

MARIN CONSERVATION LEAGUE

Land Use, Transportation, Water, Agricultural Land Use: March 9, 2016, 9 to 11:20 AM

Present: Susan Stompe, chair; also Don Dickenson, Bob Miller, Kate Powers, Judy Teichman, Ann Thomas, Doug Wilson.

Announcements. The March 12 Walk into History is deferred due to rain forecast.

January 6 and February 32016 Meeting Notes. OK as presented.

Agenda. Added reports on Black Point/Greenpoint Community Plan action at BOS.

Measure AA. Reported that MCL board has endorsed Measure AA. Kate has been asked to be on the list of people being considered as signers on the Marin ballot. This will go on the board agenda.

Artificial Turf. Committee reviewed a list of factors, which Susan prepared, that could be considered when evaluating a site for installation of artificial turf, noting that percolation and runoff could be added. This was suggested as a check off list for MCL to use, in lieu of having a policy. Deferred action pending the following: 1) EPA is conducting a review of artificial turf and expects releasing data at year end, 2) Susan to check with New York and San Francisco, two cities that have approved protocols for use.

IPM Commission Annual Report. This was accepted 3-2 (Connolly and Sears dissenting) at the BOS March 1 meeting. Although this was not an action item, other than to accept the report, there were a members of the public who used the meeting to speak at open time in opposition glyphosate use. Nona spoke on behalf of MCL to support continuing with an IPM approach to weed management.

Black Point Community Plan. Although approval of the plan was recommended by the Planning Commission last July, the BOS, in response to a request from a number of Green Point homeowners, agreed to split the community and have a separate community plan for Green Point. With Supervisor Arnold in support, the board approved the proposed community plan for the Black Point residential area and have a new one done for the Green Point area. Green Point will continue to be subject to policies in the old 1978 community plan until such time as a new plan is done, which could be several years away.

Transportation Issues. 1) There is a 3rd community workshop March 15 for the public to comment on options for in the Sir Francis Drake Blvd Rehabilitation project. Of the \$13.2 million set aside for the project by the TAM, about \$6 million is committed to corridor rehabilitation such as repaving, leaving the remainder for other traffic and corridor improvement projects. Among major items under consideration: restriping to add 4 to 6 foot buffer lanes along some segments that would be available for bicycle use, and to add a 3rd traffic lane from El Portal to 101 (lanes would be reduced in width); altering layout and restriping at La Cuesta and Eliseo intersections to allow for simultaneous left turns from north and south sides of SFD, creating more “green light” time at the intersections; redoing the sidewalk from Eliseo to Laurel Grove into a 10 or 11 foot multi-use walkway; possibly enlarging some bus shelters and closing stops that are not heavily used; adding a sidewalk along Marin Catholic frontage; and removing parking spaces to add a second left turn lane from SFD onto College Avenue. Where buffer/bike lanes or a 3rd traffic lane are added, the traffic lanes would be reduced from the current width of up to 14 feet, to about 11 feet. 2) Kate volunteered to represent MCL on the TAM citizen oversight committee.

Recommendation. M/S (Doug/Don) and approved to recommend to board that Kate be appointed as MCL representative on the TAM oversight committee.

Water Issues. 1) The MCL water speaker series will feature MMWD retiring ranger Bill Hogan with reminiscences of the Mount Tam watershed on Thursday, March 24. 2) An initiative is being circulated to enact a moratorium on fluoride use at MMWD (probably not an environmental issues) 3) MCSTOPPP continues to organize the county jurisdictions' effort to comply with EPA/state mandates to reduce polluted urban runoff to the Bay, including new requirements dealing with trash reduction. One new program is the Covered Truck Loads program wherein trucks will be required to be tarped when traveling on 101. The Highway Patrol has an ongoing trash program and will participate.

BioMarin Project/San Rafael. Kate reported there is local concern that a PCB plume, from the PG&E site where BioMarin plans an office building, is breaching a slurry wall barrier and that this plume could get into Mahone Creek. BioMarin is purchasing the PG&E site subject to completion of the toxics cleanup, and a group of residents are watchdogging the project have opposed the City's approval of a negative declaration for the project; the 30 day window in which approval could be challenged, is past.

Agricultural Reports

NPS Seashore Ranch Management Plan. (Judy) The Park Service's last update was in December. There is no report on how they are responding to the lawsuit filed by Huey Johnson, the Center for Biological Diversity, and a Midwest advocacy group.

Quarterly Ag Meeting. The next meeting will be April 22 and the program will include a speaker on historical structures.

The next meeting is April 6, 2016.

Notes: AT