

SEPULVEDA BASIN WILDLIFE AREAS STEERING COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF APRIL 27, 1999

Glenn Bailey, Muriel Kotin, Sandy Wohlgemuth, Rosemarie White, Stephen C. Moe, Douglas P. Stang (Eagle scout candidate), Steve Hartman, Irv Ratner (Goose project), Gene Greene, Melanie Winter (FOLAR), Eric Lesser, Bill Neill (Invasive plant foe)

The meeting opened at 7:10 pm and introductions were made around the table. Minutes of the March meeting were accepted as submitted. Steve Moe said the city attorney has moneys from assorted fines and asked Steve for suggestions for their use. Steve, without hesitation answered, "The Consortium." We thanked him enthusiastically.

The Urban Resource Partnership Grant Opportunity has been created to cover many environmental areas including stream, river and lake restoration, water quality monitoring, habitat restoration and environmental education. The program mandates cost sharing. There was no further discussion of the grant opportunity.

Muriel mentioned the increasing incidence of the phenomenon of non-migratory Canada geese which might become a problem in the future as it has in the East. She also said she had written to Cindy Miscikowski for the Committee asking her to press for additional funds for Rec and Parks to improve maintenance in the Wildlife Area.

Douglas^{Patton} Stang, Eagle scout aspirant, is interested in building and installing bat houses in the Wildlife Area. After discussion, the Committee gave unanimous approval of the project. Irv Ratner has donated his bat house to the scouts.

Steve M. announced that two scouts had removed two of the three benches from the small area west of Hummingbird Hill and close to Burbank Blvd. They will install them after they prepare the ground in the southern-most viewing spot of the lake.

Steve Hartman reported that Rick Parker, another Eagle scout candidate, had completed his Four Corners planting opposite the northern-most bridge and that it was an excellent job. California Native Plant Society paid for the plants.

Eric said that another scout was to plant 36 miscellaneous 1 gallon plants just north of the bike path at Hummingbird Hill. Beginning May 1 they would weed, prepare the ground and repair the drip system there. (Shortly after that date; an

interested passerby noticed a woman struggling with a spade in the hard soil. Asked if she was a scout she answered, "I'm the mother of a scout.")

Muriel said that students from Turning Point School planted 18 golden currant plants on the west side of Haskell Creek.

There was extended discussion of the dedication ceremony at the amphitheater on April 10th. The sparse attendance was attributed by many committee members to the failure of the public relations effort to reach the broad public. Rosemarie felt that the committee must assume responsibility for reaching the public in any future events of this nature.

Responding to the TreePeople's planting of non-native eucalyptus trees in the parkway of Burbank Blvd in the Basin, Glenn suggested writing to the Urban Forest Advisory Committee of the city's Public Works Department. Steve H. thought it would be better to speak at their meeting concerning the use of natives and volunteered to do so. Gene suggested talking to the Division Engineer of the Street-Tree Division and Steve H may join with Gene for such a discussion.

Gene said that the 2 ft x 3 ft panel on the new building behind the amphitheater was available for notices.

Interpretive panels at the viewing stations will be covered with Lexan by Rec and Parks.

Bill Neill discoursed on the arundo problem in southern California watersheds.

Lifeguards at Lake Balboa have been getting complaints about excessive numbers of coots. Since shooting coots is illegal, the (State) Department of Agriculture ^{Commissioner of} may cut the oversupply by anaesthetizing them. _{Dept. F&G}

Submitted by Sandy Wohlgemuth

NB: The balance in the Consortium account held by Los Angeles Audubon is \$30,837. (Received after this meeting.)