

Marin Conservation League
North Marin Unit
Meeting Notes
July 9, 2014

The meeting was called to order at the Webb home. Present were: Joyce Appen, Ralph Webb, Rosalie Webb, Bernie Meyers, Delyn Ries, Carole Dillon-Knutson, Rick Fraites, Gail Wilhelm, Don Wilhelm, Susan Stompe and guest, Dan North.

Announcements: Picnic on the Patio is August 2 from 12 to 3 at MCL office.

Notes of the June meeting were approved as distributed.

Dan North, general manager of Redwood Landfill, updated the group on implementation of projects that were proposed in the updated management plan and some personal background before he became manager. He worked closely with Jessica Jones, the previous manager. Dan will be leaving the end of this month for San Diego. The new manager has not yet been identified. The anaerobic composting is just getting started. It was an add on to the EIR and emits less harmful gasses than the former composting method. It takes about 3 weeks to cure and 4 to 6 months to finish. The major market is vineyards in Sonoma and Napa. They are sold out to the end of the year. The next project will be the gas waste to energy which will be under construction by the end of the year. When in operation it should produce 5 megawatts for about 30 years. There have been some complications from the Narrows project, SMART and PG&E in getting started. Construction recycling, C & D material recovery facility(MRF) is in the process of getting permits, the EIR is done. They need a closure plan for the MRF site. It will be a 2 story structure with manual sorting. He said that solar is being contemplated on the former sludge pond, but funding has not been identified. He said all the trucks are fueled by natural gas generated at the Altamont Landfill.

Proposed Solar Farm in Bowman Canyon: The project was approved by the county. Of the things MCL requested only the bonding for closure and removal/recycling was incorporated in the approval.

Novato General Plan: Staff has produced 4 White Papers to help with decisions to be made during the General Plan update. Rick reviewed the Water Availability White Paper and felt it did a good job. We get 80% of Novato's water from Sonoma County. We contract for 12 cu.ft. but use only 9500. 2% is recycled. A new aquaduct is being built between Petaluma and Novato. Lake Sonoma has a huge resource of water that is not really tapped because of the difficulty getting the water to the Russian River. Habitat improvements are being made which should facilitate moving the water.

Joyce reviewed the Junior Second Units White Paper. Only 10 second units have been built in Novato since 2007. Hook up costs are very high both for water and sewer. Novato reduced their fees and parking requirements. The Junior Second Units would be converting a room in an existing home. Kitchen facilities would be very limited and a bathroom could be shared. There would not be additional hook ups or parking.

Integrated Pest Management: Delyn said that Novato is considering an Integrated Pest Management policy that is similar to the county's by the end of the month. She will share information.

The meeting adjourned at 2:15

The next meeting will be at noon on Wednesday, August 13 at Wilhelms..