

Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Areas Steering Committee
Minutes June 24th, 2003

The meeting was called to order at 7:15 PM by Chair Muriel Kotin and attended by Glenn Bailey, Rosemarie White, Tom Persons, George Grace, Sharon Brewer, Theresa Baer, Nannette Bolles, Gene Green, James Ward, Steve Hartman, Joyce Mackinnon, Lois Goodman, and Melanie Winter.

Corrections and Approval: Lois Goodman reported that the Bull Creek Plan Riparian area was 14 acres but the Woodland and Greenland area was another 14 acres to make the total acreage 28 acres.

In The Recreation and Parks Report although the \$75,000.00 grant plan was not accepted for Native Plants, DWP agreed to fund the project at the entrance of Woodley.

In Conference on Re-Enchanting The City the S.B.W.A.S.C. spelling correction should be made. The minutes were then approved after these corrections.

Additions to the agenda: Rosemarie stated that she had invited Manuel Malainedo from Rec. and Parks to attend the next meeting.

A Schedule for S.F.V. Metro Rapidway Construction was handed out: Glenn asked that someone monitor the clearing works so that we would not be unhappy with the results. Melanie stated that she had attended some meetings with Mark Van Kessel, the contractor, and that she would talk to him about the impacts to trees and creeks. Melanie suggested that improved water permeable surfacing be used. This would save on potable water usage and that 15% of the water could be reused or to recharge ground water instead of going down storm drains to the L.A. River. Additions to the letter that we would send to the D.W.P. supporting recycled water use and the use of native plants. Also this organization represented a coalition of nine local environmental groups and represented over a 100,000 people in the L.A. area. A draft form of this letter would be sent within two days to members for comment.

Bull Creek Project: Lois hoped to have an environmental review group and Rec. and Parks contract available soon for public comment. Steve asked her to check the contract for Arundo removal in the L.A. River. This should be a maintenance item to prevent spending large amounts of money again. Melanie stated if there was no future contract that it would be easy to get a 1135 grant. Lois will E-mail Steve after she finds out information on the project.

Recreation and Parks Report: James Ward reported that Ken Novak will take over for Ramon. They are re-organizing into 7 service areas and 2 Operational areas. The Valley is in the West Valley Operational area. There is now a new mini City Hall for the Valley over on Van Nuys Blvd. Steve Moe is going to be water quality manager for all water in Rec. & Parks city wide and will probably go to the Rec.& Parks Forestry Division. There was a recommendation to invite the Forestry Division to our next meeting. The dying fish

problem at the Wildlife Lake has gone full cycle. The Cricket group will have a large event in Woodley Park on the July 4th weekend. Sharon mentioned that there still is an algae and fish problem on Lake Balboa.

The Japanese Garden: Gene reported that the levee tours were going well and were extended to Sun. 1200-400. He invited James group of employees to come and see the uses of Native Plants and the use of recycled water. The Metro Rapidway would also be invited to take a tour. He suggested that the Cricket Players need to police their teams. Many broken beer bottles are thrown over the fence into The Japanese Garden.

S.F.V. Audubon Society: Muriel asked if the Scouts were going to have day camp at the S.BWA. They use the storage area at the amphitheater and we may have to move some equipment out. She will be working on the field trip programs. There are two baby Cormorants nesting on the island in the Wildlife Lake. Graffiti problems are abundant in the Wildlife area.

Canada Goose Project: Rosemarie reported that she will bring a one minute newly made video of Canada Geese to the next meeting. Seattle and Kansas are going to slaughter 2,000-3,000 geese this year.

California Native Plant Society: Steve reported that the Milk Thistle in the burn area has increased. This may be due to the burn and the heavy rain this year. The third week in July is Weed Awareness Week. There will be a weed tour on July 25th 9am-12noon. Please make reservations at 818-881-3706. Steve also mentioned that it is important not to disturb the soil to cut weeds. Muriel mentioned that the weeds are high this year. Steve recommended that we analyze the material out there and do the ascetic thing.

Resource Conversation District: Glen announced No Comment.

Sierra Club: A report by Rosemarie that she attended a meeting on redoing Griffith Park. The group was identifying wildlife corridors especially for the coyote.

The River Project: Melanie reported that they are still awaiting MTA Construction Documents. If the MWD helps maybe they can be held to the proposed design.

Tree People: Tom reported that they are going to have a Service Day in the Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Area on July 12th from 8AM-12 Noon. They will weed around seedlings, water, and cut down weeds for a 6-8ft radius around trees. The seed collection in the nursery has had a 80% germination rate. They have 3-4,000 native grasses in plug trays.

Muriel: At next meeting we need to decide on who has the right to vote.
The meeting was adjourned at 0910 PM.

Submitted by,
Joyce MacKumon
Member Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Steering Committee