



Regular Board Meeting Thursday, June 20, 2024

Sandy Guldman called the meeting to order via Zoom and in person at 7 PM at the Club Room, The Terraces, 82 Camellia Circle in Larkspur. Other board member present: Charlie Kennard, Laura Lovett, Nick Salcedo, Barbara Salzman, Ann Thomas and Gerhard Epke. Guests: Geoffrey Bolt, Dennis Portnoy (?), Linda Novy.

Order of Business. Marin Catholic field lights application is deferred until next month.

Introductions. Persons present introduced themselves.

Announcements. San Anselmo Councilmember Brian Colbert will attend Friends' July meeting to discuss water issues.

Minutes of May 16, 2024. M/S (Laura/Charlie) and approved as distributed.

Financial Reports. As of 5/31/2024 total assets were \$142,488.12, including \$120,000 in a CD and \$22,488.12 in bank accounts.

Creek Chronicles. The Summer 2024 issue is expected to be printed and mailed by July 1.

Carey Camp Creek. Fairfax residents Geoffrey Bolt and Linda Novy reported a concern among neighbors to the creek that after closing of the Pine Mountain Tunnel as a water storage facility there might not be sufficient water in the creek to support a viable salmonid population. Currently, they said, water leaking from the tunnel, augmented by groundwater flow, helps keep the creek running year-round, and neighbors have observed regular fish use in the creek. They have contacted Marin Water's watershed staff about the issue. There was a discussion about possible other supply sources for water, but it was noted that it would be unlikely to compel the water district to pump water into the creek. The Board suggested possible avenues for Mr. Bolt and Ms. Novy to explore to find out more about water tables in the area and the decision-making process.

Marin Water Recreation Management Planning Feasibility Study. Ann gave an update on the study and development of two proposed pilot programs presented earlier today at the Marin Water Watershed Committee. There are two proposed pilots: one to integrate bicycle use into specific single-track trails previously restricted to hikers and equestrians, and one pilot to evaluate E-bike use on specific trails. Fourteen trails in different areas of the watershed are being considered as candidates for the pilot programs. Requirements for use could include restricting use to specific days of the week and making some trails one-way only. Board action on the programs will probably not happen until later this fall.

Mill Valley Artificial Turf. Charlie submitted a letter to the Mill Valley recreation department regarding artificial turf and its environmental impacts.

Phoenix Lake-Bon Tempe Connection Project. Friends submitted a second letter of comment to Marin Water responding to the Final IS/MND. Although it did include a change in the pumping schedule to avoid depleting spring flows, it continues to ignore the impacts of Phoenix Lake and its poor water quality on salmonids in Ross Creek. At the June 20 meeting of the Board of Directors at which project approval was expected, speakers from Friends and Marin Conservation League asked for a delay to of a vote on the project to fully consider the project's impacts on aquatic life in the Ross and Corte Madera Creeks. Following a hour of discussion the Board voted to defer consideration of the project for a month during which staff was to meet with environmental groups and federal and state fish agencies to review impacts on creek habitat.

Hal Brown Park Workday. Sandy reported on a very successful workday at Hal Brown Park on June 8. The activity was organized by two Marin Water AmeriCorps volunteers to remove weeds and the old irrigation system. Marin Water provided lunch for the workday crew. There were about 20 volunteers and was also attended by California Natural Resources Agency staff.

Adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Notes: Ann Thomas

Next meeting is 7:00 p.m. July 18, 2024.