

Marin Conservation League
North Marin Unit
Final Meeting Notes
June 12, 2013

The meeting was called to order at the Stompe home. Present were: Dorothy Thomas, Pat U'Ren, Frank U'Ren, Pat Eklund, and Susan Stompe.

Announcements included: MCL Business & Environment Breakfast on Friday featuring the new MALT ED. Pat E. had a number of City events coming up: 6/24 Town Hall on fiscal sustainability Option Tools, 6/25 Council discussion of the Tools, 7/2 Town Hall on Fiscal Sustainability, 7/23 hearing on the Homeward Bound 14 units on Nave Dr., 7/30 hearing on 48 senior units at Hamilton, Sept. review of the downtown bus facility, Oct. Novato Blvd. widening between 7th Street and DeLong. Pat E. is on the League of CA Cities CEQA Task force which recommends opposition to SB 731 unless amended. She will send to those interested the ABAG survey on Plan Bay Area

The notes of the May 7 meeting were approved as distributed.

Projects and Issues around Novato:

North Redwood Blvd.: Bob Brown, Community Development Director for Novato, confirmed that the workshop/charrette will be in late July or early August probably over 2 Saturdays to consider the opportunities and constraints, the real estate market, land uses and design character for new retail.

General Plan Amendment for housing north of Firemens Fund: A community workshop will be held on all the areas at the north end of Redwood as part of the General Plan update, probably early next year. The applicant (Hooper) has embarked on an EIR to changes part of his property from Industrial to housing. The EIR process will probably take longer than a year.

Novato Housing Element: The EIR is due out by the end of this month, and the Element needs to be adopted by the end of the year.

Port Sonoma offload facility: Phil Peterson of Audubon met with J.T. Wick about the status of the project. JT confirmed that they are looking at other option and have suspended any work on the EIR. He actually said. "It's dead" They are looking at marsh restoration of the unfilled portion of the Carneros Ranch and preserving 40 acres for a Berg homesite. The marsh restoration would require about 3 ft. of fill. He also talked about taking out the commercial buildings at the port, doing marsh restoration with possibly a visitor center. There would still be an offloader located somewhere along the river for the marsh restoration.

Binford Road project: The county approved a temporary use permit for storing boats and RVs between the canal and Binford Rd. The term is 5 years.

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

The next meeting will be July 10 at the Webb home.

Notes by SS