

Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Areas Steering Committee
Minutes September 29, 2009 (As Corrected)

General Business: Bob Munsey chaired. The other voting members attending were Glenn Bailey, Sharon Ford, Steve Hartman, Muriel Kotin and Rosemarie White. Non-voting members and guests were Kerri Barton, Sharon Brewer and Kenny Ortega. Bob requested that we let his phone ring long and that if he doesn't answer we call again, rather than depending on email. Please let him know of agenda items by phone. There was discussion of avoiding the confusion about the date of this meeting for the future.

A quorum was established. Minutes of the last meeting were approved as submitted. Muriel announced the first Family Bird Walk of the season will be October 10. She will email flyers to the committee.

Southwestern Herpetologists are lapsed members. It was suggested that organizations whose membership has lapsed be dropped from the agenda.

Public Comment:

Kenny Ortega offered to paint out graffiti on the Orange Line bridge over Bull Creek.

Sharon Brewer said there were horse droppings near the amphitheater recently. She suggested signs at the entrance to the WR with phone numbers for people to use when there are problems. Muriel was requested to insert them in the minutes.

Important phone numbers for the Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Reserve:

- Phone 911 for life-threatening or violent situations.
- Phone 213.978-4670 for other law enforcement issues. This is dispatch of the LA City Office of Public Safety (OPS).
- Phone the park ranger station 323 644-6661 for protection of wildlife resources - illegal fishing, fire hazard, vandalism, and information related to the integrity of this area. The park rangers work with OPS to coordinate response and focused patrols.
- For maintenance issues, phone the LA City Recreation and Parks Department's Valley Region Headquarters at 818.756-8190. To reserve areas of the Sepulveda Basin, for picnics or other special events, phone the Rec & Parks Valley Event Office at 818.756-8187. (Fees usually apply.)

Dog Policy: Glenn said that on September 4 Lynda Levitan met with/ park rangers. She would like to put up plenty of No Dogs signs, perhaps 30 of them. Tim has 3 no dog signs, not enough.

Weeds: Tim said that Steve Moe had the 3 tamarisks near the north end of the Bull Creek Restoration Project removed. Steve H said there is a huge amount of Russian thistle in the baseball fields in the west end of the Basin and in the sod field where the new sports center will be built. He suggested spraying them while they're small every year. Tim said the city will do that next year and has asked the LA Conservation Corps to remove as much Russian thistle as they can.

R&P has cleared a 14 foot wide roadway along the DG path/roads in the south reserve. In the north reserve, they have hauled away all the debris from the fire near the tunnel.

Clifford's Cricket Field: Bob signed and mailed the letter to R&P. He has not received a reply.

Meeting Time: Rosemarie requested changing the start time of these meetings from 6:30 to 7:00. It was Moved, Seconded and Passed unanimously to change our meeting time from 6:30 to 7:00PM.

Bird/aircraft Strike Mitigation: Bob has twice tried to get information from FAA. He distributed information on SB 481, which bill would suspend Fish & Game laws to protect planes at public use airports only on their own land. The bill passed and is now law.

October Meeting: There will be a tour before this Oct 27 meeting. Glenn suggested that the tour be of the Bull Creek Restoration Project, rather than the WR. Steve H suggested a driving tour in a city van so we can see Bull Creek and the WR, including the south reserve to see the recently cleared DG path/roads. Tim will see if he can get a van for 4:00 for the tour. Bob and Tim will coordinate. Tentatively we'll meet at R&P headquarters at 4:00.

Memorials for Jill Swift and Sandy Wohlgemuth: Steve H suggested that we look for possible planting projects during next month's tour.

Dirt Hauling Trucks on Woodley Avenue: These trucks are parking on the east side of Woodley in the mornings before they go to a construction site on Ventura

Boulevard. So far as we know, they are not doing anything illegal. The topic is dropped for the moment.

Dept. of Recreation & Parks: Tim mentioned that three more small homeless encampments have been removed since our last meeting from the South Reserve.

Other Governmental Agencies were not here. Glenn suggested the agencies ask for updates before meetings if they don't plan to attend.

California Native Plant Society: Their plant sale is this coming weekend.

Resource Conservation District of the Sta. Monica Mts.: Glenn requested Muriel to email the Basin training sessions to the committee - unless he does so first. The RCD board members would like a tour of Bull Creek.

Next Meeting will be 10/27 at 7PM with tour at 4PM. On the agenda will be whether to meet on 4th or last Tuesdays.

Submitted by

Muriel S. Kotin
Member Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Areas Steering Committee