

Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Areas Steering Committee
Meeting July 23, 2013 -Approved Minutes

Chair Glenn Bailey called the meeting to order at 6:38 PM. Self introductions were made.

Voting status of Canada Goose Project: This is their 4th meeting attended out of the most 8 recent, so they are now again a voting member of this committee. Glenn requested a letter on letterhead appointing a representative and alternate.

A quorum was established: 7 voting members present out of 8. Present were voting members Glenn Bailey, Terrie Brady, Glen Dake, Steve Hartman, Muriel Kotin, Robert Munsey and Rosemarie White. (Joe Phillips, alternate for Jan Kidwell arrived late and did not sit at the table.) Non-voting members, alternates and guests were John Alford, Robert Baker, K. Flores, Debra George, Serge Haddad, John Hinds, Hongjoo Kim, Rose Leibowitz, Michael Mercado, Ann Ohlenkamp, Kris Ohlenkamp, Ali Poosti and Louise Rishoff.

Minutes of 5/28/13: These were approved by consensus after addition on page 4 that ground nesting birds should be protected at the proposed cricket field. Minutes of 3/26/13 deferred to later in the meeting.

Announcements: Pedlow Skate Park will have a large event in mid August with about 3,000 participants.

John Alford for Brad Sherman's office: John is trying to reach out to the new Army Corps Colonel. He does not know what plans they have for the South Reserve. He requested committee members to keep him apprised of any communications we have with the Corps. Kris O has been trying to set up a meeting with the Corps about the South Reserve.

Presentation by DWP of Proposed Recycled Water and Groundwater Replenishment Project: An overview focusing on elements involving Tillman and Sepulveda Basin

was presented by John Hinds (DWP) with assistance from Serge Haddad (DWP), Michael Mercado (DWP) and Ali Poosti (Sanitation). They are currently preparing a draft Notice of Preparation (NOP) and doing preliminary design. They expect to release the NOP in mid August. They expect to begin construction in 2018-2019.

An advanced treatment facility will be able to take secondary or tertiary effluent and clean it, prior to the water being piped to the Pacoima and Hansen Spreading Grounds. The environmental documentation will assess 4 possible sites at Tillman (DCT), 2 inside the berm, 2 outside, and a 5th at the Valley Power Generating Station near San Fernando Road, south of Hansen Dam. Outside the Tillman berm is much more complicated than in. One site, their #2 in the SW corner within the berm meets all of their criteria.

The 54" pipeline to Hansen Spreading Ground is in place. For piping the reclaimed water to the north valley, they need 80 MGD (Million Gallons/Day) of untreated water going into DCT to have enough for reclaimed water for Lake Balboa and Wildlife Lake. Each of the 2 phases of DCT can handle 40 MGD (80 total) coming in, producing about 32 MGD effluent per phase. Right now 40 MGD total is going into the plant and 32 MGD total is produced of tertiary. The 3 lakes, (1) Wildlife, (2) Lake Balboa (and Bull Creek?), and (3) Japanese Garden need 20 MGD. LAR will continue to get flow through from the Wildlife Lake and Lake Balboa, and perhaps lose the effluent that is piped directly to the river. Would they have enough water given today's amts? No. They need to reroute from existing sewage pipes the flows that now bypass Tillman, which is a matter of adjusting valves.

Minutes of Meeting 3/26/13: Approved without objection.

Commemorative Grove Plan: Hongjoo Kim presented his landscape plan. He would add more valley and live oaks to the existing ones and would add sycamores along the existing DG pathway that forms the east edge of the area. 52 rocks like those in the amphitheater would be added, representing the length of the LA River and

that can be used as seating. One of the existing informal paths down the center of the area plus a new looping cross path would be DG. Two other existing casual paths would be kept but not planned to be DG. Openings in the fence where it has broken will be kept for the 3 paths, with other breaks repaired.

