ACOE to Central Service Yard (CSY) to RAP. RAP will be ordering some new signs to replace damaged ones. Noted that "No Drone" signs went up about 2 years ago and were effective.

Draft Letter on Native Plants from SC to RAP: Previously modified letter was reviewed. Individual SC member's responses to RAP comments reviewed, including Glenn's recent email (for RCD) and Mark Osokow's response (for SFVA) as well as CNPS concerns. Vote was taken and the letter was approved. Terrie will send the letter, with minor updates like today's date.

Use of SC Funds for Rodenticide or Round Up: Request to prohibit the use of SBWA SC funds for either. Technically the Steering Committee does not have funds, only the Consortium does. Suggestion made to split the issues, separating Rodenticide from use of Round Up. Motion to approve no future funds for either was voted upon and approved.

Elected Officials Representatives: none present

LAPD: not represented. Apparently SLO Smith has Tuesdays off and can't attend these meetings. We should ask her to send a different officer, possibly Evelyn Solano.

Committee Updates: (covered during Announcements, while awaiting speaker)

Selection of next Chair: Continuing the SBWASC's rotating Chair. The new Chair for 2019 is George Waddell (California Native Plant Society).

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 PM.

Next meeting: January 22nd (fourth Tuesday), 2019, at the usual location: Balboa Sports Center, 17015 Burbank Bl., Encino, California

Submitted by

Barbara Heidemann
Alternate Member for San Fernando Valley Audubon Society
Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Areas Steering Committee