



# CORDELL BANK NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY SANCTUARY ADVISORY COUNCIL

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## MEETING MINUTES

February 8, 2018

9:30 AM

Point Reyes National Seashore, Red Barn Classroom, Point Reyes Station, CA

Note: The following meeting notes are an account of discussions at the meeting of the Sanctuary Advisory Council for Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuary (CBNMS). The council is an advisory body to the sanctuary superintendent. The opinions and findings of this publication do not necessarily reflect the position of CBNMS and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

### **Call to Order/Roll Call** (Leslie Adler-Ivanbrook)

Leslie Adler-Ivanbrook, Advisory Council Vice-Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:35 AM and welcomed everyone. Lilli Ferguson, advisory council coordinator, then called roll.

### Nongovernmental Members Present:

George Clyde (Community-at-Large – Marin County)  
Mike Cummings (Community-at-Large - Marin County)  
Sarah Hameed (Community-at-Large – Sonoma County)  
Bill Wolpert (Community-at-Large – Sonoma County)  
Leslie Adler-Ivanbrook (Vice-Chair; Education)  
Bec Detrich (Education)  
Dick Ogg (Fishing)  
Noah Wagner (Fishing)  
John Berge (Maritime Activities)

### Agency Members and Alternates Present:

Brian Johnson (Greater Farallones National Marine Sanctuary [GFNMS] Alt.)  
Dayna Matthews (NOAA Fisheries)  
CDR Jason Brand (United States Coast Guard [USCG])

### Members of the CBNMS staff present:

Dan Howard (Sanctuary Superintendent)  
Lilli Ferguson (Resource Protection Specialist and advisory council coordinator)  
Danielle Lipski (Research Coordinator)  
Jennifer Stock (Education and Outreach Coordinator)

### **Review and Approve Agenda** (Leslie)

The advisory council reviewed the agenda. Michael Carver was unable to attend the meeting, so Lilli suggested that the CBNMS Education and Outreach Program Report be moved to the former morning break time, with the break to occur after that report; the CBNMS Resource Protection Report be removed from the agenda with the Bureau of Ocean and Energy Management (BOEM) item be moved up to 1:15 PM; and the Members' and Alternates' Reports moved up to 1:45 PM. With those changes, the advisory council unanimously approved the agenda.

### **Review and Approve December Meeting Minutes** (Leslie)

The advisory council reviewed and unanimously approved the December 12, 2017 meeting minutes.

## **Update on Proposal for Regulation of USCG Discharges in Greater Farallones National Marine Sanctuary (GFNMS) and CBNMS (Dan Howard)**

- Dan Howard, Sanctuary Superintendent, reviewed that the last meeting focused on having the advisory council provide comments as a body on the proposed regulation of United States Coast Guard (USCG) discharges in GFNMS and CBNMS of untreated sewage and non-clean graywater from USCG vessels and USCG discharges related to use of force and search and rescue training. NOAA now has all the comments; the comment period closed. Both the CBNMS Advisory Council (CBNMSAC) and the GFNMS Advisory Council supported the “No Action” alternative, and both advisory councils would like to have the discharges be allowed via national marine sanctuary permits issued to the USCG.
- A small team of staff members is going through the comments and helping determine how NOAA will move forward with a final decision. NOAA hopes to release the documents related to the final decision in late spring or summer this year; a decision should be made before the current postponement of the discharge regulations to take effect (with respect to USCG discharges) expires, December 9.
- An advisory council member commented that the result would be much the same whether NOAA chose a regulatory option or permits to allow the USCG discharges.
- The day before this advisory council meeting, the California Coastal Commission (CCC) met and concurred with NOAA’s finding of no significant adverse impacts, which NOAA conveyed in a letter sent to the CCC staff in December 2017.

