

Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Areas Steering Committee
Minutes May 27, 2008

Mike Vensky chaired. Other voting members were Glenn Bailey, Sharon Ford, Steve Hartman, Muriel Kotin, Bob Munsey, and Rosemarie White. Non-voting members, alternates and guests included Sharon Brewer, Kathleen Hanover, Lynda Levitan, and Joyce MacKinnon.

After self introductions and announcements, the minutes of the April 2008 meeting were approved without change. Glenn suggested that, in the future, the person preparing the agenda and the person preparing the minutes each copy all members via email.

Public Comment: Sharon Brewer said the one screen covering an outlet from Lake Balboa has been removed. She is concerned that a fence along the Bull Creek project cuts off access of people checking for injured birds. Lynda has asked Michael Tou to see if he can arrange to move the fence farther from the lake.

Revision of Wildlife Reserve Brochure: It has been updated and printed (2,000 copies for \$644).

Identifying Sepulveda Basin User Communities, Constituencies & Groups / Proposal for Sepulveda Basin Wildlife.org: Steve Hartman suggested developing a website, to be funded by the Consortium. Now is the time to publicize the WR! A website should be as inclusive as possible, including all environmental organizations that are at all connected to SB. Links to organizations and special material would be included. Steve presented a written description of his proposal. He already registered the domain name.

After extensive discussion of the \$2K price fee for a web developer, a **motion was moved, seconded and passed to approve developing a website and to ask the Consortium to pay for the website developer; with the owner of the domain and hosting to be the SBWASC; ongoing expenses for the domain and hosting to be paid for on a multiyear basis; and with Steve Hartman serving as volunteer webmaster.**

Adjourned to Consortium Meeting: The meeting was dedicated to the late Jill Swift who was so instrumental in creating and saving the SBWR.

CNPS, LAAS, SFVAS, Sierra Club, RCD-SMM are the continuing members, FoLAR and TreePeople no longer participating at present.

A motion was moved, seconded and passed that \$644.09 be paid to The Printing House for printing the 2,000 WR brochures.

A motion was moved, seconded and passed unanimously that we approve the recommendation from the Steering Committee that we pay a web design fee not to exceed \$2K, and various additional expenses such as domain and hosting.

It may be necessary to authorize more funds to pay for Bill Neill's weed control services.

Adjourned back to the Steering Committee Meeting:

Electric Golf Cart: Rosemarie discussed the history of the cart, which Abel Perez said at our last meeting was being sold because of the city budget squeeze. Rosemarie described how the cart came to be donated to the Steering Committee from Galpin Ford through the auspices of Tony Cardenas, now City Councilmember.

After Rosemarie communicated with Abel and Ron Berkowitz, the cart has been returned for use by the Steering Committee. Kathleen Hanover will check on its status, location and will ensure that it be plugged in and the battery turned off. Muriel should phone Gene Greene to ensure that the cart is stored with the main switch off, the cart plugged in.

Extra Garbage Cans for Lake Balboa: Kathleen said more cans were moved in, but people keep moving them to be soccer goals. Kathleen is not finding huge amounts of fishing line. Volunteers are picking up fishing line and paraphernalia, with the most mess on Monday mornings and mornings following holidays. R & P will try chaining or otherwise fastening down cans.

Kathleen announced the playground at Lake Balboa has been opened. It's being heavily used.

Signage Issues: Ranger Pat Aceves not present. On this afternoon's walkthrough, no new signs were observed.

Outreach to Community / Education of Fishing Community at Lake Balboa / Greeters at WR on Sunday Afternoons: For getting volunteers, Muriel suggested we look for volunteers in our own organizations. If that doesn't work, then use the future website.

Kathleen said Abel got no responses to the flyer posted about a Friends of Lake Balboa group. Glenn asked her to have Abel send us a copy with the next mailing of the minutes.

Possible Rattlesnake Sighting: Mike got a phone call from someone who thought she saw a rattlesnake. Are signs needed? Discussion indicated that there was probably no rattlesnake and that signs would not be appropriate.

Wildlife Reserve Brochures: Extras should be kept by Steve Moe. Muriel will give some to maintenance staffers Bud and Rudy and to Gene Greene.

Recreation & Parks Report: Kathleen Hanover noted how busy the Sepulveda Basin is, with almost constant special events. The recent fire was 2 ½ acres right around the model airplane field from a model airplane crash, west of Woodley Avenue. Steve H commented that the pathway along the west side of Haskell Cr was almost entirely overgrown today.

Council District 6 (Tony Cardenas): Lynda Levitan reported on the recent Pet Fair. Emergency Preparedness Fair will be June 7. They will sponsor a family film festival June - September, funded by a grant.

Army Corps of Engineers: The ACOE was not present. Glenn requested that the chair contact them before each meeting for an email update monthly.

Canada Goose Project: Rosemarie described her discussions with the person in charge of Santa Fe Dam regarding fishing management at that county park lake.

San Fernando Valley Audubon Society: Muriel will use BioBlitz to publicize WR. She will be away Aug, Sept, Oct., necessitating someone else to take minutes.

South Western Herpetologists: Mike V announced the junior "herpers" will do a reptile and amphibian survey. He was advised to contact Steve Moe.

Next meeting is 6/24. The deadline to submit agenda items is June 10.

Submitted by

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