

NORTH ETIWANDA PRESERVE DISTRICT BOARD MEETING
COUNTY SERVICE AREA 120 – North Etiwanda Preserve
Meeting Minutes
October 21, 2010
2:30 p.m.

In Attendance:

Board of Directors:

Tim Johnson
Paul Williams

Non-Board Members:

Jennes McBride – U.S. Fish and Wildlife
Rob Ball – Rancho Cucamonga Fire Protection District
Tim Millington – Special Districts
Jeff Patty – Western Slope and Mineral
Steve Ash – Western Slope and Mineral
Michael D. Flores – CA Dept. of Fish & Game
Ben Mackall – R.C Fire Safe Council
Dennis Cisneros – R.C. Fire Safe Council
Carol Douglas – Alta Loma riding club
Rob Hills – Cucamonga Valley Water District
Candyce Burnett – City of Rancho Cucamonga

Introduction:

The San Bernardino County North Etiwanda Preserve (Preserve) meeting was called to order on October 21, 2010 by Tim Johnson at 2:30 p.m. and introductions were made.

Review of Minutes from the November 19, 2009 Meeting:

Board Chairman, Tim Johnson skipped over the item due to a lack of a quorum.

Public Comment:

Dennis Cisneros, R.C. Fire Safe Council (FSC) indicated that the Fire Safe Council has been in existence since 2003 and that the FSC acknowledges and appreciates the work being done within the NEP to curb illegal activities and protect habitat.

Carol Douglas, Alta Loma Riding Club commented on the approval of the Management Plan and the growing concern equestrians have over riding restrictions. She stated that east west trial route options were being eliminated and wanted to see that future plans would include provision for equestrian routes.

Rob Ball, RCFPD commented on a meeting held with County Flood Control over the implementation of a fire reduction plan in their Flood Control areas. Flood Control indicated some Flood Control areas had been designated as conservation areas. Mr. Ball had a question regarding how Flood Control is interacting with CSA 120 on the transfer or establishment of mitigation/conservation properties. Tim Johnson answered indicating that he is only aware of one mitigation area adjacent to the San Seveine Dam that has been set aside. Mr. Johnson went

on to say that the intent is to include any mitigation properties designated in the area to be managed by CSA 120. Mr. Johnson also went on to say that the area is not currently part of the Preserve and that fuel reduction should be addressed as part of the Fire management Plan.

Endowment Interest Report:

CSA 120 Manager Tim Millington distributed endowment interest report and indicating interest earning fluctuations since 2006. Interest earned for the previous quarter was 1.17%. Interest earnings for the present quarter are not yet available.

Tim Johnson asked if the budget was built on interest earnings of 1.17%. Tim Millington stated that the budget was based on anticipating interest earnings of 4%.

NEP Management Plan:

CSA 120 Manager, Tim Millington indicated that the Management Plan had been approved by the County Board of supervisor this past Tuesday, October 19, 2010. Mr. Millington was holding off on the distribution of copies of the newly adopted plan until approved copies were received. He stated that one of the next items to be worked on was the Fire Management Plan and that a meeting would be held to begin this effort.

Tim Johnson wanted Mr. Millington to summarize for everyone why the Management Plan was updated and give a brief history of the process. Mr. Millington indicated that the previous Management plan had been approved back in 1998 by the Board of Supervisor and that it had been approved prior to incorporations of final comments found in a later draft. Mr. Millington stated that the formation of CSA 120 and need to include items found in the later draft were reasons to update and approve an updated Management Plan.

Mitigation Land Proposal: Mr. Millington introduced a mitigation proposal from Western Slope and Mineral that would provide 5 acres of mitigation land to the District. Jeff Patty spoke on the intent of Western Slope and Mineral to transfer property to the District to satisfy a 2.9 acre mitigation requirement imposed by the city of Rancho Cucamonga for a development project. Mr. Millington distributed maps and other information on the proposed mitigation proposal. Mr. Millington stated that a biological opinion was completed for the property and that it had been reviewed by Board Member and Biologist Mr. KcKernan (not present to speak on item) of the County Museum. The NEP lacked a quorum to make a recommendation that the parcel be accepted. Mr. Millington indicated that a recommendation was not required for the Board of Supervisor as the governing body of the District to approve acceptance of the property. Jeff Patty indicated the urgency of the need to satisfy the mitigation requirement and the desire to have it completed before the end of the year if possible.

