

MARIN CONSERVATION LEAGUE
Parks and Open Space Committee Meeting
March 11, 2010
Final Meeting Minutes
(Accepted and approved 4/15/2010)

ATTENDEES: Jonathan Braun, Nona Dennis, Mary Feller, Roger Roberts, and Jean Starkweather.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: The MCL/Dominican/North Bay Leadership Council Business Breakfast will be held at the Creekside Room of Dominican College, Friday, March 19th (7:30-9AM). The Speaker will be Ed Quevedo, J.D., on "Beyond Greenwash-Realizing Profitability through Sustainable Business Practices"

APPROVAL OF THE POSC MEETING MINUTES for February 11, 2010: The revised Draft POSC Meeting Minutes for February 11, 2010 were accepted and approved as presented.

ACTION ITEMS: None.

DISCUSSION AND INFORMATION ITEMS

- 1) Roger and Nona updated the Committee on the current status of the "680 Trail" plan. The County's Open Space District has now included an alternative alignment to the "680 Trail" that makes greater use of existing fire roads and substantially reduces the need for new trail building across the open space ridge lands of San Domenico. This alternative alignment will be included in the Initial Study and Negative Declaration analysis of environmental impacts. A map showing the two "680 Trail" alignments was presented and discussed.
- 2) Roger supplied committee members with copies of the MCL comment letter to the GGNRA with regard to the Southern Marin Equestrian Plan. It was suggested that the GGNRA also include in its best management practices, the use of weed-free hay at the facilities in order to reduce the spread of thistles and other non-native invasive plant species along the trails from horse droppings.
- 3) With respect to the Open Space Acquisition Opportunity on Upper Cascade Drive in Mill Valley, there is no new information. The property is still on the market.
- 4) Jonathan Braun brought the Committee up to date on various open space acquisition sites in San Anselmo, including three on Bald Hill, and at Skye Ranch. Nothing is pending with respect to these properties despite attempts to open a dialogue for their acquisition. The San Anselmo Open Space Committee in collaboration with MOST has made an offer for a hillside land-locked parcel owned by the San Anselmo Theological Seminary, but has had

no response to their offer. There is no access to any of these Bald Hill sites which reduces their development potential and value substantially. If anything transpires there may be an opportunity for MCL to assist in their acquisition as part of the "Lands In Between" Program. As for the Skye Ranch property, the prospective heirs to the estate have taken over management of the property and have not indicated any interest in negotiating a dedication or sale of the property for open space and continued use as an equestrian facility.

The POSC Meeting was adjourned at 4:45 PM.