

**SEPULVEDA BASIN WILDLIFE AREAS STEERING COMMITTEE
MINUTES -- September 22, 1998**

Before the meeting, Steve Moe took the committee on a tour of the wildlife area at 6:00. **Note: next month (October 27) there will be a tour at 4:30, followed by dinner out at 5:30 and the meeting at 7:00.**

Steve Hartman chaired the meeting. Also attending were Glenn Bailey, Gene Greene, Eric Lesser, Muriel Kotin, Steve Moe, Rosemarie White, and Sandy Wohlgermuth.

Minutes of the August 25, 1998 meeting were approved without change, after several questions. Steve Hartman asked, since the ACOE has not cleared their maintenance road yet, are the Canada geese here yet? No, and Steve Moe has not yet spoken to ACOE to hurry them about doing their road maintenance pronto before the geese arrive. Steve H. commented that the Tillman berm looks good. Gene Greene suggested a formal tour of the berm, the committee, Gene and the contractor. **A tour of the berm was scheduled for Monday 9/28, 8 am, starting at Gene's office trailer.** All present except Glenn expected to participate.

Kiwana Pavilion: Gene reported that he met with the mayor's office today and will meet with the architect tomorrow. He hopes to expand the library area as now planned to accommodate local environmental groups. The meeting room will hold a maximum of 160. They need to raise private dollars in order to build the pavilion.

Recreation and Parks Report: Steve Moe reported that the chain link fencing has not been installed going north from the overlook yet. The irrigation is not yet fixed. R & P is seeding the forage area with annual rye grass. They'll pump water from the lake if necessary. The main irrigation line is being replaced for all of the irrigated areas within the wildlife reserve by Ace Engineering.

The ACOE has a 2-year contract for arundo removal in the south reserve, but the contractor has not been doing anything since the initial work. About 15 months of the contract remain. Graffiti has not been removed from the tunnel lately; Steve M. will see about getting it removed.

ACOE is doing shoal removal in the LA River, working upstream from the dam. They hope to get as far as Burbank Blvd. They are removing silt and vegetation down to the Gunite. To Muriel Kotin's question about revegetation that was to have been done by the ACOE after shoal removal around 1993 on the south side of the river, Steve referred her to Carvel Bass.

Hummingbird Hill: Muriel reported on volunteer workers weeding. Steve H. said that Rhapsody in Green was interested in a project there in October, but that he told them that this is not a good time due to lack of parking for a large group. Jake Robbins is still volunteering. An Eagle Scout is making a proposal to plant beavertail cactus and yuccas and irrigate them.

Education Programs: Rosemarie reported that the Canada Goose Project starts October 1. The Goose Project is working on an education program in Chatsworth

Nature Preserve. She is concerned about the fence not being up yet. Steve H. will phone him after he has had a chance to check with James Ward who had said it would be up by the end of September. Muriel passed out the naturalist training schedule for the Sepulveda Basin environmental education program. She also reviewed plans to lead birdwalks for participants in BreathWalk '98, an event of the American Lung Association of Los Angeles County on Saturday, 11/7, as discussed at our last meeting. Steve M. was concerned about the large number (300) of participants expected and said Muriel should talk to the contractor (note: she has).

Consortium: \$30,331.72 remains ^{spent} after paying for the fence. See attached statement. How should the remainder be paid? We have satisfied the list of projects we drew up in 1993: revegetation, education, fencing. For the future: a brochure and revegetation that will still be needed after the expansion project is complete. A 4' x 6' display board will be part of the expansion project. We may need a larger one, funded by the Consortium, as well. Rosemarie suggested that the Consortium or Steering Committee incorporate as a non-profit. Muriel suggested LA Audubon as fiduciary for the Consortium, SFVAS for the education program, CNPS for planting projects, and the Goose Project for its programs. Gene Greene said the city could not support us as a 501(c)(3) in the same way it supports the Steering Committee as a citizen advisory group. So the brochure should list the member organizations and suggest donations go to the appropriate one. The brochure committee has not met since. After it does, the consortium will be happy to entertain a proposal to fund.

Woodley Park Native Plant Pilot Project: Steve H. will present a proposal at our next meeting to gradually replace all Woodley Park exotics with native plants.

New Business: CNPS will present a program on Native Plant Landscaping on Tuesday 10/13/98 at the Garden Center and a Native Plant Sale there 10/17 and 10/18. Steve H. suggested we have fall cleanups perhaps lead by CNPS or Rhapsody in Green, as well as spring ones. There will be a re-dedication ceremony for the wildlife area in February or March. General Manager of R & P Department, Jackie Tatum is retiring. She is being replaced by a temporary appointment. The Assistant General Manager for the SFV region has retired, with Jan Zatorski temporarily filling the post.

We will not have a December meeting unless we call a special one. Perhaps we will have a November-December meeting at Muriel's house. **[Note: that would be fine with me. How about Tuesday November 24 at my house? MSK]**

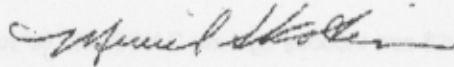
Muriel pointed out that the bench/viewing area between the viewing area at the south side of the lake and the outlet has been removed and is not being replaced. This was apparently an oversight. Steve M. had no objection to our having a viewing area there, perhaps without a bench. A bench would be a good Eagle Scout project.

Bike Racks: the city bike co-ordinator should talk to R & P about siting some at the entrances to the reserve (near the new restrooms, at Hummingbird Hill, in Woodley Park). These would encourage bicyclists to walk in. Glenn will ask the co-ordinator to contact James Ward. Also, Glenn will fax anyone interested about a conference on the Biodiversity Crisis planned at UCLA.

Japanese Gardens: 10/4/98 will be Autumn in the Garden event. This committee is invited free. Gene Greene's fax is 756-9648, phone 756-8000. He will help design wildlife area reflectorized road signs for Western Highway to make. Will the city pay for these or the Consortium? We can share the Japanese Gardens signposts. R & P will get the Dept. of Transportation to approve and put up the signs. They will say "Wildlife Reserve" and have an arrow and logo.

Next Meeting: October 27 tour at 4:30 and meeting 7:00 (see opening paragraph).

Submitted by,



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