

**Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Areas Steering Committee**  
**Meeting May 25, 2021 — Approved Minutes**

Meeting was chaired by Nurit Katz. Meeting was called to order at 6:36, being recorded. Link to the meeting recording:

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1b5XAW8Z1UQY\\_YjP4H\\_2C6DEnGct1SiJe/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1b5XAW8Z1UQY_YjP4H_2C6DEnGct1SiJe/view?usp=sharing)

Minutes of the meeting April 27, 2021 were approved after adding Ruth Doxsee to the list of attendees.

Voting Members attending: Glenn Bailey, Terrie Brady, Nurit Katz, Muriel Kotin, Joe Phillips, George Waddell, Melanie Winter. Non-voting Members and Alternates: Pat Bates, Robert Buenrostro, Ruth Doxsee, Barb Heidemann, Mark Osokow. Guests: Anne Abramson, Robyn Albaeck, Sofia Aleman (MRCA), Linda Babcock, Ethan Barmache (Valley Change Makers), Tessa Charnofsky, Kira Durban, Carla Garcia (Valley Change Makers), Alex Garay, Jonah Glickman, Bill Neill, Jon Rishi, Richard Rachman, Carla Robinson.

Government Agencies:

Tessa Charnofsky: Sheila Kuehl's office is supporting workshop about invasive shot hole borer 6pm June 16. — link will be sent to Nurit.

Linda Babcock, Army Corps of Engineers: 6/26 cleanup of So Reserve, Creek in good shape due to volunteer work, a priority. Morning only. Bird survey before to be sure no nesting birds are disturbed.

Jon Rishi, ACOE: USGS survey of turtles found no western pond turtles, mostly red-eared sliders. 2 other species. He found a fish die off in LAR near dam: dead and dying carp. No other species. He filed reports. No detected pollutant. The turtles trapped have been donated to Natural History Museum.

Sofia Aleman, Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) participated mostly to learn about Sepulveda Basin. Their Ranger Division is still in charge of the recreation zone along the river. Walt Young still with MRCA. There will be kayaking again this year.

Jonah Glickman, CD-6: He is excited for cleanups in the basin every Saturday in June. Office still working with unhorsed in the basin. No updates on masterplan but it is part of the city budget. The motion to develop a new master plan is 20-1205. Not finalized. Homeless will not be removed during the cleanups; only loose trash will be removed.

Member Reports:

CNPS weeding this Saturday morning. They witnessed an arson fire at the archery range last Sat. Frequent coyote sightings.

SFVAS walks. Creek cleanup 6/19. Mark observed a dead oak close to Wildlife Way just west of Haskell Creek was cut down suddenly with no notice. Nesting ongoing there of Nuthatches and Acorn Woodpeckers. Nurit will email Steve Dunlap and Cc Jon Rishi. Perhaps 2 oaks

were removed. Mitigation measures could have been taken short of taking the tree(s) down during nesting. Robert Buenrostro will inquire as well. [Note: we confirmed post meeting that a large black walnut tree with White-breasted Nuthatch and Acorn Woodpecker nests had not been removed, rather a leafless coast live oak (also with reported nests) and a pine. The oak snag was a well known and important habitat tree. It was removed due to safety concerns. Will continue dialogue with LA City regarding approaches to snags, and Army Corps has requested notice of any planned native tree removal whether inside the Wildlife Reserve or anywhere in the basin.]

Joe Phillips: Sierra Club is reopening on July 1.

Pat Bates: Encino NC measure to FoLAR to help with cleanups costs to be discussed tomorrow night. Also a measure to support formation of a Friends of Sepulveda Basin. More community outreach and buy in is needed.

Alex Garay, Encino NC: He wants to do more for the Basin.

Melanie Winter, River Project: Plugging along on feasibility study for river restoration. Two alternatives. One restores just the waterways. The other is bolder. Both will improve flood protection, recreation, circulation, and boating. Something will be ready to show us this summer. Working with Army Corps. Presented to Jonah at council office. She hopes the plans can be integrated with the upcoming master plans.

Ruth Doxsee, Lake Balboa NC: LBNC is meeting June 2.

Valley Changemakers Presentation: Carla Robinson and Ethan Barmache: Brochure Kiosk. Brochures for younger kids, children's book about wildfire. Website. Seed balls, weeding, brochures, Kiosk with QR codes. They would staff it on weekends. They're thinking of installing a kiosk in July. Suggestions and discussions.

