

**SEPULVEDA BASIN WILDLIFE AREAS STEERING COMMITTEE  
MINUTES -- MAY 24, 1994**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman, Glenn Bailey. In attendance were Carvel Bass, Sherry Goldsmith, Steve Hartman, Fred Heath, Ann Hinckley, Peter Ireland, Muriel Kotin, Stephen C. Moe, Hoover Ng, Francine Oschin for Councilmember Bernson's office, Ron Strong, Jill Swift, James Ward, Rosemarie White, and Sandy Wohlgemuth.

Minutes of the April 26, 1994 minutes were approved without change.

Hoover Ng of the Los Angeles City Department of Water and Power described the planned East Valley Water Reclamation Project. It will pipe water from the Tillman Plant to the Hansen Dam spreading grounds. The pipeline will go from the southeast corner of the Tillman property (expansion stage 3), west through parkland to Woodley Avenue and north along the east side of Woodley. Committee members commented of the plan, voicing objections to routing the outfall along the south side of Tillman rather than the north side. Enough water for the Sepulveda Basin will remain, including the wildlife lake, Haskell Creek and Lake Balboa. 60 million gallons per day leave the plant and only 30 mgd will be used by the project. No pump noise will be heard in Woodley Park or the wildlife reserve. There will be no impact on the wildlife area. Committee members asked if potential recharge of basin tributaries of the L.A. River with reclaimed water will be affected and whether installation of the line along the south side of the Tillman Plant will kill park trees. Hoover will check further into moving the pipeline to the north side of Tillman and get back to the committee.

James Ward reported for Rec and Parks. They are considering building new cricket fields on the sod field east of Tillman and making the lower existing cricket field part of the wildlife reserve. Plans have not been made yet; Rec. & Parks staff is swamped with Proposition A projects. The sod farm west of the north wildlife reserve has been offered back to the sod farmer on a temporary basis.

Peter Ireland inquired about the status of the city's Prop A funds. Are they in a segregated account or in the city's coffers? James replied he doesn't know. He will find out from Frank Catania, along with getting an answer to last month's question about plans for the sod farm between Haskell Creek and Woodley Ave.

Carvel Bass: Asked about the status of the Chambers Report on the wildlife reserve, he did not know the status but will let the COE's planning group under Ruth Villalobos know of our interest in same later this week. In reply to Peter's questions about Ted Carr's saying at the Users' meeting that the COE is not evaluating the L.A. River as a wetland, Carvel explained that NEPA is applied differently where the Corps owns an area, and Section 404 analysis does not apply.

Carvel advised that the Balboa Blvd. bridge over the L.A. River is proposed for widening and seismic retrofitting. There was discussion of a possible Sepulveda Basin mitigation bank and that a non-profit agency might try to set one up.

Shoal removal with 6 - 8 year-old willows along the west side of the L.A. River just above the dam is planned to happen soon. More upland trees (sycamores, cottonwoods and shrubs) will be planted above the river adjacent to the removal site to make a good permanent replacement. Steve Hartman asked for a copy of the environmental assessment. It will go to Steve Moe and he will provide copies for those

who wish one. The environmental assessment requires that mitigation reduce impacts of the project to insignificance.

Francine Oschin asked about cleaning up debris along the river and other waterways, such as plastic bags and shopping carts. She suggested a pilot project to clean them up as mitigation for various projects. Arundo cleanup could be part. Glenn suggested developing a mitigation bank for the basin for all city projects that need offsite mitigation, like the East Valley Water Reclamation Project. Carvel will write up these suggestions made tonight. Another possibility would be a city park mitigation bank.

Steve Hartman reviewed changes made by the Consortium in the Hummingbird Hill project. Moved, seconded and passed to recommend to the city that the new plan be approved. Steve H. will send a letter to the city with the details.

Sandy Wohlgemuth reported on the Bull Creek Grant. The application was submitted May 2nd for \$200,000. We should get a decision by sometime in July.

Bull Creek: more information is wished about the impact of the Arts Park on the creek and of plans to widen and re-slope the creek. What is the COE planning? Rec. & Parks? Flood Control? Peter wants to work at planning new recreational uses along the creek to be sure they are not incompatible. This will be discussed at our next meeting.

Demonstration Native Plant Garden: Steve H. reported that Hali Mason of CNPS attended the committee's field trip on 5/15. CNPS will decide whether to help fund the project at their next meeting. Steve thinks the plan should be improved to relate to plans to expand the wildlife reserve into the cricket field. He will work on a revised plan with a CNPS member and bring it to us.

Rosemarie White suggested holding a tour of the wildlife reserve for public officials.

Moved, Seconded and passed: that we schedule a walk through the wildlife area for the steering committee at least once a year.

Steve Moe announced that the beginning of available publications through letter E is now available.

Next Meeting Tuesday, June 28, 1994. Get agenda items to Glenn at least 13 days before the meeting.

Submitted by



Muriel Kotin