

**Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Areas Steering Committee**  
**Minutes August 22, 2006**

Dexter Kelly chaired. Other voting members attending were Snowdy Dodson, Sharon Ford, John Holmes, Muriel Kotin, and Rosemarie White. Non-voting members, alternates and guests were Sharon Brewer, Pam Hamilton, Janet LaFrance, Lynda Levitan, Joyce MacKinnon, Stefanie Smith and Michael Tou. A quorum was established. Self introductions followed. The minutes of the July 2006 meeting were approved as sent.

Public Comment: None. Sharon Brewer did not receive her agenda in the mail.

Woodley Avenue southbound was closed for filming two days only. Although a sign only appeared to indicate it would be closed through November 6, that is not the case.

Wildlife Area Status as a Mitigation Project: Snowdy distributed copies from Steve Hartman of the 10/9/87 "Public Recreational Use Plan Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Area." Michael Tou suggested we look for further documentation - either with the Corps or the City. Lynda suggested we ask the Corps. Rosemarie will call Carvel tomorrow. The topic should be on the agenda next month. Stefanie got some documentation from Steve Moe. She'll look through it and let us know next month if she finds anything useful.

405-101 Connectors Improvement Project: LAAS and SFVAS both received a copy of Assemblyman Koretz's letter to Caltrans supporting alternative #1.

Department of Recreation & Parks:

- Stefanie reported that they're hoping for construction to start by 2007 on the Bull Creek project.
- At a meeting with the Corps on the proposed Sepulveda Basin Sports Complex, Rec & Parks said they're agreeing to a 150-200' buffer between the river and the project.
- Lynda asked for status on the new adaptive playground at Lake Balboa.
- The recent spraying for West Nile Virus went smoothly. Muriel inquired whether they sprayed the pyrethroids within 100 feet of waterways; Stephanie will look into.
- Lynda asked Stefanie to follow up with Ken about a Wildlife Way street sign.

Lynda will help get DOT's cooperation if Stefanie needs same.

Japanese Garden: Lynda reported that Gene made a presentation to Councilman Cardenas who is very positive about Kawanna Pavilion. Committee members are encouraged to write letters in support of the pavilion. Address them to Lynda who will forward them to the Councilman and Gene.

Congressman Brad Sherman: Michael Tou will ask Deanie Kennedy and Carvel to come to the next meeting for updates on Bull Creek, etc. The military will hold onto the Victory Blvd. property for at least another year, maybe 3-5 years or longer. Recruiting offices will use the space being vacated. The Bull Creek project has been sent to the Corps Regional Office Oakland for final approval.

Council District 6: Lynda reported for Councilmember Tony Cardenas on a Deaf Festival scheduled for September 30 and a Japanese Garden Senior Health Fair on October 21.

San Fernando Valley Audubon Society: Muriel is concerned about increasing public familiarity and support of the Reserve. She suggested a Wildlife Reserve Festival which could be sponsored by SFVAS or this committee.

Lynda suggested looking into cable spots like the Japanese Garden has. Maybe combine festival with Saturday 10/21 Senior Health Fair (10:00 - 3:00). Maybe have an afternoon bird walk around 2:00. At least have a booth for the WA. The committee members are interested in having a committee booth. Maybe a separate festival too in November? Stefanie suggested phoning Huell Hauser. See Daily News' ValleyNews.com.

The Wildlife Reserve brochure needs updating. Southwest Herpetologist Society and The River Project need to be added. SFVAS should now be listed for donations to consortium and its contact information added. Probably websites should be included.

Announcements: San Fernando Valley Fair (1st weekend of June) in Woodley Park

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is getting approval. Used to be at Hansen Dam. This is a huge 4-day event, bigger than the Israeli Festival! The committee members were dismayed at the prospect of this event being held in Woodley Park.

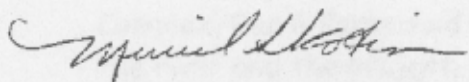
Canada Goose Project: Rosemarie discussed resident flocks on golf courses. Her organization is preparing for fall migration. They will count 4 times a week in the WR, cornfield and Woodley Golf Course beginning the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Oct. She reminded Stefanie about planting rye grass forage east of the Wildlife Lake and explained that the planting was too late last year. The Re-enchanting the City Conference on wildlife corridors will be at Friendship Auditorium on Oct. 21.

California Native Plant Society: Snowdy announced the Annual Plant Sale will be Oct. 14-15. Let's get updated WR brochures there.

Southwestern Herpetologists Society: John explained that because of heat and West Nile Virus, they haven't been checking the boards they put down. They'll resume their survey in September.

Public Comment: Sharon Ford announced that Sierra Club and Audubon have endorsed Prop 84, Clean Water and Parks Protection Bond. Sharon Brewer pointed out an article in the "Encino Sun" about the pelican rescue and another about the SB Sports Complex. Snowdy mentioned that there is an exhibit of LA River photos at the Skirball through Sept. 3.

Submitted by



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