Robert Baker announced that Steve Lane is the new Senior Park Maintenance Supervisor, taking Abel Perez's place. Barbara Pleasant wants more info, such as size of area, yards of DG, technical specifications.

Suggestions were made to possibly stagger the row of valley oaks near the lower right on the map (NE corner of the area). A discussion of how the plan would be implemented followed. The drift of the discussion is that plantings and other improvements would likely be installed over time, plantings done individually or several at one time. Robert wants a narrative. Muriel volunteered to draft a narrative and coordinate it with the committee members. We will submit it to the City. Once we have their approval, we'll see what else we need.

Moved, Seconded and Passed unanimously: To support in concept this plan for a commemorative grove.

US Army Corps of Engineers: They did not attend. Glenn had asked Terri Kaplan for a written report since they would not attend, but he had not received a report before this meeting. Ms. Kaplan told Glenn that Willie Stark will be setting up a stakeholder meeting.

Kris Ohlenkamp distributed copies of his proposed plan for the South Reserve. Kris wants as many organizations as possible to sign off on this as an example of an acceptable alternative, within 2 or 3 weeks, by either a signature on the plan or a letter. (It is exactly the Corps's plan from over 20 years ago to which Kris gave more detail.) Kris expects the plan to go to the City Council. Steve H was concerned that the native grasslands would need to be managed by herbicides.

Kris will take out the word grasslands and replace "grasslands" with "native habitat restoration areas."

Moved, Seconded and Passed unanimously that we support the community restoration proposal presented by Kris as revised. It will go to the Bureau of Sanitation with a copy to the City Clerk. The City Council's River Committee has been rolled into another committee, chaired by Mitch O'Farrell.

Dept. of Recreation & Parks - Robert Baker: They need to nail down the Commemorative Grove, refine it. The city had been thinking of it as a single big project until this evening. Repair of the Woodcrete fencing along the two sides of the commemorative grove area does not have a contract yet. The fence openings to be left are understood.

Barn Owl Boxes are up in Garden Center and Wildlife Reserve. Rec & Parks is waiting for Army Corps to approve ones for soccer fields at Balboa Sports Center so as to attract barn owls to control rodents.

Robert and Steve will collaborate on what areas most urgently need trimming.

LAPD: Evelyn Solano sent report to Glenn. Sepulveda Basin is receiving daily patrols, with dedicated patrols on weekends. They are issuing citations for leash law, illegal fishing, etc. They are doing their best to maintain high patrol visibility and address our concerns/complaints. Officer Solano is continuing to follow up with Councilmember Koretz's office for an update of LA Municipal Code. Encampment cleanups continue. They hope to keep new sites from developing.

Upcoming Events: Lebanese Festival will be held in Woodley 1 on Sept 1. 3,000 participants are expected.

No public comments.

Reports: Mayor Garcetti appointed Max Reyes as his rep for Sepulveda Basin and the South Valley. CD-6 election is today.

Sierra Club: Joe Phillips is having difficulty finding co-leaders to do hikes in Sep Bas, possibly in evenings before sunset. LAPD is ticketing for parking in basin after sunset.

Encino Neighborhood Council: Debra George is trying to get some leeway about parking during twilight.

Karen Flores for FoLAR: Barbara Romero is now on the Public Works Commission. Kayak permit for LAR in basin not approved yet. FoLAR is working on the River Rover Education Center. The study on Glendale Narrows is nearing completion; there are still a few weeks for nature organizations to support connectivity.

Next Meeting will be September 24, 2013. There will be a walkthrough before the meeting, tentatively at 4:00.

Recess and begin Consortium Meeting at 9:09PM: Glenn, Terrie, Steve, Muriel, Bob, Rosemarie attending.

Steve asked that **the \$1K allocated for weed control thru 7/31 expiration date be extended through 11/30/13. Moved, seconded, passed 5 - 0 with 1 abstention.**

The Consortium meeting was adjourned at 9:20 PM.

Submitted by

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