A Committee Walkthrough June 22 at 5:30PM instead of a Zoom meeting. Meet at the amphitheater. Nurit will send around email regarding walkthrough.

Future Meetings: Keep online format? Much positive reaction. Not an option to meet in person until city facilities are open. Members support Zoom meetings with occasional walkthroughs.

Next Steps in Weed Management? Climate initiative tie-ins — get CSUN people to take on weed-control projects. Richard Rachman, other CNPS leaders, Nurit, etc. Bill Neill might be paid by city or other funding. Effective for him to oversee volunteers. Map of weeds may be a bigger project than it's worth.

Vice-chair for rest of 2021: (FoLAR possibly next year.). Glenn willing to assist and advise for the rest of the year. He is not necessarily committing to chairing next year. **Motion by Nurit, seconded by Muriel Kotin that Glenn serve as vice chair for the rest of 2021 without his committing to chairing next year passed unanimously.**

Public Comments:

In 1904 Blue Oaks were recorded in the Sepulveda Basin. We might consider re-introducing them. Very drought tolerant. Good water table of basin might also help. Engelmann oaks are probably not in historical record.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM. Our next meeting will be a walkthrough 6/22 at 5:30.

Submitted by

Muriel Kotin

San Fernando Valley Audubon's Representative to SBWASC

Chat from the Meeting:

18:33:17 From NURIT KATZ to Everyone :  
[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1UPE9\\_QfCbx-dkNamVVVyOretyVhjmwJ8GDg6IUL8lq0/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1UPE9_QfCbx-dkNamVVVyOretyVhjmwJ8GDg6IUL8lq0/edit?usp=sharing)

18:35:26 From NURIT KATZ to Everyone :  
[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1UPE9\\_QfCbx-dkNamVVVyOretyVhjmwJ8GDg6IUL8lq0/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1UPE9_QfCbx-dkNamVVVyOretyVhjmwJ8GDg6IUL8lq0/edit?usp=sharing)

18:41:19 From Richard Rachman to Everyone : Yes

18:41:38 From Richard Rachman to Everyone : I believe I'm in the BCC, and I received it.

18:41:56 From Pat Bates Encino NC to Everyone : mine went to spam originally

18:42:36 From Jon L Rishi to Everyone : I received it.

18:42:54 From Richard Rachman to Everyone : I received the minutes

18:49:39 From R. Doxsee, LBNC to Everyone : I received the minutes, but not the agenda for tonight's meeting. Can someone post a link or resend? The link on the website goes to April 27 agenda.

18:50:51 From NURIT KATZ to Everyone : Ruth, my apologies- I neglected to change the date in the template. That agenda is the correct one. The corrected date will be reposted

18:52:38 From R. Doxsee, LBNC to Everyone : Thanks, Nurit.

18:57:11 From Jon L Rishi to Everyone : Thanks Nurit, yes I know of Dan Cooper but we have not met. Thanks for the info on COHA [Cooper's Hawk] and GHOW [Great Horned Owl] nests, we will look out for them and let you know if we find anything.

18:58:30 From Barb H to Everyone : Since this is the Gov Rep reporting section, is this the time to ask about any updates on the new Master Plan?

19:02:22 From George Waddell CNPS to Everyone : Saturday Weeding Session May 29th

19:03:32 From George Waddell CNPS to Everyone : Saturday Weeding Session May 29th 8 AM contact George Waddell moiraw@earthlink.net

19:06:13 From Glenn Bailey to Everyone : Here is the link to Council File 20-1205 which include the initial motion:  
<https://cityclerk.lacity.org/lacityclerkconnect/index.cfm?fa=ccfi.viewrecord&cfnumber=20-1205>

19:10:02 From Pat Bates Encino NC to Everyone : That tree absolutely had White Breasted Nuthatch nests in it, I was taking photos a week ago

19:11:01 From Melanie Winter to Everyone : Include me, too.

19:11:42 From Pat Bates Encino NC to Everyone : Were both trees removed?

