

**Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Areas Steering Committee  
Meeting September 27, 2016 Approved Minutes**

Joe Phillips chaired the meeting which was called to order at 6:40PM at the Balboa Sports Center. A quorum was established. Introductions. Attending: Voting members: Glenn Bailey, William Bowling, Theresa Brady, Steve Hartman, Muriel Kotin, Robert Munsey, and Joe Phillips. Non-voting members: Ruth Doxsee and Abel Perez. Guests and Alternates: Karin Flores, Cindy Kurland, Phil Serpa, David Troy, and Justin Yee.

A walkthrough of the Wildlife Reserve took place at 4:00, prior to the meeting.

Minutes of July 16, 2016 were approved as corrected.

LAPD Report: LAPD did not attend. The recent fire in Sep Basin was not in the Wildlife Reserve. We found a tent in the Reserve on the Walkthrough this afternoon -- and two homeless people in the amphitheater, one asleep.

US Army Corps of Engineers: Phil Serpa, Project Manager, Operations Branch reported. An updated EA with a decision on vegetative management plan should occur in Oct. or Nov. It is being reviewed at high level and the legal department and will be signed by the colonel. Glenn requested that we be affirmatively notified when a decision is made. Ken Wong is leading the effort for planning. Steve asked if there is a plan to remove the infestations of horehound in the So. Reserve. Corps is removing exotics from LA River in Glendale Narrows. They're looking to getting a ranger presence in Sepulveda Basin, shared with other So. Cal. Sites. There will be two rangers for the SFV, most likely beginning this Oct. or Nov. with permanent, full time employees.

Phil isn't up to date on A/F, but he has heard informally that the event will be moved to a different location. Glenn was told by Debbie Lamb recently that processing of A/F is on hold until fee is paid.

David Troy asked about herbicide use to control horehound. This was not considered to be a pertinent topic to agenda.

Muriel Kotin referred to a presidential directive that all new trees and shrubs in SB should be California natives. Bob Munsey pointed out that that they should be native to So Cal. Muriel mentioned a recent conversation with Ramon Barajas about a committee he is forming to select best choices for RAP and elsewhere in the City for replacement trees.

Lake Balboa Neighborhood Council Representation: Ruth Doxsee is Representative and Cindy Kurland is Alternate.

Announcements of Upcoming events. CNPS Native Plant Sale Oct 22-23. LBNC events: Oct 1 Disaster Preparedness Fair, Oct 5 LBNC meeting. Oct 8 FoLAR's Fandango. Oct 2 UCLA's

presentation at NHM. Oct 3 River Cooperation Committee. County is considering updating the county River Plan. SFVAS: Family Walks on Second Saturdays at 9AM starting Oct 8, SBEEP environmental education program starting Oct 6. Bird Festival will be Nov 12 at King Gillette Ranch. Wed Oct 5 NPS Centennial will be celebrated at 6PM at Oviatt Library CSUN -- RSVP by tomorrow.

Cleanup and Projects: Muriel reported on several items.

- A Heal the Bay – SFVAS cleanup along Haskell Creek was held on the 17<sup>th</sup>. Forty participants removed much of the trash but were frustrated they didn't have the manpower to remove all of it.
- A troop of 5<sup>th</sup> grade Girl Scouts will do a project in the Reserve and return monthly through the school year, hoping to pass project onto a younger troop.
- The Boy Scout Benches (slightly north of the lake's outlet) have been trashed. Abel will look at them and also at removing the dangerous broken Woodcrete fence and considering what might replace it.

It was suggested that more advance notice of future Haskell Creek cleanups is needed, so that the Steering Committee and its members can publicize it properly to their members.

AngelFest: Audubon opposes A/F. Sierra Club national gave approval for Angeles Chapter to oppose A/F. SC's Valley Group had unanimously opposed A/F, but national supports. Position is being given to the Grass Roots. Angeles Chapter now opposes A/F. A statement letter will be written and sent to ACOE, with copies to all of us.

- Public Comment: Karin suggested that we support Proposition A, the County Parks initiative, and Bag Ban, Measure 67.
- Quimby Funds for LA City parks have been increased.
- One of the planned desert music festivals was canceled a few weeks ago because of deaths, etc.
- Lyme disease often contracted in back yards.

Urban Waters Federal Partnership: Justin Yee said he would be pleased to present this at a future committee meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15.

Submitted by

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