

**Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Areas Steering Committee
Meeting September 26, 2017 -- APPROVED MINUTES**

The meeting was called to order by current Chair Glenn Bailey at 6:33. Introductions were made. A quorum was established. Voting members attending were Shelly Backlar, Glenn Bailey, Theresa Brady, Muriel Kotin, Joe Phillips, and George Waddell. Non-voting alternates and members were Patricia Bates, Ruth Doxsee, Paola Jaramillo and David Troy. Visitors included Barb Heideman and Evan Doxsee.

Minutes of July 2017 were unanimously approved as submitted.

Events:

- Assemblymember Matt Dababneh Town Hall Oct. 5, focus on seniors issues.
- Disaster Preparedness Fair Oct. 11.
- CNPS Plant Sale Oct 14 and 15 at Sepulveda Garden Center.
- SFVAS Nature Walks (formerly Bird Walks for Families and Beginners) on Second Saturdays at 9AM at the Wildlife Reserve begin Oct. 14 and run through Mar.
- Supervisor Sheila Kuehl Event at new County Building on Van Nuys Blvd. on Nov. 2.

Haskell Creek Cleanup Sept. 16: Lots of trash was removed by this Heal the Bay – SFVAS event, but over 40 volunteers couldn't get it all.

Bull Creek Ecosystem Restoration Tour: Pat Bates led the tour this afternoon for the SBWASC. Ranger Albert Torres participated. Vegetation is mature. Lots of homeless. Extensive discussion. Homeless issues beyond our purview. What can we do to get the erosion fixed and the chain link fencing removed and signage moved and restored? Suggested No Camping signs. Get rid of carts and trash; could volunteers handle cleaning this up? RAP often empties the trash cans and walks with volunteers who pick up trash. Paola sends out special crews to clean up. RAP will try putting out more trash cans, but they may end up in the river. Could the additional trash cans be coordinated with the removal of the shopping carts? Joe willing to organize a cleanup of trash cans.

Army Corps of Engineers: No communication from them. No further word on Vegetative Management Plan.

Recreation and Parks: Will add trash cans, possibly chaining them. Having some difficulty getting Plexiglas for informational signs. They're still evaluating fence options. Illegal parking a problem in all parks; no solution. Barriers like boulders and logs being discussed. Unknown why T-gates are often unlocked recently. RAP is careful to lock. Some areas between Lake Balboa and Bull Creek have a lot of Russian thistle. CNPS is investigating a weed machine as a possible Consortium donation. RAP is trimming back overgrowth at the WR viewing areas.

LAPD: No word on how their weekend program through Labor Day went. Glenn has asked that SLO Parra attend these meetings. She just got married and is now SLO Smith.

BirdFest Nov. 4: Sierra Club and SFVAS will have tables. Both will publicize the WR. To enable updating “The Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Reserve” fold-over flyer, we should let Glenn know updates for our organizations. Muriel to look for old art work. Or master. We’ll try to make a limited number of semi-updated flyers for the BirdFest. Then a fuller update to be considered by Consortium next meeting. **There were no objections to consortium paying for a limited number of flyers.**

RAP Park Rangers in SB?: There will be a park meeting of RAP senior management involved with budgeting for July 2018 – June 2019 by the end of Oct.

Proposed Controlled Burn North of Model Airplane Field: Nothing new has been heard.

LA City Open Space Element of General Plan: We are encouraged to attend public meeting 10/7/17 at the Braude Constituent Center. Terrie will try to attend.

Use of Roundup in Sepulveda Basin: Paula said RAP is not using Roundup in the WR. Glenn asked those proposing to put this topic on the agenda to explain why they wish to do so. Who wants discussion on the topic on next agenda? Majority voted no.

Public Comment: What happened about unauthorized raves in Woodley Park? Nobody has heard of any raves recently.

Reports from Committee Members:

- CNPS: Weeding continuing on Tuesdays and Thursdays in WR.
- FoLAR: G2 Parcel: WSP has been selected to design plans.
- SFVAS: Was contacted by promoters proposing a big music event in Woodley I.
- RCD: Change in naturalist training this year.
- Encino NC: Family Festival
- Lake Balboa NC: Disaster Preparedness.

Next meeting will be Tuesday 11/28/17, after Thanksgiving.

Adjourned at 8:28PM.

Submitted by

Muriel S. Kotin
Members Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Areas Steering Committee