

Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Areas Steering Committee
Meeting July 22, 2014 - Approved Minutes

Chair Terrie Brady called the meeting to order at 7:40. Other voting members in attendance were Glenn Bailey, Steve Hartman, Robert Munsey, Muriel Kotin, Joe Phillips and Rosemarie White. Non-voting members, alternates and guests were Jesse Casillas, Nathan Duvall, Debra George, Karen Kardan, Kris Ohlenkamp, Susan Schalbe, Andy Shrader, Chief Ranger Albert Torres and Chris Trent. Introductions were made and a quorum established. California Audubon should be removed from the list of committee members.

Minutes of 5/27/14: Add Debra George to the list of non-voting members attending. On page 2, end of 2nd paragraph add: Incidence of fish hooks injuring wildlife remains a concern to the committee. Approved.

Bob Munsey brought a sign "National Wildlife Federation Certified Wildlife Habitat".

Standing Rules: Bob was given a print out. Terrie read the mission statement and requested Bob Munsey to email her with any changes he suggests.

Cleanup Proposal: Nathan Duvall, member of SFVAS, proposed a cleanup Sunday Oct. 26. 8 - noon. Lake Balboa exit tributary to LAR to Burbank Blvd. bridge. He said MRCA is fine with the idea (unofficially). Rosemarie would like to coordinate with him. He should coordinate with FoLAR, MRCA, and Army Corps of Engineers. Joe Phillips has a school group. The committee supported the concept.

Certificate of Appreciation: Steve Hartman: Councilmember Paul Koretz, CD 5, presented the committee with a lovely certificate of appreciation as Hero of the LA River on the occasion of the first LAR Day. Joe will get it framed and we will ask the city to hang it on the wall of this room.

Microbeads and Tillman Plant: Hiddo Netto is retiring. Terrie referred the committee to the information he had emailed. She suggested we avoid products that use microbeads. Mr. Netto spoke recently with Glenn in attendance. The Japanese Garden docents are concerned about the loss of parking and conference rooms for the advanced water treatment project. The parking will probably overflow into Woodley Park. The environmental document has not been released yet.

Army Corps: Jay Field sent an email this afternoon. The VMP will have a preliminary release in around 2 weeks. There will also be CAPs considered for Encino channel, Woodley Channel and the LAR, exactly where not stated. RAP would be the local sponsor. There was extensive discussion.

Recreation and Parks - Welcome to Jesse Casillas: He is Juan's supervisor and now representing RAP on this committee. Park Maintenance Supervisor. Assigned to Sepulveda Basin plus occasionally at other SFV location.

Consolidation of LAPD and Recreation and Parks has been on the Park Commission agenda for over a year with no action and little if any discussion. Glenn pushed to change this at a recent meeting of the commission.

Chief Ranger Albert Torres: There is a signed MOU of several years standing. He has not seen the new one. There are a lot of open questions.

Park Ranger dispatch #: 323 644 6661. Glenn feels the regional parks - all the parks - are suffering from lack of coordination. He would like this considered at a future meeting soon.

Chief Ranger Albert Torres: They have a new ranger station at Hansen Dam since early this year. They visit Sepulveda Basin and other valley parks more often now that they're in Hansen Dam. They do problem solving, sign projects. They deal with minor crimes, calling for LAPD when not minor. He encourages us to phone the Park Ranger Dispatch: 323 644 6661. Fires. Interpretive work. 24 hour security at Griffith Park Observatory. Medical assistance. Patrols. Homeless encampments in all of the parks. Drones are an upcoming issue. Coordination with Officer Solano is great, but not going well with LAPD handling minor crimes in parks. Calls to the ranger # creates a more useful record than calling LAPD.

Incidents in Sepulveda Basin: Try to move out homeless encampments. Illegal fisherman. Dogs off leash. Vice. Drunk driver crashed woodcrete fence, narrowly missing cricket players. Documentation such as photos of fishing, etc. is useful to Albert.

Andy Schrader of Councilmember Koretz's office: He presented certificates to members of the committee. Andy is deputy for environmental affairs. He expects that in the next month

or so, the motion to improve the municipal codes regarding the Wildlife Reserve should go to committee. Add him to list receiving agendas and minutes. Glenn pointed out that we need people to enforce those MC's. Coordination is still needed to have enough rangers and park police. Terrie asked about DWP having begun adding chloramines to the drinking water. It has to do with the drought and water sharing with other agencies.

Commemorative Grove: Muriel reported that Jeremy Thomas has rejected the Memorial Grove project as currently defined. Irrigation will be necessary, some ADA compliance. Further definition will be necessary.

Special Events Upcoming: Jesse will email us.

Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Consortium: The SBWASC adjourned to a Consortium meeting at 8:52PM. It was **moved, seconded and passed 3-2** to approve a bill from Riparian Repairs for \$2424 Jan thru June 2014. **Moved, seconded and passed 4-1** to approve a budget of \$2000 for weed control 8/1/14 through 6/30/15. Steve's volunteers are trying to remove all mustard along the wildlife lake. The weeding aids in spraying success of other weeds.

Submitted by

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