



**CITY OF
LOS ANGELES**

ENCINO NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

(A CERTIFIED NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL)

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SERGEANT AT ARMS**

Committee for Parks, Open Spaces & Recreation – Minutes: December 8, 2008

6:15 - meeting brought to order by Dr. White, we have a quorum:

present: Alan Sarver- vice chair

Sharon Brewer —parks committee member

Michelle Nosco –stakeholder

Dr. RM White –Rep Encino Council, Chair of committee

Arch Kitsinian –Religious rep of committee

Not present: Glen Bailey

Comments from Chair on item 3A agenda item.

-Review of item 3A: Proposed baseball area for Sepulveda Basin

Baseball diamond near children's gym set area

Rec & Park meeting in Reseda Rec Center; Sharon Brewer gives overview:

1. film of universal playground
2. overview with **Q** & **A** on baseball diamond
 - a. Called "universal" playground but only disabled can use it.
 - b. Not in use during weekend
 - c. 150' radius is Astroturf
 - d. Birds can't forage for food on turf
 - e. LAUSD hadn't been to park but indicated a need for area
 - f. No specific info for that particular area.

Dr. White comments:

1. Baseball diamond is presented as an exciting proposal with no printed material to explain project.

2. Indicated a need for documented details

3. Suggests that Alan review Rec & Park (Mr. Mukri [General Manager, Recreation and Parks]) answers to **Q** & **A**:

Alan Sarver reports Mukri's **Q** & **A** regarding ball field proposed specs and location:

1. Lower size field than normal
2. Softer ball
3. Surrounded by trees & vegetation
4. Synthetic material for wheelchairs
5. Dodger Dream wants if:

- a. Adjacent to bathroom facilities
- b. Adjacent to parking
- 6. Ball players are bussed in across street and brought in by escort to access field
- 7. Can't be in location next to able bodied style field because of psychological impact on disabled players.
- 8. No cost to taxpayers or city. \$400,000 to \$600,000 to be paid by Dream Project.
- 9. "If not in this proposed site the project won't be located in LA County"

-Dr. White: Reviews responsibility of member groups on Wildlife Committee to oversee projects as representatives on behalf of Encino area and it's residents. Will address full council on city on subject of baseball diamond project and it's impact as perceived by Audubon Society, Sierra Club, Herpetologists of SW CA, River Project, Tree People.

-Dr. White proposes review of project site with Arch, Michelle and Dr.W Tues. 7:30am, Woodley Lakes Coffee Shop, 12/9. Walk area to see if endangered species are on golf course, or in proposed project area. It's agreed.

-Dr. White reviews Canada Goose Project as model of collaboration and mentoring between able bodied and disabled children (which terms are correct?).

Mr. Mukri has been invited to address full Neighborhood Council in February:

Questions to pose:

- 1. How far is baseball diamond from Wildlife Reserve?
- 2. What is synthetic material?
- 3. If not actively used what is the effect on foraging birds?

Alan asks for Discussion of this committee's responsibility:

Dr.W: We have a mandate to deal with parks during this time of decreased plant life/global warming. Schools come on tours. Excitement regarding education etc:

Dr. White suggests writing mission regarding:

- 1. Parks
 - a. Designated as passive
 - b. Or active recreation
- 2. Open space
 - a. How it's used
 - b. How it's protected
- 3. Recreation

Research need for balance between space allotted to soccer fields and open spaces.

-Alan: How does community communicate to committee regarding open spaces?

-Dr.W: Land, ownership, use of land, people involved w/ recreation issues need to know about this committee. Committee needs visibility so community knows where to come regarding issues. Suggests: Nature and wildlife event in April.

-Alan: Suggests participation with a table in a larger groups event.

-Dr.W: Suggests letting residents know reserve area and what Caltrans in planning and going to build. Offer tours by Audubon Society and Canada Goose Project to explain

proposed impact on the lake.

-Nosco: Reviews Arts For Earth Foundation (AFEF) “Art and Nature” event. Suggests merging professionals in the arts and conservation groups to highlight the value, beauty, and wonder of the wildlife area to those on tour.

-Dr.W: Propose \$800 budget to cover:

1. banner
2. cost of permits
3. posters (simple printing to be posted in stores, schools)
4. artists materials
5. educational materials for community outreach

Outreach committee to publicize event, Encino Newsletter

-Alan requests list of items needed and their cost to present to finance committee in form of a motion to be presented in January.

-Alan makes a motion:

Formulate request for money to finance committee during next full council meeting, to appropriate \$500 to support the creation and operation of Arts For Earth Foundation(AFEF): “Arts & Nature” event.

-Michelle seconds motion.

-All unanimously pass motion for AFEF.

Dr.W: Table Oaks discussion, agenda item D & E, monofilament issue

No new business

No public comment

Meeting adjourned: 7:10pm (7:30)

Next meeting: January 12, 2009

Minutes taken by Michelle Nosco