

Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Areas Steering Committee  
Minutes -- August 22, 2000

Sandy Wohlgemuth chaired. Attending were Glenn Bailey, David Ecklund, Gene Greene, Muriel Kotin, Eric Lesser, Steve Moe, and Rosemarie White.

Minutes of the July, 2000 meeting were approved with out change. Glenn complained the 2<sup>nd</sup> n in his first name is usually left off on the agenda. Rosemarie will phone Patty at R & P to be sure this is corrected in the future.

The Environmental Assessment for "Los Angeles River -- Clearing Vegetation White Oak to Burbank Blvd." was sent to only some members of the committee. Others were not on the list. Muriel asked Steve Moe that R & P provide ACOE with a current list of committee members. Steve said the committee should provide R&P with same. Eric Lesser will do so. Sandy summarized the plan briefly for those in attendance. He will submit comments, emphasizing the need for follow up. Steve Moe provided copies of the EA for all. Deadline is 9/7 for comments.

Corn Maize: Rosemarie commented unfavorably about the corn maize, especially that the description given to the committee when it gave its approval was inaccurate. ~~Steve Moe said that the corn maize is not doing well financially.~~

Recreation & Parks Report, Steve Moe: About six acres of the W.A. buffer zone west of Woodley burned August 8 when a model airplane crashed. Woodley Avenue was closed. As soon as a hammer-knife is available, Steve will clear a 1' - to 1 ½' - wide strip along the fence of the buffer zone on the west side of Woodley and along the paths in the expansion area between Haskell Creek and Woodley.

Muriel suggested seeding the burned area with wildflower seeds. Dave said allopathic weeds will probably overwhelm wildflowers. Rosemarie suggested why not try. Dave suggested we each contribute whatever wildflower seeds we can gather from the wild. Gene suggested hydro seeding. Eric said the seeding should be done late December or early January. Dave summarized how to do a habitat restoration. When Muriel said that was way beyond the level of what she had in mind, that this would be an experiment with the simplest and cheapest of techniques; if conditions for seed survival are ideal we will learn for future years. She would support anyone willing to take on a restoration project in the burned area. Muriel will discuss possibilities further with Dave, Eric and Steve Hartman before our next meeting.

Walkers in the WA saw 3 people with rifles go through the tunnel under Burbank. Police responded but did not catch the culprits.

Japanese Gardens, Gene Greene: He is planning a fund-raiser for Kawana Pavilion next spring. Big WA signs should go up next week under the Japanese Garden sign. Also, there will be space for signs in the garden. They're giving out W.A. brochures. Flyers OK too.

SFV Audubon, Muriel: Planning for the environmental education program is going well. Family and Beginners Bird Walks will resume in October on 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturdays at 8:30 and continue through March. [She should also have reported on the successful Family Flashlight last Saturday evening. Almost 60 people took part.]

Muriel has contacted Larry L. Cubit, Manager of the Oak Tree Mitigation Nursery at BFI Sunshine Canyon. They can contribute 30 15-gallon trees for the W.A. and archery range. The committee decided not to plant Engelmann's oaks, just Coast Live and Valley Oaks and Big Leaf Maples. R & P will plant the trees. There was discussion of the advantages of planting small or large trees. A number of the committee members are interested in a tour of BFI's native tree nursery.

Canada Goose Project, Rosemarie: Some of the Woodley Golf Course geese have been seen at Hansen Dam. She is looking forward to the next season to see what happens with non-migratory geese, which she expects will be a problem. The Goose Project is starting to do presentations and receptions. Goose count training will be held at the WA a Saturday in September.

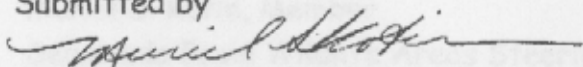
Sierra Club, Eric: What was the WorldFest like? There were lots people, many counter-culture. They tried to block off the entrance to the Japanese Garden and park and were told they couldn't do that. There was no impact on the WA.

Other: Rosemarie suggested that we invite the rangers to attend the Steering Committee meetings. Gene Greene said the LAPD might be more pertinent, as the rangers' law-enforcement duties are being phased out.

Eric asked how Hummingbird Hill is doing. We'll need to get to work on weeding when the weather cools.

Muriel added that Scout Robert Parker Jr. has finally raised money for bench project. Willows and other plants need trimming where they block views from viewing areas. Steve will check that out.

Submitted by



Muriel S. Kotin, Member Wildlife Areas Steering Committee

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Minutes - August 22, 2000

August 24, 2000



Larry L. Cubit, Manager  
Oak Tree Mitigation Nursery  
BFI Sunshine Canyon  
14747 San Fernando Road  
Sylmar, CA 91342-1021

Dear Mr. Cubit:

On behalf of the Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Areas Steering Committee, advisory to the City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks, I would like to thank you for your generous donation of thirty native California trees.

Most of the 10 Valley Oaks, 14 Coast Live Oaks and 6 Big-leaf Maples will be planted in our recently expanded and enhanced Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Area, replacing trees that died. As past difficulties with the drip irrigation system have been solved, we expect that the new trees will thrive, enhancing the established riparian wetlands and new oak savannah areas. Several of the Coast Live Oaks will be planted in the adjacent archery field, giving it shade, enhancing its wildlife value, and tying it esthetically to the Wildlife Area.

Your generous contribution of the trees will help to complete and beautify our natural oasis in the heart of the San Fernando Valley. I will be delighted to update you on this lovely project.

Sincerely,

Muriel S. Kotin, Member  
Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Areas Steering Committee  
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