

Sepulveda Wildlife Committee of Los Angeles Audubon

Minutes of first meeting, June 24, 1991

Steve: Go for designated wildlife areas, the 60 acres ~~of~~ west of Haskell, the "Natural Area" south of the river, possibly part of Woodley Park. We as an organized group say, "This is what we consider the Wildlife Zone."

Kimball: A danger in saying this is all we want, thereby excluding other areas

David: Then let's start with the entire basin so we have more choices and can consider each area in turn, perhaps finding wildlife values in small fragments, then turning to the better areas.

Jill: We don't have as much as we had before and for the most part we will never get it back. Every bit of dirt that is taken out of the basin is a loss and we want to try to stop that. The fate of Bull Creek is a case in point.

Bill: Golf course ponds should be included, improve plantings. Also creeks

Hart: LA River very rich

Jill: In discussion of Public ^{Recreational} Use Plan, the 60 acres suggested by Sierra Club and Audubon as buffer and forage area. Corps did not go for it, though head of DFG agreed with us.

Hart and others: Discussion of Public Works Dept effluent pipe during flood, compensation excavation and berm to protect Tillman.

Steve: This group, which has the money, to take the active role in deciding who is going to manage what land. And we must consider the entire basin. We need an official letter from them as all we ~~have~~ have is hearsay.

Jill: The corps manages the land and Beilenson manages the Corps with his money source. We have to get to Tony and say this has to be resolved.

Bill: Somehow LA Audubon has to be declared the official voice of the Sepulveda Wildlife Reserve. We need an inventory of areas. An inventory of the basin is essential.

Hart: A wildlife zone survey should be part of the Master Plan for the basin. It must be more than a cursory overview, ~~but~~ scientific.

Dan: He can help coordinating with the various agencies. Sees no problem in going ahead with a specific plan map. Wants to listen more.

David: Any funding source will want to see a plan.

Dan: Also, each phase should be described with the estimated cost: a general map with oak woodland, cottonwood grove, grassland, with cost and the cost of maintenance in perpetuity.

Steve: Educational should be pushed early, possibly through the Top-Las Virg Res Cons Dist. This generates usage - school kids, not simply Steve's twice a month weeding or SFAS field trips. Steve threw out \$30,000, others \$1000, Hart: they should fund.

Jill: Letter from Audubon saying we want to work with you, you have biologist on your staff - biology and botanical stuff. We might give them a small amount of money to get them started. Possibly to produce an inventory.

Kimball: Do we want to hand over all educational matters to the District? Audubon - Melanie ~~xx~~ has great resources for education. Also Museum has resources. Melanie get together with District.

Steve: Community support important

Dan: Cartographer at UCLA

General: Agriculture should be restored to basin (!!), subsidized, Tony should be brought in (corn allergy), Forage in 60 acres.

Hart: How develop a master plan once we have agreement with Corps and City - must assume such. Not on volunteer basis, must be half-time or full time job. How administer? If we don't get approval from them we are stuck.

Dan: Think an EIR not necessary, Negative Dec sufficient. Don't think too much money should be used on inventory of plants.

Hart: Lists not enough, wants transects. Need plots, so changes over time can be traced...need baseline. More science. Agrees that he has Wima's and Rick Harlacher's work: This must be updated and integrated. Does ~~wx~~ not want an all-year pond with domestic ducks. Sees ~~am~~ rare opportunity to restore as it once was. (??) Need to know what will attract wildlife.

David: Need a scoping meeting with the City and Corps Tell them: This is ~~wax~~ what we're doing, what are you doing, what do you think we should be doing. Should it be the city or the corps? If anyone feels they are being ignored they won't cooperate.

Hart: Lillian Kawasaki -their charge,

Jill: Need mitigation monitoring. Dan -Yes!!

Hart and Jill: I think Sandy should do it.

Jill: Peter Ireland trying to get money for creek restoration in the basin (?)

June 26: Sandy contacted Julia Witz of the Dept of Environmental Quality. Very much interested. She and Lillian Kawasaki (general manager) both know Hart. Julia will try to arrange for scoping meeting for the end of July. Sandy sent her maps, proposal and offer to take her on a tour of the basin.

* Next meeting Monday Aug 29 - same place 10 AM