

Marin Conservation League
North Marin Unit
Meeting Notes
September 23, 2015

The meeting was called to order at the Stompe home at 12:15. Present were: Rick Fraites, Hank Barner, Delyn Kies, Don Wilhelm, Rosalie Webb, Dorothy Thomas, Pam Drew, Frank U'Ren, Pat U'Ren, and Susan Stompe. Guests: Ramin Khany, District Manager, and Alishia McCutcheon, permitting administrator, from Redwood Landfill.

Announcements: There was a good turn out for Coastal CleanUp. 34 people helped haul about 700 Lb. of stuff from 2 segments of Novato Creek, one segment of Warner Creek and Scottsdale Pond. A bonus was watching a family of river otters on Scottsdale Pond.

Notes of the August meeting were approved as distributed

Guests Ramin Khany and Alisha McCutcheon attended the meeting to update the status of the Landfill. Ramin distributed information delineating the status of various elements of the Landfill operation. The 2008 Permit was issued just after the EIR was certified, however a lawsuit stopped the process. After bouncing from lower to appellate and back again, the EIR was upheld in 2015. **Landfill Gas to Energy** facility construction should start in October and be completed in 2016. There is an agreement with MCE to buy the energy. It should produce 4 Kw, which is about enough to power a city the size of Novato. The **C & D** (construction and demolition) facility must be built within 2 years of the Permit. The application has been submitted, the management report and permit application have been filed. The permit from the ~~AQCB~~ CalRecycle is for rerouting ~~70~~ up to 400 tons per day through the facility. Eventually 100 -120 T. will be processed here and in other facilities in the area. The **Composting Facility** has been running since November 2014. The old permit was for 170 T/day in open windrows. The tonnage permitted is now up to 514 Tpd, although currently 350 - 400Tpd is composted on site in 26 composting bays. 8 additional bays should be open by the end of the year. The CASP (covered aerated static pile) process uses compost to cover, with internal pipes to aerate from within. The public can buy the compost, although most goes to wineries. It costs \$3.50 per bag and there is a variety of compost types. Mulched ~~lean~~ wood is used for daily cover (no treated wood). The Landfill needs a new permit every 5 years. An EIR is needed only if there is a major operational change. Ramin said that the landfill will not be at capacity until about 2036 since there is so much recycling and diversion.

SMART stations in Novato are at Redwood Blvd at San Marin, and at Hamilton. There has been a local call for changing the north station to downtown, since Firemen's Fund is no longer at the current station. Don Wilhelm expressed concern that SMART would need to reevaluate its operation and tracks to determine if a downtown stop is feasible under the planned tracks and sidings. Some pointed out that the commute trains could stop at the Redwood/San Marin station where the jobs are located, and midday or weekend trains could use the downtown stop. Don said the initial operation plan does not include midday or weekend service. Don suggested a letter to SMART to clarify their limitations. He agreed to help compose such a letter. Issues would include who would pay for the platform, whether the stop would work with current sidings and whether the EIR would need to be amended.

Blackpoint Community Plan: Hank said the Black Point advisory committee to update the Black Point Community Plan has met a couple more times with staff, but no changes have been to the Plan. The October date for a hearing at the BOS has been moved up to January. Susan distributed the letter that was rejected by the MCL Board, which most thought represented the Unit's recommendation. Susan needs to draft a revision.

Highway 37: Hank reported that the last meeting of the 'stakeholder' group addressed it becoming a toll road.

Novato General Plan: This item was deferred because of the late hour.

Bus Transit Center: Marin Transit approved the design. It was approved by the City Council on August 26.

The meeting adjourned at 2:20

The next meeting will be at the Wilhelm house on Thursday, October 22.