

**Marin Conservation League**  
**North Marin Unit**  
DRAFT Meeting Notes  
November 19, 2015

The meeting was called to order at the Applen home at 12:10. Present were: Hank Barner, Rick Fraitcs, Joyce Applen, Pam Drew (12:50), Edith Piltch, Don Wilhelm, Dorothy Thomas, Frank U'Ren, Pat U'Ren, and Susan Stompe.

**Announcements:** MCL office Holiday party is Dec. 4, the NMU holiday potluck is Dec. 10 at Stompes., The city needs signatures of island workers on a form, Rick signed for April and May, Delyn offered to do the island in Dec. and signed on.

**Notes of the October meeting** were approved as distributed.

**Guest Speaker: Bob Brown**, Community Development Director, City of Novato.

Bob reviewed the work the city has done on White Papers in preparation for the General Plan revision. Issues addressed include: Bel Marin Keys Industrial Park, Urban Growth Boundary, Junior Second Units, water availability, Climate Change and sea level rise, Complete Streets, Downtown Specific Plan. Areas where there will likely be change include: North Redwood Blvd. with life style retail, North N. Redwood may entertain mixed use at Firemens Fund and senior housing on 12 acres north of Firemens, the NW Quad with a form-based zoning code, and the downtown area between Vallejo and Olive on Redwood from general commercial to downtown core. No transit oriented development is planned near the bus facility. A few years ago a CEQA exemption was allowed, but it is difficult to qualify. The draft General Plan should be released in Jan. or Feb., followed by workshops on various topics. March to July work will begin on the EIR actually initiated during the workshop process. Meetings on the EIR will be in the fall.

In response to a question about the Hamilton sports facility, Bob said there was some planning as part of the BRAC(Base Realignment and Closure) process. Mendolsohns took it up after a community survey demonstrated 82% felt there is a need for the facility. There is an application, but it is being revised. It will need an EIR. Bob said The Square owners should be submitting a plan soon that includes some housing. He said there are no plans for implementing any projects at O'Hair park, but Pam said she has heard suggestions. The website of projects submitted to the city will be updated with staff changes since last July.

**Novato Creek Watershed Study** – Susan passed around suggested alternatives for the lower creek that could provide flood mitigation and potential sea level rise protection for the community. The county is exploring this with the Novato Flood Control District and the county Watershed Study.

**County Parks Road and Trail management plan:** Rick reviewed the first two workshops the county has sponsored to discuss the plan. The first was the Mill Valley area, which went fairly smoothly. The second area addressed was San Geronimo Valley. That workshop did not go well primarily because the maps were difficult to read and the trails were numbered instead of named. There will be a workshop for the Novato area, but it has not yet been scheduled. Access for Bikes has been lobbying for more access. Legacy zones are being ignored

**Status Reports:** The senior project on N.North Redwood is proposed to be 3 stories and 104 units.

The meeting adjourned at 2:00

The next meeting will be the Holiday Potluck on Dec. 10 at the Stompe home.