

**Encino Neighborhood Council**  
**PARKS COMMITTEE**  
Proposed Meeting Minutes

**August 31, 2015**

1) Meeting was called to order at 7:06pm by Chair Debra George. Other members present were: Jason Ackerman, Pat Bates, Diana Crews, Glenn Bailey, Sue Wilschke, and Amy Zidell.

2) Old Business:

- Approved Neighborhood Purpose Grants for Los Encinos Docents Association and Audubon Society were not funded for fiscal year 2013/2014. ENC President put forth an NPG for Audubon Society for fiscal year 2014/2015. Grant was approved but not funded. It appears that NPG for Audubon will fund in fiscal year 2015/2016.

3) New Business:

- Review of Los Angeles Cactus and Succulent Society programs and events. Discussion included having the ENC be one of the sponsors of the 2016 Festival.  
**Motion to approve funding of \$2,000 for the Los Angeles Cactus and Succulent Society's Drought Tolerant Festival with a focus on Kids Day educational programs and events. Celebrating their 80th year, the Los Angeles Cactus and Succulent Society holds their club meetings and yearly Festival at the Sepulveda Garden Center in Encino.**  
**Motion by D. George, Seconded by J. Ackerman 7-0-0 Approved**
- New park friends group formed – Friends of Sepulveda Basin Off-Leash Dog Park. Noted.
- Report on proposed bicycle exercise facility within the Sepulveda Basin. Proposed is a BMX facility to be located south of the Pedlow Skate Park. Further discussion moved to October meeting.
- Report on use of herbicides within the Sepulveda Basin to control non-native weeds. Use of herbicides to control non-native plants within the Sepulveda Basin has been under discussion by the Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Areas Steering Committee. the Steering Committee has funded spot spraying of weeds for a number of years. Carrie Carrier (Topanga Creek Watershed Committee) and Bill Bowling (Topanga Creek Watershed Committee/FoLAR) spoke out against the use of herbicides. FoLAR will organize weekly volunteers to help hand pull non-native weeds.  
**The Encino Parks Committee urges the Encino Neighborhood Council to oppose the spraying of synthetic herbicides to control non-native weeds within the Sepulveda Basin.**  
**Motion by G. Bailey, Seconded by J. Ackerman 7-0-0 Approved**

- Discussion of Atwater NC response to LA River restoration and the involvement of Gehry's architectural firm.  
Parks Committee will attempt to get more information from LARRC. Discussion will be held at Oct 5th meeting.
  - Report on Army Corp of Engineers proposed restoration of the South Reserve.  
ACOE will open a public comment period at the end of Sept/early October for 30 days.  
Further discussion of the proposed restoration will be on the October agenda.
- 4) Reports from LA City Officials and Departments: Council Districts 5 and 6, Lake Balboa Neighborhood Council, other City departments. None noted.
  - 5) Reports from Environmental and Park Groups: SFV Audubon, CA Native Plant Society, Friends of the LA River, Friends of Los Encinos, etc.  
Haunted History will be held at Los Encinos State Historic Park on October 25th
  - 6) Public Comment – comment on non-agenda items. Up to two minutes per speaker; no discussion.  
Request that the upcoming Olympics bid be placed on the October agenda.
- Meeting adjourned at 9:04pm