

Climate Action Committee
MARIN CONSERVATION LEAGUE
April 27, 2011

Meeting Notes

The meeting was called to order by Michelle Passero at 6:30. PRESENT: Committee members Nona Dennis, Michelle Passero, Gideon Bernstein, Ed Mainland, Bob Spofford, Joe Bunker, Jon Elam, and Bruce Fullerton

- 1. Announcements:** The Climate Action Committee will change its quarterly meetings to meet at least bi-monthly with the next meeting to be scheduled in early June. The Committee will also be seeking a co-chair. On May 7th, San Rafael will be holding its May Madness meeting focused on zero emissions transportation (electric vehicles and bikes). Sustainable Novato will hold a meeting on May 21 at the Fireman's Fund (777 San Marin Drive) focused on zero emissions transportation.

- 2. Discussion and Action Items:**
 - a. Green Building:
 - i. Bruce mentioned that additional follow up work is needed to promote BERST in Mill Valley, Corte Madera, Larkspur and Belvedere. Bruce committed to lead an effort in coordination with Gideon and Ed to develop a strategy and bring it back to the CAC.
 - b. Climate Change Outreach and Education:
 - i. Jon Elam reported that he and Michelle visited the Tam Valley Community Center site to explore the option of developing an educational display on sea level rise. Jon explained that it was a viable site. Follow up work will include 1) researching the educational display on sea level rise at Crissy Field, 2) estimating the cost of developing an interpretive sign, 3) developing careful messaging and 4) talking to Steve Griswald (Jon). Jon and Michelle will develop a more detailed proposal of the project for the CAC to consider.
 - c. Business Breakfast
 - i. The CAC also discussed having a climate change topic as the subject of the next business breakfast, likely in early fall. Michelle will follow up with Bruce and Dru to develop some initial ideas.
 - d. Newsletter
 - i. The CAC also discussed briefly the possibility of a regular section on climate change in the MCL newsletter. Michelle will follow up with Susan and Dru to discuss the prospect of a dedicated climate section.
 - e. Additional support for outreach efforts

- i. The CAC discussed the merits of reaching out to other individuals with experience and success with public education/outreach on climate and environmental issues. Bob Brown was identified as a good contact for providing some insights and advice. Joe agreed to reach out to Bob Brown and explore his interest in meeting with the CAC.
- f. SB 375/Sustainable Communities Strategy
 - i. Nona provided a brief update on the SB 375 Initial Vision Scenario developed by ABAG and MTC, which is the draft plan to fulfill the SB 375 requirement of a regional sustainable communities strategy to reduce transportation related emissions and develop more livable communities. ABAG is now conducting workshops across Bay Area counties to solicit feedback on the initial scenario. The Marin County workshop will be held at the Embassy Suites on May 11th from 5:30 – 8:30. Both Nona and Don Wilhelm plan to attend.
- g. Renewable Energy/Energy Efficiency
 - i. The CAC continued its discussion of renewable energy and energy efficiency issues that are central to MCL’s mission. Bob noted that June through September would be a key time for MCL to weigh in on MEA progress and promoting its support in Novato. The CAC should review this issue at its next meeting in June with additional input from Ed. The CAC agreed that it still needs to develop background documents to build a greater understanding and appreciation of these issues among the CAC and the Board so the Board can ultimately develop some general policy issues with respect to these issue areas. The CAC set a goal of developing draft background documents by early June with the intent of providing drafts for Board review by June (ideally). Bob Spofford agreed to develop draft background documents for the CAC in time for its next June meeting, with one focused on basic education on renewable energy and energy efficiency (e.g., what it is, its importance from a climate perspective and some of the general issues that MCL may need to consider as projects and policies impacting Marin are considered). A second document should outline more specifically the working list of initiatives that are currently active in Marin, so that the CAC and ultimately the Board can develop specific positions and prioritize workload.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Notes by Michelle Passero