

NORTH ETIWANDA PRESERVE DISTRICT BOARD MEETING
COUNTY SERVICE AREA 120 – North Etiwanda Preserve
Meeting Minutes
April 21, 2011
2:30 p.m.

In Attendance:

Board of Directors:

Dianna Lee
John Roberts
Robert Mckernan
Sam Spagnolo
Paul Williams

Non-Board Members:

Jennes McBride – U.S. Fish and Wildlife
Rob Ball – Rancho Cucamonga Fire Protection District
Tim Millington – Special Districts
Ann Brierty – San Manuel Band of Mission Indians
Anthony Madrigal – San Manuel Band of Mission Indians
Michael D. Flores – CA Dept. of Fish & Game
Joanna Gibson – CA Dept. of Fish & Game
Jesse Estrada – Cal Fire
Katie Heer – Inland Empire Resource Conservation District
Mandy Parks – Inland Empire Resource Conservation District
Tom Munn – NEP Steward
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
Richard Thornburgh – US Forest Service - Front Line Ranger Station

Introduction:

The San Bernardino County North Etiwanda Preserve (Preserve) meeting was called to order on April 21, 2011 by Dianna Lee at 2:30 p.m. and introductions were made. Three newly appointed Board Members, John Roberts representing the City of Fontana, Sam Spagnolo representing the City of Ranch Cucamonga, and Dianna Lee representing the 2nd Supervisorial District were introduced.

Review of Minutes from the October 21, 2010 Meeting:

Only two Board Members were present at the October 21, 2010 meeting. Although the meeting was held the board lacked a quorum at the October meeting. The meeting minutes for October 21, 2010 were presented to the NEP Board by Mr. Millington. The lack of a quorum at the previous meeting and seating of new Board Members at this the April 21, 2011 meeting prohibited the approval of minutes. The October 21, 2010 Meeting Minutes were submitted and acknowledged without approval.

Public Comment:

Carol Douglas, stated that one east west trail route option that included use of the powerline corridor through the Preserve was eliminated upon adoption of the NEP Management Plan. She was looking for help to determine an appropriate east-west travel route for equestrians. The item was to be addressed in a meeting with Planning agencies and organizations with jurisdiction over trails.

Rob Rills asked if there was information or intentions to reintroduce the Yellow Legged Frog in the Day Creek Area.

Tom Munn brought up the need to organize and expand volunteer base. He made the suggestion of using the internet to set up a social network for the NEP. Mr. Munn also spoke about the possibility of doing special activities in the Preserve that would generate more interest. He stated that there are a growing number of people that visit the area.

Steven Farrell spoke about initiating a meet up hiking club or volunteer conservation meet up group to help facilitate getting more people involved.

Ca. Dept. of Fish and Game Representative Michael Flores indicated that he had accepted another position with CDFG outside the area and that this would be his last NEP Meeting. He introduced Joanna Gibson with the CDFG as his replacement.

Endowment Interest Report:

CSA 120 Manager Tim Millington distributed endowment interest report. Interest earned for the previous quarter was 0.956% for earnings of \$3,811.93 for the quarter. Funds within the non wasting endowment stood at \$1,594,210.84 at the end quarter.

NEP Fire Management Plan:

CSA 120 Manager, Tim Millington indicated that a draft version of the Fire Management Plan would begin to be developed. The draft plan would be a starting point for discussion into what the final plan would ultimately include. It was suggested that Robb Ball of the Rancho Cucamonga Fire Protection District (RCFPD) come to the next meeting and discuss the Fire Response strategy for wilderness areas within the RCFPD. It was also mentioned that there was a Fire Management Plan for the Hunters Ridge Development that could serve as a reference for development of the NEP Fire Management Plan. It was also indicated that Cal Fire may have information available within a plan that could also be used.

Mitigation Land Proposal: Mr. Millington gave an update as to the acceptance of a five acre mitigation parcel along with \$30,325 in associated fees and endowment funds from Western Slope and Mineral. The County Board of Supervisor had approved the acceptance on December 14, 2010, but some outstanding liens on the property were holding up the transfer of property title and final acceptance. The property acceptance was in escrow and would complete when lien issue was resolved. A conservation easement is to be placed on the property simultaneous with the close of escrow and transfer of title.

Review of 11/12 Budget and Discussion of Annual Work Plan: CSA 120 Manager, Tim Millington presented the proposed budget and indicated that reduced interest yields of less than 1% were having an effect on what could be accomplished. The budget included funds to hold

some clean-ups but not much of anything else. The budget also included the provision of education programs through a Habitat Conservation Grant secured through California State Parks Office of Grants and Local Services. Grant would enable provision of education programs for school groups, but match funding was still needed for the grant. Appropriation of funds for biological studies and habitat mapping were included in reduced amounts, but without supplemental grant funds or increased interest earnings it was unlikely that these tasks would be performed. Discussion was held amongst the group as to the budget and the need for additional funds. Mr. Millington indicated that the budget provides the basis for the annual work plan. He pointed out that the budget is itemized to describe planned expenditures and work to be achieved if projected revenue is realized. Projected work would only be accomplished if corresponding revenue to support budgeted items was realized.

Issuance of Permits for Educational Studies and Collection of Traditional Cultural Plants for Ceremonial Use by Local Native American Tribes: Tim Millington spoke about a recent meeting held with tribal representatives from the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians to initiate discussion on the implementation of a possible permit process to organize and track Educational Studies and Collection of Traditional Cultural Plants for Ceremonial Use by Local Native American Tribes. Mr. Millington redistributed a draft sample permit for review and comment by the Board. Mr. Millington described the need for tracking requests for use of the Preserve through a permit process. Representatives of the tribe indicated that they were pleased to be working collaboratively with CSA 120 on this project. It was determined that a plant list and site visit to the Preserve was needed to speak more specifically about Ceremonial Collection.

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 for CSA 120 would co-terminate with the present District boundary.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:00 PM

Next Scheduled Meeting set for:

July 21, 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