

# Marin Conservation League

## North Marin Unit

Final Meeting Notes

August 17, 2011

The meeting was called to order at the home of Rosalie and Ralph Webb . Attending were Bernie Meyers, Joyce Applen, Bob Burke, Eleanor Sluis, Ralph Webb, Rosalie Webb, Don Wilhelm, Dorothy Thomas, Susan Stompe and guest, Hank Barner,

**Announcements:** Walk into History at Tomales Bay State Park on Sat., August 27 and Coastal CleanUp at Scottsdale Pond in Novato on Sept. 17 at 9 a.m.

**Minutes:** The notes of the July 20th meeting were approved as distributed.

**Aquatic herbicide in Scottsdale Pond:** The city of Novato is considering using the aquatic herbicide Sonar to rid the pond of invasive weed. If the pond is not treated, the weed will completely fill the pond, eliminating the open water migrating and resident waterfowl use. After discussion of the pros and cons, it was decided not to comment on the proposal.

**Dredge spoil off load facility at Port Sonoma:** Hank Barner reported that the Sonoma County Board of Zoning Adjustment/Planning Commission approved the project with a negative declaration. The project is to create an offloading facility at Port Sonoma where dredge spoils from around the Bay would be deposited and then pumped under Highway 37 to the Carneros Ranch to raise the elevation from below sea level to 7' above sea level. Approximately 1 million cubic yards would be applied per year. The Port would need to be dredged to accommodate the barges hauling the dredge spoils and new aluminum docks would be installed.

Zoning for Port Sonoma is now recreation/commercial. Hank said that Black Point neighbors across the river received no notice of the proposal, nor did Marin County. Although 74 conditions were part of the permit, none addresses impacts on Marin, such as the Baylands Corridor. Hank will check with Judy Arnold about Sonoma/Marin communication when projects impact the other county. Noise and water quality are two potential impacts on Black Point. It was also suggested to appear before the Sonoma Board of Supervisors to get on record that better communication is needed.

**In-N-Out Burger in Ignacio:** The proposed use is consistent with the commercial zoning, however neighbors in nearby residential buildings are concerned about traffic, lighting, huge signs and odors. Since the use would utilize two already urbanized lots, it was felt that the project is not precedent setting nor of countywide significance.

**Transportation:** Don reported that the SMART board met that afternoon. They are planning to make some design changes to reduce costs. In July the projected cost was \$335 million, by August it was up to \$391 million, now it is projected at \$404 million. Revenues were at \$330 million and are projected to increase by \$77 million for a total of \$407 million.

Repeal SMART was advised that they would need 15,000 to qualify for the ballot.

**NCRA:** Bernie is looking for someone to replace him on the NCRA Board.

**MOST:** Joyce reported that they are working with the Pacheco Valle neighborhood to acquire property near the IJ building.

The meeting adjourned at 9:15.

Notes by S. Stompe