## **Sanctuary Superintendent’s Report (Dan)**

- Regarding getting a budget, and continuing federal operations, Dan said it was unknown if CBNMS would be open the day after this meeting as it was unclear if Congress would agree on an appropriations bill or if the government would be shut down when the existing continuing resolution expired. If the government is shut down, the staff may conduct an orderly shutdown at the office, then would not be working. An exception is that, should there be an emergency involving CBNMS, Dan would be the point of contact for determining what needed to be done. There are different proposals and possible outcomes for the Fiscal Year 2018 budget, including another short term continuing resolution, a continuing resolution for the rest of the fiscal year, or a two year appropriations package.
- The Office of National Marine Sanctuaries (ONMS) is moving towards having annual budget allocations made from regional offices to the sanctuary sites in each region, rather than from ONMS headquarters to all regions and sites. Money may be allocated based on regional priorities, which would be based on national priorities. Dan and other superintendents in the ONMS West Coast Region have been working with the regional director, Bill Douros, to identify federal priorities and tasks.
- ONMS has been engaging in efforts to foster dialogue with recreational fishing groups around the country, including working through the advisory councils. ONMS held a recreational fishing summit in 2016. At the end of the summit, NOAA and advisory council representatives agreed to a set of common statements related to recreational fishing in national marine sanctuaries and steps for working together. Recently, there was an ONMS call with fishing seat representatives, sanctuary superintendents, and advisory council coordinators to report on the progress on goals and priorities since that meeting 2016. The CBNMSAC fishing members were not available to attend the summit or the recent call. New and enhanced collaborations include the initiation of recreational fishing-focused advisory council working groups at several sites, outreach products highlighting recreational fishing opportunities in national marine sanctuaries, and distribution of fish descending devices at barotrauma workshops. On that call, Dan reported that there is not much recreational fishing in CBNMS due to Rockfish Conservation Area (RCA) closures, except that there is some recreational fishing for salmon and crab. Due to this, he is not inclined to initiate a large effort to engage the CBNMS recreational fishing community. Lilli added that she and Dan would discuss this some more, then may talk with the advisory council’s Fishing members to help determine what steps, if any, the CBNMSAC may wish to undertake.
- Some discussion then took place about involving the CBNMS recreational fishing community as well as the idea of not increasing recreational fishing in sanctuaries. Some sanctuary sites have held trainings related to using gear where fish can be released. Opportunities for recreational fishers to fish somewhere

else other than the shoreline has been brought up within the community. Changes in offshore recreational fishing in CBNMS would be addressed by the Pacific Fishery Management Council (PFMC), which has designated recreational Rockfish Conservation Areas (RCAs). The program to reduce baurotrama in fish seems to have been effective and fishing organizations have promoted it. The PFMC approved a mid-water yellowtail rockfish fishery in Oregon for recreational fishers using long leader gear. The California Department of Fish and Wildlife has considered that option and turned it down, most recently in the summer of 2017. There is limited opportunity to get out to the Bank and back safely; prior to the rockfish area closures, only the big party boats did that regularly.

- As part of a consultation with the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) pursuant to section 304(d) of the National Marine Sanctuaries Act, Lisa Wooninck, of the ONMS West Coast Region office, set up a call with the Northwest Fisheries Science Center and CBNMS staff considering establishing new areas within CBNMS where NMFS groundfish bottom trawl research sampling would be excluded. The areas under discussion would be in the Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) Conservation Areas where commercial bottom trawling is prohibited. This was the first in several conversations to address this issue in CBNMS. There was a good exchange of information, but it is too soon to say what the outcome will be. Dan will report on this matter again in the future.

- Dan and Jennifer Stock, CBNMS Education and Outreach Coordinator, scored 134 student films submitted for the International Ocean Film Festival in San Francisco, to help determine winners for the student competition. The festival is March 8-11, 2018, with the student films to be shown on the 11th.

- Kate Spidalieri, an ONMS staff member who worked on advisory council matters, has left ONMS, taking a position at a law center in Washington, DC.

#### **Advisory Council Business (Lilli)**

- Lilli gave an update on the status of advisory council recruitment. Recently, advisory council coordinators got word recruitment could take place, and a *Federal Register* notice published, giving notice that each sanctuary may recruit when the need arises and such announcements will be posted on their websites. Sanctuary staff members will also send community announcements out to the media when a sanctuary is doing a recruitment. CBNMS is now in a recruitment round, which ends February 8, 2018; the recruitment is for the two Community-at-Large - Marin County seats and the two Research seats. We hope to be able to announce who has been appointed for terms representing those seats at the April advisory council meeting.

#### **Cordell Marine Sanctuary Foundation (CMSF) Update (Sarah Hameed)**

- Sarah Hameed said the CMSF board met recently and reviewed the 2017 budget and fundraising results. All of the advisory council members should have gotten a CMSF newsletter that communicated the CBNMS education and outreach and research projects CMSF supported. They hope to support more projects in the coming year.

- The board is also trying to think about how to expand the donor base and reaching out to people who are interested in the work of the CBNMS staff. They plan to send out two newsletters in 2018.

- The board is hoping to host a number of talks given by Dan around Sonoma and Marin counties this year; more information to come as talks are arranged.

- Bob Van Syoc has worked with a group that has a television series called "Changing Seas", and CMSF is exploring a potential opportunity of doing a film on CBNMS with that group this year. If done, the film would be both in the television series and online.

