

Project GREEN Steering Committee Meeting Minutes

6:00 p.m.

March 19, 2008

Silver Spring Recreation Center

Present:

Catherine Crowell
Jonna Sansom
Marc Harris
Al Jankowiak
Susan Harris
Curt Chandler
John Harris (Boy Scout)
Pier Martin
Chad Kooistra
Evelyn Gajowski

Eagle Scout Project

Potential Eagle Scout projects for John Harris were discussed. It seems that most of the major work in the area between Green Valley Parkway and Valle Verde has been completed. Some potential projects for Mr. Harris could be building trails in the Legacy area of the project, building foundations for the kiosks, or installing signs. Mr. Harris or his parents will call Curt Chandler next week to confirm a project and a date.

Nesting Areas

Evelyn noted that the previous project by the Clark County Leadership Forum group had rerouted the trail away from the bird nesting areas, but people were still walking through it. We discussed ways to discourage people from doing that. Suggestions included signs and tape around the site.

Adaptive Management Plan

Chad provided additional results from the management plan. Paco is going over the results. The Nevada Conservation Corps is planning to do more surveys. The previous survey was done in the morning and they expect to do the next one in the afternoon to get a cross section of users. Some of the findings so far are that about 70% of the users of the project live less than one mile from it, and 80% of the users walk to the Wash. Eighty percent of the users said they would like to see more trash containers and less dog waste in the Wash. Forty percent felt that dog waste was a problem. The committee expressed some concern that the people interviewed may have confused the Project GREEN trails with the trails at the top of the Wash which are constructed and maintained by the Parks Department.

Flood Control/Utilities

Jonna Sansom, City of Henderson Engineering Services Manager, explained that the Department of Utility Services (DUS) is under pressure from the State of Nevada to take action in response to the sewer spill that occurred several years ago. DUS is concerned that it will receive more pressure as the result of a sewer overflow that occurred on Valle Verde at the Wash. They have asked their engineer, PBS&J, to revise their previous

report to look more closely at erosion potential in the Wash. A previous study by PBS&J recommended a lined channel in the Wash to protect the sewer line.

It is unlikely that the Clark County Regional Flood Control District would approve funding for a lined channel if its only purpose is to protect the sewer line, however, they may approve a lined channel downstream of the UPRR bridge because erosion of the Wash could pose a hazard for the homes at the top of the bank. DUS has asked PBS&J to begin the design of the channel downstream of the UPRR bridge and to revise their report with the new erosion information.

DUS is also concerned about the lack of access to its manholes in the Wash. We will work with them on that between Valle Verde and the UPRR as we design our project to restore that area. It is likely that DUS will look more seriously at the option of relocating their sewer from the middle of the Wash to one of the banks.

Earth Day 2008

Project GREEN will celebrate Earth Day on Saturday April 26. The actual Earth Day is the 22nd. This year there will be participation from other City departments and organizations in addition to the Project GREEN work day. There will be booths from environmental groups and others who focus on the outdoors. The booths will be set up along the path at the top of the Wash near the amphitheater. Our project will be mostly cleaning the Wash and possibly moving some of the chipped tamarisk off of the storage pile and onto the trails. We will be looking for volunteers to assist with registration for Project GREEN at the event, as well as people to run a Project GREEN booth. Jonna, Pier, Katherine, and Chad agreed to help.