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Parks Committee
Approved Meeting Minutes
February 2, 2014

1. Meeting was called to order at 10:15am by Chair Debra George. Other members present were: Glenn Bailey, Sue Wilschke, Jason Ackerman, Stacie M. deArmas (tardy).
2. The proposed minutes for the meeting of December 2nd, 2013 were approved 4-0-0.
3. Old Business:
 - a. Barn Owl Breeding Boxes – meeting to finalize placement will be held on Feb 7th at 8:00am in the area of the Balboa soccer fields.
 - b. Discussion of the proposed new soccer field at Hjelte Sports Center. Proposed location is currently in use by Tapia Brothers for strawberries.

Regarding the proposed new soccer field at Hjelte Sports Center, recommend opposing the loss of agricultural fields currently leased to Tapia Brothers within the Sepulveda Basin. 4-0-0

4. New Business:
 - a. Discussion of attempts by Amstoy Estates neighborhood to replace an oak tree in the 5300 block of Aldea Avenue. Original oak tree fell over approximately 4 years ago after trimming of roots by the City. Concrete curb surrounding the tree was also damaged.

Recommend that the City replace the oak tree formerly located in the 5300 block of Aldea Avenue; including appropriate preparation of the site, replacement of the damaged concrete curb circle with concrete, and that the replacement oak tree be of a substantial size. 5-0-0

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.
 - a. Friends of Los Encinos reported on their upcoming event: Date Night at Los Encinos to be held on February 15th. A Cary Grant movie will be shown and all are encouraged to bring a picnic and blanket for the outdoor event. Also noted that the annual Easter Egg Hunt event will be held the day before Easter.
 - b. Noted that SFV Audubon sent a thank you letter for funds received to support their educational programs. Letter to be read at the full Council meeting.
7. Public Forum: Request was received to reinstitute the LA Recreation and Parks Volunteer Program at the Off-Leash Dog Park. Recreation and Parks have recently denied request. Issues within the Dog Park include people bringing in dogs that have not been spayed, refusal to pick up dog waste, children allowed to climb the trees, eating of food within the dog park, feeding of dogs within the dog park and smoking. It was reported that one Park user had her finger bitten off as a result of a dog fight.

Request will be taken to the Recreation and Parks Commission.

7. Next Park Committee meeting to be held Monday, March 3rd at 7pm.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:40am

Respectfully submitted,

Debra George



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