

## Wildlife Corridor Conservation Authority Advisory Committee Bullet Minutes

May 4, 2011

13230 E. Penn St., Whittier, California

by: Sona McCoy, Secretary

- I. Call to order.
- II. Administration oath of office to Mango Gulshan and Ken Kietzer.
- III. Roll Call. All present except Shelley Andros, Stephen Davis, William Madden, Roland vom Dorp and Jeff Yann. New members: Mango Gulshan from Diamond Bar and Ken Kietzer from California State Parks.
- IV. Election of Officers: Helen Rahder – Chair; Claire Schlotterbeck – Vice Chair; Secretary – Sona McCoy
- V. Helen Rahder gives special recognition to Wilbur Smith for extraordinary accomplishments.
- VI. Helen Rahder gives special recognition to John Beauman for extraordinary accomplishments.
- VII. No comments by members of the public on items not on the agenda and public testimony on all agenda items.
- VIII. No Advisory Committee and staff response to public comment.
- IX. Minutes from meeting of Oct. 6, 2010 were approved. Bullet minutes were corrected. Claire Schlotterbeck suggests softening comments made by advisory committee. Strike comments: Item XIII: “The whole idea is to stick it to them stronger”; Item XIII: Comment by Robert Turner: Strike: “If the park closes then the city closes”. Item XIII: Reply by Claire Schlotterbeck to Robert Turner. Strike, “We threw a fit.”
- X. Update on Governing Board meeting held on Oct. 6, 2010: Comments by Judi Tamasi.
- XI. Comments and announcements from Advisory Committee members:

Alissa Ing gave update on the removal of high power transmission towers. She was present, at the site, for the entire process of removal and supervised the activity.

Alissa Ing gave an up-date on the endangered Vireo. (I could not find the correct spelling of the type of Vireo... not in my bird book, sorry!)

20 years ago it was extremely endangered. 1977, Karen Miner found a pair. In 1988, Alyssa found two pairs. Now, there are 4-10 pairs. The last three years, the numbers of these birds has exploded. There is an estimated 50-100 pair. This has caused Alyssas to trim down activities in the park during nesting season. The Santa Ana Water Shed Authority has done a lot to preserve these birds.

Claire Schlotterbeck announced the Carborn Canyon Wildfire AFair is May 14 from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Sona McCoy announced Edible and Medicinal Plant Walk at her home, May 15, 2011. All are invited. She also informed the group that Roland vom Dorp, Judi Ennis and several members of the city of La Habra Heights who belong to a group called, CPGP (Committee to Protect the General Plan), sponsor a SOUP NIGHT every month. This is done before City Council Meetings. The goal is to invite all residents of the city to a home and discuss what is happening in city council and how we can better enforce the original General Plan created by the city. Emphasis is on wildlife preservation and retention of a rural life style and green space.

Helen Rahder commented on the May 5, 2011 Scoping Meeting for the new EIR created by the city of Whittier. The recent EIR came to a halt in December 5, 2010 because of numerous complications. This is concerning a proposal for oil drilling in Whittier Hills. Bob Henderson, of the Puente Hills Landfill Habitat and current Mayor of Whittier, purchased land from Chevron Oil ... many years ago. Oil companys want to return to the site and open old wells. They want to drill again. There are many complications that may result by drilling again.

Later, this evening, Bob Henderson gave a talk about the project but only a few of the members of the Advisory Committee were present. This was an unofficial part of the meeting.

Helen Rahder commented on purchase of Tonner Canyon by the City of Industry. It is not near the city but ten miles from it. It is unknown at this time what the City of Industry wishes to do with the Canyon.

Bob Kanne commented on his disappointment that the normal Eagle Scout presentations, honoring new Eagle Scouts did not take place in Tonner Canyon.

Robert Turner suggested that maybe the City wants to use the Canyon as a huge reservoir.

XII. It was moved and passed that the Governing Board authorize a comment letter to County of Los Angeles on the Draft 2035 General Plan.

Judi Tamasi gave a summary of the letter that was written to the County of Los Angeles.

Helen Rahder commented that these letters have been sent to LA County over the past several years and WCCA has commented several times on it.

Helen Rahder expressed concern that the South-West corner of the Aera property be included.

Claire Schlotterbeck asked why this property was left out of the plan.

Judi Tamasi commented about this.

Allysa Ing commented that there should be more time given to study the science of a proposed, dedicated area before trails are made. Whenever there is dedication of open space, there needs to be generous time given for an ecological study.

Judi Tamasi suggested a restatement of pg. 4 in the draft. This was re-stated.

XIII. Judi Tamasi proposes a letter to the United States Corps of Engineers Vegetation Policy for Levees, San Gabriel Valley.

Helen Rahder agrees. She feels the Corps of Engineers policy is archaic and needs to be re-written.

Bob Kanne commented on this.

Alyssa Ing commented on this.

It was voted and approved to write a comment letter. First, however, it was suggested by Helen Rahder that Judi Tamasi and her staff find out what other organization feel about this policy. Perhaps, we can enlighten them or they can enlighten us on the issue.

Alyssa Ing suggested we need to get the advice of experts in this field.

XIV. Update and discussion regarding Whittier Main Oil Field Development Project.

Helen Rahder gave out her publication, "The Preservationist".

(Re-cap of previous notes):

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XV. No reports from Advisory sub-committees.

XVI. No statements to staff pursuant to Section 54956.2(a)

XVII. Adjournment. No announcement of next meeting.

Following this meeting, an unofficial talk was given by Bob Henderson regarding the Whittier Oil Drilling project. Since this was not part of the meeting, no comments follow.