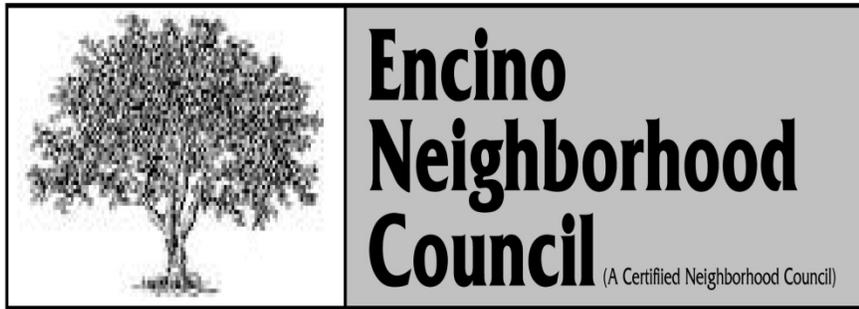


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PROPOSED MINUTES OF PARKS COMMITTEE MEETING
TUESDAY, MAY 18, 2010

Attending members: Glenn Bailey (Chair), Kerri Barton, Sharon Brewer (Vice-Chair), Elaine Glick

Absent Members: Janie Thompson (excused, voting), Frances Zamir (excused, Secretary, voting)

Guests: David Sentance (Southern California Cricket Association)

Call to Order: 6:36 p.m. by Chair Glenn Bailey. Members and attendees introduced themselves.

Announcements: Lyn Klein has moved out of Encino and has resigned as a member of the ENC and the ENC Parks Committee.
Millie Hamilton told Glenn last month that she no longer wishes to be a member of the ENC Parks Committee.
Francie Zamir is dealing with medical issues and will hopefully be back in September.
There are now three openings for ENC members or for stakeholders (non-ENC Board members), for a total of nine voting members.
Quorum was established.

Minutes: March 4, 2010 Parks Committee meeting minutes approved as read. (Brewer/Barton)
VOTE: 3-0-1

Report on April 10, 2010 Community Clean-Up in the Sepulveda Basin (Haskell Creek): Kerri said the clean-up went well. There were approximately 70 volunteers. The Park Rangers promptly picked up the trash bags. Glenn was told that there was a lot of debris from Easter celebrations of the previous weekend. This was due to a special event that closed much of Lake Balboa Park and displaced many people to Woodley Park. Sharon noted that the event at Lake Balboa charged for parking, so this also increased the parking and other problems at Woodley Park. Elaine said that she encountered homeless encampments in Haskell Creek at a previous clean-up. Glenn said there is currently a problem with homeless encampments in the Los Angeles River, west of Balboa Blvd.

Glenn noted later that day he did an interview with someone preparing a documentary about the Los Angeles River. He commented on Sepulveda Basin issues and believes this is an independent film.

Report on April 22, 2010 Valley Water Expo: Kerri estimated that there were over 200 attendees. Glenn said the set-up was well done. There was plenty of room for the exhibitors inside the gym. The event was featured in Councilmember Koretz's newsletter and in the Daily News, which probably reached tens of thousands of people. Janie reached out to many people about the event. Elaine noted that Janie worked very hard.

Update on Balboa Sports Center Walkway Extension and Additional Benches along Walkways: Esther Schwartz (Balboa Sports Complex Park Advisory Board) informed Glenn that Recreation and Parks (RAP) began working (bulldozing) on the walkway by the playground; however it is in the wrong location. The walkway is being installed west of the playground. It was suppose to join the two existing walk paths from the east and north. Glenn said the project was miscommunicated somewhere between Peter Marinovich (RAP, retired), Monica Resendez (RAP, Peter's replacement), and Jeremy Thomas (RAP). Jeremy told Glenn that RAP had planned the westerly path a long time ago. Glenn noted that the path will be made with decomposed granite, and could be removed in the future if necessary. He suggested that, while the equipment is still onsite, that they also construct the path at the correct location. Sharon noted that the westerly path is closer to the playground and further away from the homes.

There is no new update about the benches. Esther also informed Glenn that skateboarders are riding on the picnic tables (noisy and dangerous). Monica has been notified and she is to contact the Office of Public Safety (OPS).

Tillman Water Reclamation Plant Expansion for Recycled Water Treatment: Our motion about the Tillman Expansion was referred back to the committee from the ENC. The original motion was "that the ENC Parks committee recommends, concerning the Recycled Water Treatment Facility proposed to be built at the Tillman Water Reclamation Plant, that the ENC (1) oppose any taking of Woodley Park acreage; (2) recommend that if one or more cricket field(s) need to be removed, that consideration be given to relocating same to the future Sepulveda Basin Sports Complex (former sod farm west of Balboa); and (3) support the protection of Haskell Creek and the buffer area to its west."