- CMSF is interested in contacting granting organizations about funding CBNMS projects; people with contacts at such organizations can let them know.

- CMSF funding comes from grants run through the foundation and individual donors.

### **NOAA Office of Law Enforcement (OLE) Report (Dayna Matthews)**

- Dayna Matthews said OLE had been going to make offers in the second week of December to hire enforcement officers in California, but this was delayed due to the continuing resolution for the federal budget and the holidays. OLE is waiting for clarity on the budget then plans to make the offers.
- Greg Busch was hired to be the Assistant Director for the West Coast Region.
- At the March PFMC meeting, to be held in Rhonert Park, there will be a five year review of EFH. The PFMC will choose a preliminary alternative, then will choose at final alternative at its April meeting in Portland. After that, NMFS staff would prepare a draft environmental impact statement and propose new regulations. It is possible the RCAs may disappear and EFH areas may expand into former RCA areas. The RCA areas are for stock protection, and the stocks have primarily been rebuilt. EFH protects specific types of the seafloor. The regulations for both types of areas are within the groundfish rules under the Magnuson-Stevens Act.

### **CBNMS Education and Outreach Program Report (Jennifer)**

- The time for the monthly Ocean Currents radio show is now 11 am -12 pm.
- Liz Fox, a volunteer has been producing "Positively Ocean".
- Recruiting is underway for the Teacher at Sea program. The selected teacher will go on a research cruise on the *Bell M. Shimada* in July. The teacher will bring information gained from the cruise back to his or her class.
- CBNMS collaborated with the Marin County Office of Education on a proposal for a NOAA Bay Watershed Education and Training grant to have a year of immersive professional development training for middle and high school teachers to focus on climate change impacts on coasts and oceans and excess carbon dioxide in the environment. It would include field trips and developing lesson plans. She has not heard yet if it will be funded.
- Jennifer will be meeting with two potential candidates for curating the CBNMS traveling photo exhibit.
- Depending on the budget, Jennifer hopes to work with Point Reyes National Seashore and GFNMS to update panels and replace a video at the Bear Valley Visitor Center.
- The week before this meeting, Jennifer and Sarah Allen of the National Park service led a field trip, which included visiting the Ocean Exploration Center at the lighthouse. New interpretive panels will be installed in the lighthouse area after the park accepts a bid that includes installing the panels.

### **Research by The Marine Mammal Center on Connections between Climate Change and Marine Mammals (Tenaya Norris)**

Tenaya Norris, a researcher from The Marine Mammal Center (TMMC) talked about marine mammals and ecological changes affecting marine mammals. She focused on increased water temperature and harmful algal blooms as changes that occur with a changing climate. She also provided an overview of the mission and activities of TMML, which is a nonprofit organization that was founded in 1975.

- There are multiple stressors on marine mammals, including ocean noise, sonar, shipping, fishing, habitat loss, harmful algal blooms, contaminants, infectious diseases, increased water temperature, sea ice loss, sea level rise, and ocean acidification.
- Mostly, they study marine mammal health, including causes of strandings and deaths.
- The number of reported harmful algal blooms worldwide has gone up between 1970 and 2006.
- There are various sources of information that can be used to track marine mammal health changes, including published papers, individual strandings, unusual mortality events, and marine mammal population sizes. Many marine mammal populations are increasing, such as California sea lions and elephant seals.
- Marine mammal strandings can correspond with El Niño events; however, sometimes there are stranding peaks that do not correspond with El Niño years. About 6% of the animals restrand. Common causes of stranding in California sea lions less than two years old is separation of from their mothers and malnutrition. Causes in California sea lions older than two include infectious diseases, biotoxigenesis, cancer, trauma, etc. During the big peaks, it is most often the young animals that strand.

- Domoic acid, a neurotoxin, causes acute and chronic domoic acid toxicosis in marine mammals.
- In 2015, the largest toxic algae bloom ever recorded along the West Coast of North America occurred. Some marine mammals and pelicans were observed having seizures, there were developmental domoic acid issues in pups born to domoic acid mothers. There were also fishery closures and health advisories were issued.
- Guadalupe Fur Seals are a species researchers do not know a lot about. These had been hunted for their fur; now they are at approximately 90% of their historic population level. TMML researchers, starting in 2015, put satellite tags (funded by the NMFS) on every Guadalupe Fur Seal they release. After an unusual mortality event, TMML researchers and Mexican researchers began working together to study this species. A record number of Guadalupe Fur Seals stranded in the 2015-2017 time frame.

