



Regular Board Meeting Thursday, February 21, 2024

Sandy Guldman called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM at the Club Room, The Terraces, 82 Camellia Circle in Larkspur. Other board member present, either in person or via Zoom: Gerhard Epke, Charlie Kennard, Laura Lovett, Nick Salcedo, Ann Thomas. Guests Rick Borden, Linda and Geoffrey Bolt

Minutes of January 18, 2024. Deferred due to lack of quorum.

Announcements. 1) Sarah Philips, Urban Streams Coordinator asked watershed groups in east Marin for articles to include in a new RCD (Marin Resource Conservation District) newsletter. Sandy wrote, and Charlie edited, an article about the Lower COM restoration project and it has been submitted to Sarah. 2) Phil Greer has resigned from the board due to insufficient time for active participation.

Financial Reports. As of 1/31/2024 total assets were \$143,295.10.

Conservation

New Larkspur Library. Laura gave an update on plans for the new library and landscaping on Doherty Drive. A recent City Council action allocating almost \$4.7 million from general fund reserves to the library project puts the project close to being fully funded, with additional fundraising ongoing for landscaping and other extras. RHAA will be designing landscaping and board members discussed concerns about what will be produced and if there will be opportunities for early input. Although the Request for Proposals specified biodiverse native habitat it is unclear how this requirement will be met. Sandy and Laura will draft a letter for Larkspur Public Works officials and other involved parties outlining Friends' suggestions.

Cascade Bridges. Mr. and Mrs. Bolt, residents of Cascade Canyon, presented their unhappiness with the Cascade Bridges Project, asked Friends to get involved with the removal, or take a stand against the homeless campers near Peri Park, and expressed concern about homes in Cascade Canyon still using septic systems. The board made it clear that homeless issues are the responsibility of the Town of Fairfax.

Water Transfer/Phoenix Lake to Bon Tempe Reservoir. No updates for this project have been announced by Marin Water.

Fairfax Signs. Nick earlier provided wording suggestions for interpretive signage along Fairfax Creek in Peri Park. Charlie observed that there is now a split rail fence running from the creek's upstream footbridge in the park to the playground, but only one opening to the creek. No plantings or signage have been installed. A Fairfax Town Council member had asked Friends for help on interpretative signage in Fairfax. The board agreed to continue to work with the Town, but Friends will not provide financial support.

Reports

San Anselmo Flood Risk Reduction Project. Work is delayed while the Flood Control District works to satisfy FEMA requirements.

Corte Madera Creek Flood Risk Management Project. Friends learned this week that the project will receive a \$575,000 grant for the Lower COM habitat restoration component of the Lower COM project from the US Fish and Wildlife's National Coastal Wetlands Conservation program. The grant program is administered through the California Coastal Conservancy.

Saunders Fish Passage. Still no word from Caltrans.

Hal Brown Park. After seven years the vegetation in the restored area has met performance criteria required by the Regional Water Board and other agencies. Although the plant coverage and density criteria for native plants had been met a few years ago, keeping invasive non-native plants below 5% coverage had been a challenging criterion to meet.

Adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Notes: Ann Thomas

Next meeting is 7:00 p.m. March 21, 2024.