David said these are world-renowned cricket fields. They knew there was a potential of losing this area in the future. Cricket has increased in popularity. He noted that this sport is popular among many different nationalities. It is a great exchange of different cultures. The two southerly fields replaced fields that were lost at Griffith Park. The cost to build the fields was \$250,000, which was paid by RAP. Currently, there are no funds available from RAP to rebuild these fields elsewhere. These fields were specially graded and have a distinctive irrigation system. It took two years to construct the fields and have been in use for about six years. Cricket players have been using fields at Woodley Park for about 30 years. He noted that he could get 3,000 cricket players to a meeting, if necessary to protect their fields. Cricket is a low-impact sport and the participants appreciate the wildlife areas. David will request the informal games that take place south of the walk path that leads to wildlife area to move away from the path. They cannot have international games at Woodley Park, due to the lack of lighting. Many of the players carpool, therefore they do not use a lot of parking spaces. The fields are well-maintained and often used for filming.

David noted that a cricket tournament was previously held at Woodley Park. It attracted approximately 13,000 attendees, over the three day event. It was well-organized. They used shuttles to minimize the impact on parking. They do not require a permanent stadium. On a normal weekend, they may have about four games and attract 150 people. The fields are in use from about 9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. They have approximately 50 teams in their organization. Their season is from April to November. The fields are maintained by RAP. The cricket players pay dues, which funds their own worker, who among other duties, chalk the fields. Their website is www.sccacricket.org.

Glenn noted that approximately 200,000 square feet is required for the advanced water treatment facility building. There were originally 50 alternative sites. Now it is down to only five alternatives. One alternative is within the Tillman berm, at the southeast corner.

Motion: (Barton/Glick) “to recommend that the ENC support the retention of the two northerly cricket fields as they exist and oppose the two Advanced Water Treatment project alternatives that will negatively impact them.” VOTE: 4-0-0, CONSENT ITEM

Motion: (Barton/Glick) “to recommend that the ENC support the existing Section One of Woodley Park and oppose any Advanced Water Treatment project alternative that will negatively impact the immediate public park land. VOTE: 4-0-0, CONSENT ITEM

Update on Sepulveda Basin Master Plan, Third Community Workshop held April 24, 2010: Glenn reported that at the meeting a map, which categorized land use, was presented. Many golfers and model airplane enthusiasts were present. TetraTech mentioned at a previous meeting that they were open to suggestions for alternative uses for a golf course (i.e. Woodley Lakes). Once the golfers and model airplane enthusiasts were assured that there would be no changes to the golf course and the airplane field, they exited the meeting. TetraTech is still taking input for the master plan. A draft plan may be completed by the end of the summer. Sharon noted that some of the issues concerning Lake Balboa Park are: the impact of the moonbouncers, impact of allowing fishing, and the prohibition of organized sports there. We will discuss at a future meeting to recommend that TetraTech and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) host another public meeting after the draft plan is presented.

Update on Sepulveda Basin Sports Complex (former Sod Farm site): No one had any new information since our last meeting.

Old Encino Fire Station No. 83; Transfer of Jurisdiction to Expand the Encino Community Center and Site Refurbishment Update: At the January 20, 2010, the Board of Recreation and Parks Commissioners promised a public meeting regarding the Old Fire Station No. 83. RAP was supposed to issue a study about the tanks; however we have been unable to confirm if it has been done. There has not been any new information about potential or requested uses of the facility. RAP requested that this issue be put on the ENC agenda to satisfy their requirement to have a public meeting.

Motion: (Bailey/Barton) “to recommend that the ENC request that the Department of Recreation and Parks have a separate, fully noticed, community meeting regarding the proposed transfer of jurisdiction to expand the Encino Community Center and site refurbishment of the Old Encino Fire Station No. 83. VOTE: 4-0-0, CONSENT ITEM

Motion: (Bailey/Barton) “to recommend that the ENC request that the Department of Recreation and Parks provide a tour of the inside of the facility known as the Old Encino Fire Station No. 83 for the ENC Board Members and interested stakeholders prior to the community meeting. VOTE: 4-0-0, CONSENT ITEM

Sepulveda Basin Special Events, New Review Procedure by USACE: Glenn stated that USACE said, a couple of weeks ago, that they will begin to have a review process of large events (over 1,000 people). They will invite public comments. He suggested that we offer recommendations. Sharon noted that there are no large events scheduled in the Sepulveda Basin in the next month, so we can discuss this at the next meeting.

ENC Ex-Officio Representative on the Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Areas Steering Committee (SBWASC): It was discussed and the consensus was that a representative from the ENC should be part of the SBWASC.

Motion: (Glick/Barton) “to recommend that the ENC accept an ex-officio member position on the Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Areas Steering Committee and that a representative and alternate be designated. VOTE: 4-0-0, CONSENT ITEM”

City Parks Update, Budget/Staff Reductions: Glenn announced that all the RAP community centers will have full staff throughout the summer and then make cuts after the summer.

Next Committee Meeting Date, Time and Location: Our meetings will be on the third Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. The location may be the Encino Community Center. Our next meeting will be on June 15, 2010.

Committee Member Comments and Announcements: Glenn announced that the ENC elections will be on May 27 at 2:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Balboa Sports Center. Residents, property owners, business owners, or stakeholders can participate in the elections. Stakeholders will need documentation. For example, minutes from a meeting pertaining to Encino that meets within the boundaries of the ENC. Voting for the area representatives and can only be voted on by residents from their area. Non-residents can vote only for organizational representative seats.

Public Comment: None.

Announcement of
Adjournment: 9:06 p.m. by Glenn Bailey, Chair.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kerri Barton