### **Public Comment**

- Sarah Bic said she was a citizen stakeholder, and was impressed with the CBNMS expansion. She thanked the advisory council for its efforts regarding the expansion. She said she was unable to access the portal during the public comment period to comment on bilge release, which was a disappointment. She thought it needed to be addressed again and more needed to be done. She said when she hears about what is happening to mammals, dumping bilge is up there with the harmful algal bloom problem. She hoped the discharges would not affect marine mammals. She noted the California Coastal Conservancy and others put their trust in you guys to protect the sanctuary, and if dumping is allowed, it should be in designated areas, and an environmental assessment should be done.
- Leslie thanked her for her comments.

### **Research by The Marine Mammal Center on Connections between Climate Change and Marine Mammals Cont. (Tenaya)**

- Between 2013 and 2015, there have been five different patterns of warm water anomalies.
- Between 2013 and 2016, there were increased pinniped strandings in California.
- TMML will continue research on the connection between climate change and marine mammal health as marine mammal and pathogen distribution changes, and oceanographic events that impact individuals and populations become more intense, more frequent, less predictable, etc. They will need to satellite tag more free-ranging Guadalupe Fur Seals across years, seasons, and demographic groups to better understand their distribution on habitat and the effect of a changing climate on their foraging behavior.
- Each stressor will impact each marine mammal population differently (though some do not impact some kinds of marine mammals – Guadalupe Fur Seals are not impacted by sea ice loss).
- Various things can trigger harmful algal blooms.
- Ocean acidification would impact species such as sea otters, which feed on shellfish.

### **2018 Joint National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council and Marine Protected Areas Federal Advisory Committee Summit (Leslie)**

- This meeting was held in January; Leslie attended the first day and Kevin attended the remainder. It was valuable for both sanctuary advisory council and Marine Protected Area Federal Advisory Committee (MPAFAC) representatives to hear from each other, and they had much in common.
- She reviewed the day she attended; her takeaway was the importance of collaboration on many levels, among federal agencies, nonprofits, industry, with working groups, etc. There were some inspiring stories. She participated in one conversation group where the common themes were marine debris and watershed pollution. Public engagement and messaging are important. A number of people are trying to bring more engagement with the recreational fishing community. To sustain marine protected areas, groups should feel they are part of the process. It is important to communicate the benefits of marine protected areas.
- Reading from notes from Kevin, Leslie said August 4-5 is “Get into Your Sanctuary Weekend” for the West Coast, and ONMS is emphasizing engaging with veterans, so Kevin offered to help nationally in that area. The BOEM Draft Proposed Plan (DPP) for Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) oil and gas leasing

was discussed. There will be listening sessions for taking public comments. It was not clear if an Executive Order made by President George W. Bush which prohibited oil exploration included the CBNMS expansion area. Other issues raised included tracking sanctuary user, especially for sanctuaries located offshore, increasing visitation to sanctuaries, how sanctuaries are related to robust ocean economies, reaching diverse communities, and more.

- These things were on the agenda partly due to what the organizers of the meeting put on the agenda and emphasized, and some may have come from the ONMS Strategic Plan.

- It was noted that the Sanctuary Advisory Council Summit is different from a meeting of the MPAFAC. Sanctuary advisory councils advise on local areas (sanctuaries) and the MPAFAC advises on a broad spectrum of MPAs.

- There have been and are various advisory council subcommittees and working groups across the advisory councils, tackling particular issues. Kate committed to sending a list of them to the attendees of that meeting. Kevin felt this group is small and flexible and has not often had huge issues that required the investment and engagement of a subcommittee or working group. ONMS will be having a regular call with the Chairs of West Coast advisory councils and a meeting for them in August. Kevin suggested having advisory council coordinators attend the next SAC summit.

- Brian Johnson attended the half day on travel and tourism. GFNMS has an iPhone tool regarding access point to GFNMS, which promotes how to get into the sanctuary. Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary changed the nature of diving and recreation in the Great Lakes, and Alpena appreciates having the sanctuary facilities there. Florida Keys and Stellwagen Banks national marine sanctuaries emphasized that there can be too many people trying to enjoy the resources – one has to be careful what is asked for. The GFNMS Advisory Council has always emphasized sustainable tourism.

- Dan talked about the changing nature of these national meetings, which used to include coordinators and superintendents as well as headquarters staff members; advisory council charters say advisory councils advise the sanctuary superintendents, so it makes sense to have all of the key team member there (not just chairs). Without the local staff present, it becomes somewhat of a group advising the headquarters staff. The agenda for this meeting came out shortly before it.

