

**Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Areas Steering Committee
Special Meeting August 22, 2023 – Approved Minutes**

The meeting at the Balboa Sports Center was called to order at 6:46PM by Vice Chair Nurit Katz. A quorum was established. Tonight's meeting is a strategic planning workshop. Self-introductions. Voting members: Terrie Brady, Dan Cooper, Nurit Katz, Muriel Kotin, Greg Stewart and Melanie Winter. Non-voting members: Pat Bates. Alternates not voting tonight: Glenn Bailey and Barb Heidemann. Guests: City Park Rangers Andrei DeOcampo, Larry Khou, Sean Kleckner, Kayleigh Raciak and Others Ruth Doxsee, Jim Hanlon and Amanda Thompson.

Minutes of the July 25, 2023 meeting were approved without objection as submitted.

Nurit reviewed the Steering Committee's purpose and mission statements and the standing rules for organizations to be voting members. Melanie Winter took over co-chairing at 6:51PM, Nurit continuing to facilitate the discussion.

Mission Statement: Does it need updating? It currently includes as its oversight responsibilities "the wildlife refuge areas and other areas of present or potential natural value within the Sepulveda Basin..." Removing the word "refuge" is suggested so it reads "wildlife areas". Also suggested to include LA River and its tributaries and other areas. [Jimmy Kim is General Manager of RAP.]

We want to establish a better relationship with RAP leadership. Rec centers have park advisory boards. There has not been a park advisory board to the entire Sepulveda Basin for many years. This Steering Committee is made up of reps from environmental organizations.

Goals and Objectives:

Nurit will prepare a draft document.

Muriel to send Melanie and Nurit the current standing rules that include the vice chair. [Done.]

Nurit and Greg are interested in helping Steve Hartman update the website.

Strategic Planning. Go through the Google Doc version of the wish list from BH and MK. We should meet further on this in Oct as another special meeting.

Melanie suggested we push for a park advisory board, a SB Conservancy! Dan: a Google Doc with goals, players, stakeholders, etc.

Once our website is updated and our planning more advanced, we can share what's going on more broadly.

Look at standing rules for the next regular meeting ahead of it so we can review them efficiently. The review of the standing rules should include discussion of adding neighborhood councils as voting members. Also discuss welcome letter to new Parks Commission.

The next meeting will be September 26, 2023, 6:30 PM at the Balboa Sports Center.

Submitted by

Muriel S. Kotin, San Fernando Valley Audubon's Representative