Review of 10/11 Budget and Discussion of Annual Work Plan: The NEP Budget was discussed along with the need for the NEP Board to establish a format for the Annual Work Plan. Mr. Millington indicted that the budget for the 10/11 FY was based a receipt of 4% in interest revenue and that adjustments to expenditures have been made to compensate. He also described the effect interest earnings can have on budgeted items relative to an Annual Work Plan. He described how items initially contained within the budget have been eliminated in order to adjust to interest earnings. Board Member Paul Williams spoke about the need to limit expenditures to necessities. Tim Millington told the board that most all expenditures have been related to clean-up of illegal dumping in and adjacent to the Preserve. Tim Johnson asked about the cost of

clean-ups. Mr. Millington responded saying that it takes about \$1,000 for a clean-up that includes cost of dumpsters, portable toilets, hand wash areas and clean-up supplies. He outlined that a number of clean-ups had involved the establishment of partnerships with other groups and agencies. Tim Johnson asked about USFWS offer to maintain data base associated with habitat mapping. Jenness McBride said that she would look into the USFWS ability to help and provide potential resources for studies and mapping. She indicated USFWS receives many requests and that habitat mapping doesn't show on the ground results and are not commonly funded by the USFWS. Ms. McBride offered a suggestion to apply for a section 6 endangered species grant offered through the CADFG. Michael Flores indicated that he had just recently found out about Section 6 grant availability through CADFG, but believes the grant cycle ends November 1. Agencies were to stay in touch with Mr. Millington on grant availability through the Agencies to help with habitat mapping and biological studies.

Tim Johnson brought up a budget item related to education programs and the receipt of a Habitat Conservation Grant received by the District. Tim Millington described the need for match funding for that grant and that the grant is a partnership with the Inland Empire Resource Conservation District (IERCD). Mr. Millington outlined the funds needed to meet match requirements and described how some of the match was in kind services to be provided by the IERCD. Match funds are needed for bus transportation and other items that can't be covered with in kind services. Jenness McBride suggested looking into a grant opportunity that offers \$8,000 grants under a USFWS program to Connect Kids to Nature. She stated that the grant is commonly given to schools to install gardens, but that the grant could be used for other things such as bus transportation to the site.

Tim Johnson asked about other items contained in the budget that would not be funded based on the reduction in interest earnings. Tim Millington outlined some of the items and spoke about how volunteer efforts, reduced vandalism, and conscientious use has helped to limit expenditures.

Sample Permit for Initial Studies: Tim Millington distributed a sample permit for review by the Board. Mr. Millington described the need for tracking requests for use of the Preserve through a permit process. Tim Johnson asked whether the permit is something currently included in the fee schedule. Mr. Millington indicated that the permit was not currently associated to the fee schedule. Tim Johnson asked that Mr. Millington include an agenda item for further discussion related to the fee schedule and permit at a future meeting.

Establishment of Sphere of Influence for County Service Area 120: Tim Millington went into details related to the establishment of a sphere of influence and the lack of funding available to initiate an application to LAFCO. Without submittal of an application to LAFCO the sphere of influence would co-terminate with the present District boundary. Mr. Millington indicated that the Executive Director of the IERCD has met with him regarding potential concerns over the expansion of a Sphere of Influence for CSA 120.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:25 PM

Next Scheduled Meeting set for:

January 20, 2011, at 2:30 p.m.

2nd District Supervisor Field Office

8575 Haven Avenue, Suite 110

(Corner of Haven and Arrow Rte.)

Ranch Cucamonga, CA