19:17:07 From Pat Bates Encino NC to Everyone : One of them was in bad shape for several years, the one closest to the street so-so  
19:26:20 From Pat Bates Encino NC to Everyone : \$1500  
19:29:41 From Ethan Barmache (Valley Changemakers) to Everyone : <https://valleychangemakers.weebly.com/>  
19:37:29 From Pat Bates Encino NC to Everyone : They really need to be graffiti-proof metal  
19:42:35 From Mark Osokow, San Fernando Valley Audubon to Everyone : Paper brochures can be made returnable to the kiosk by request.  
19:43:13 From Linda Babcock to Everyone : The June 26 cleanup in the South Reserve is full.  
19:44:31 From George Waddell CNPS to Everyone : Valley change makers are awesome! Thanks.  
19:44:52 From Glenn Bailey to Everyone : Maybe one of the public agencies could contribute toward the printing of the brochures???  
19:53:24 From Glenn Bailey to Everyone : It would be great to identify areas to replant oak tree seedlings so we are ready to go in the Fall  
19:58:00 From Pat Bates Encino NC to Everyone : I like the online format  
19:58:11 From Melanie Winter to Everyone : I like the online format, too!  
19:58:14 From Bill Neill to Everyone : Me too.  
19:58:15 From Muriel Kotin to Everyone : Me too.  
20:00:12 From R. Doxsee, LBNC to Everyone : Meeting in person a couple times a year would be good.  
20:00:16 From Bill Neill to Everyone : Online meetings plus occasional physical tours.  
20:06:58 From R. Doxsee, LBNC to Everyone : If you can see the sunset, it's beautiful.  
20:11:52 From Melanie Winter to Everyone : Wow, no kidding! Thanks, Ruth!  
20:12:09 From Pat Bates Encino NC to Everyone : It is so-so in Encino  
20:12:44 From Pat Bates Encino NC to Everyone : We can start mapping with GIS...we get license for it with the NCs  
20:14:27 From Pat Bates Encino NC to Everyone : Will ROV ever be voted on by the Senate?  
20:15:10 From Pat Bates Encino NC to Everyone : The basin is in the ROV  
20:22:51 From Pat Bates Encino NC to Everyone : <https://www.feinstein.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/press-releases?id=B7F4BA47-CA4A-42C0-AEAF-CA14BD0C63F8> Rim of Valley introduced in Senate  
20:23:29 From Joe Phillips to Everyone : Early bird no pun intended  
20:23:35 From Glenn Bailey to Everyone : At this time we are allowed to meet virtually due to the Governor's March 29th(?) Executive Order....  
20:23:55 From Glenn Bailey to Everyone : March 29, 2020 that is...  
20:25:27 From Glenn Bailey to Everyone : CORRECTION: Governor's Executive Order N-29-20 was issued March 17, 2020.

## **Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Area Steering Committee Meeting sign in sheet (rolling document)**

**Meeting Date: May 25, 2021**

<b>Organization/affiliation</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Email (if you are not already on the list)</b>
Army Corps of Engineers	Jon Rishi	
California Native Plant Society	George Waddell Bill Neill	
Volunteer	Valley Changemakers	Robyn Albaeck Carla Robinson Ethan Barmache
Los Angeles Audubon Society		
Los Angeles City Department of Parks and Recreation		
Resource Conservation District of Santa Monica Mountains	Glenn Bailey	<a href="mailto:GlennBaileyNCs@gmail.com">GlennBaileyNCs@gmail.com</a> and <a href="mailto:GlennBaileySFV@yahoo.com">GlennBaileySFV@yahoo.com</a>
San Fernando Valley Audubon Society		
Encino Neighborhood Council	Pat Bates	
CNPS representative		
Office of LA County Supervisor Sheila Kuehl	Tessa Charnofsky	
Lake Balboa Neighborhood Council		
The River Project		
Guest/Lake Balboa NC		
CNPS chapter	Richard Rachman	
LA Audubon		
Office of Council President Nury Martinez		
Army Corps of Engineers		
San Fernando Valley Audubon Society	Muriel Kotin	

Guest / Sherman Oaks Green & Sustainability		
San fernando valley sierra club	Terrie brady	sfvscsepbasin@gmail.com
Office of Assemblymember Jesse Gabriel		
LA Rec and Parks		
CNPS Chapter		
USACE		
National Park Service SMMNRA		
Sierra Club		
MRCA	Sofia Aleman	