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PARKS COMMITTEE

Approved Meeting Minutes

September 8, 2014

- 1) Meeting was called to order at 7:18pm by Chair Debra George. Other members present were: Jason Ackerman, Victoria Miller, Diana Crews, Steven DeVore, and Amy Zidell. Pat Bates arrived at 8:00pm.
- 2) Proposed Park Committee meeting minutes May 5th and May 17th were approved 6-0-0.
- 3) Old Business (30 minutes):
 - Barn Owl Boxes – Posts have been installed by RAP. Wild Wings to mount boxes.
 - New soccer field at Hjelte Sports Center – Prop K project pushed out 1-5 years. Jason to continue to monitor.
 - Neighborhood Purposes Grant requests from the San Fernando Valley Audubon Society and the Los Encinos Docents Association. – No checks issued yet. ENC Executive Committee continues to follow up. Little to no response from DONE.
 - Purchase of books related to gardening with California native plants for the Encino-Tarzana Branch Library. – purchase complete
 - Shakespeare in the Park events. – Approximately 600 people attended the Los Encinos event and several hundred attended the Encino Park event. Los Encinos Docents Association plans to repeat the event.
 - Kayaking in the Sepulveda Basin – Will attempt to get number of participants report.
 - Lakeside Café partnership with Los Encinos State Historic Park – Adi McAbian, co-owner of the restaurant introduced his restaurant concept to the meeting attendees and answered questions. Projections indicate that the restaurant should significantly underwrite the operational costs of Los Encinos State Historic Park.
 - Sepulveda Basin Off-Leash Dog Park – Two regular users of the Off-Leash Dog Park were in attendance. Continued request for grass renewal.

4) New Business:

- ACOE CAP public workshop to be held September 12th regarding possible eco system renewal. Additional public workshops to held in the future.
- **Motion to support CF 14-1062 Vending and Camping in Public Parks. The proposed amendment to LA Municipal Code Section 63.44 protects the rights of citizens to enjoy the full use of public parks. Further, we support the six-month delay in implementation in order to create a public awareness campaign. We also request that the camping ban be suspended in the event of a disaster such as a large earthquake with reported structural damages. Community Impact Statement to be sent to Arts, Parks, Health, Aging, and River Committee. 6-0-1**

- 5) Reports from LA City Officials and Departments: Council Districts 5 and 6, Lake Balboa Neighborhood Council, other City departments. None noted.
- 6) Reports from Environmental and Park Groups: SFV Audubon, CA Native Plant Society, Friends of the LA River, Friends of Los Encinos, etc.

SFV Audubon will host a Sepulveda Basin Bird Walk on Sunday, October 5th, 8am – 11am. Contact the leader for more information. kris.ohlenkamp@sfvaudubon.org

The California Native Plant Society will host a Native Plant Sale at the Sepulveda Garden Center; 16633 Magnolia Blvd. on October 25th and 26th, 10am – 3pm. FREE Native Plant Gardening Talks each day at Noon.

Garden plots are available at the Sepulveda Garden Center Call (818) 784-5180 for more information. \$120 per year per plot

Los Encino State Historic Park – Haunted History event to be held October 26th

Los Encino State Park will host a FREE Let's Get Writing course to help you jump-start your writing project. Thursdays at 10am, Sept 11th to Oct 16th. Sign up at vrnwrites@gmail.com

- 7) Public Comment – comment on non-agenda items. Up to two minutes per speaker; no discussion. None noted.

Meeting adjourned at 8:39pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Debra George, Chair