- Lilli gave a brief overview of the history of the national meeting being held, who participated, and various ways agendas were drawn up previously.

### **BOEM 2019-2024 National OCS DPP (Dan)**

- Dan related some information about the BOEM 2019-2024 National OCS DPP, which was released for comment, along with a request for comments on developing a programmatic environmental impact statement, on January 4, 2018, with comments due to BOEM by March 9, 2018. Such plans are normally developed every five years. This DPP, if approved, would overwrite a previous plan for 2017 – 2022. It is being developed pursuant to an Executive Order of the President, at the direction of the Secretary of the Department of the Interior.

- Other general uses of the OCS include military and National Air and Space Administration activities, tourism, commercial and recreational fishing, subsistence hunting and fishing, etc. The Department of the Interior committed to working with other government agencies and with tribes to cooperatively manage other OCS uses.

- There are 18 steps in process of preparing a new oil and gas OCS leasing program, to replace the existing program.

- If approved, the program would allow for two lease sales in the Northern California Planning Area and two lease sales in the Central California Planning Area (in which CBNMS is located) in 2021 and 2023.

- The DPP notes that it could be beneficial to delay lease sales in the Central California Planning Area as the hurdle price exceeds the expected 2019 market price.

- Chapter 7 of the DPP contains the environmental analysis. Relative environmental sensitivity and marine productivity was evaluated, with BOEM taking both sensitivity and resilience to impacts into account. Dan wondered how much the major upwelling center off Point Arena was taken into account in the sensitivity analysis for the Central California area.

- Restrictions on OCS leasing may arise or be withdrawn outside the BOEM planning process, such as by the President or Congress. President Trump, as part of Executive Order 13795, revised the national marine sanctuary areas withdrawn from OCS gas leasing to include just those designated as of July 14, 2008. The plan could thus apply to the expanded portion of CBNMS.
- The California Governor and others have expressed opposition to lease sales off of California.
- Regarding commenting, the most helpful comments would be fact-based, include links to research data, provide specifics regarding impacts to oceans and coasts or how people use the ocean, etc.
- In response to a question about how far offshore a lease could occur, Dan responded it could likely be within the 200 nautical mile United States Exclusive Economic Zone, but not within state waters.
- If a lease sale were to be offered in the expanded portion of CBNMS, it is not currently clear what that would mean for existing CBNMS regulatory prohibitions, or what processes might occur if a company purchased a lease there.
- Probably the first thing a company with a lease would want to do would be to test for the amount of oil in the lease area.
- Leslie asked if there was a motion to open up the draft letter to BOEM for discussion. A draft letter, to be signed by Leslie, was previously provided to the advisory council, along with examples from a few other sanctuary advisory councils of input provided to BOEM on the DPP. Leslie asked Lilli to explain the two ways council communication to an external party, if approved, could be sent to BOEM.
- Lilli referred to both ONMS advisory council handbook policies and recent guidance she had received from ONMS. For both ways, the advisory council must vote to approve the letter and the Sanctuary Superintendent also has to approve it, prior to it being sent (with the standard disclaimer language). The handbook states the advisory council can either advise the Superintendent directly and ask that he forward it to the external party, or the advisory can may forward the letter to the external party directly. In this case, per the direction of ONMS, since BOEM requested public comment on its DPP, the advisory council should request the Superintendent to submit the letter, on behalf of the advisory council, to the BOEM docket on the DPP, on Regulations.gov.

A motion on the advisory council's letter commenting on BOEM's 2019 – 2024 National OCS Oil and Gas Leasing DPP was moved by Sarah Hameed and seconded by John Berge. The text of the motion was:

To approve the letter and request that the Sanctuary Superintendent, Dan Howard, submit the letter to Regulations.gov Docket Number BOEM-2017-0074.

- Discussion ensued. One advisory council member noted the DPP was broad, and so liked the draft letter as it was.
- Dan liked the National Marine Sanctuary Foundation's letter, which mentioned the connections between national marine sanctuaries and coastal economies. Others noted CBNMS is less connected to coastal economies than some other sanctuaries. There were various ideas about where a mention of economics could be added to the advisory council's letter, and the group decided to include it as a new second paragraph.
- The wording characterizing the membership of the advisory council was edited.
- There was an idea to add language about the sanctuary expansion area, and community support of it. Language about this was added in the third paragraph.
- The mention of the problem ocean acidification was edited.
- The letter date was changed.

The amended motion on the advisory council's letter commenting on BOEM's 2019 – 2024 National OCS Oil and Gas Leasing DPP was moved by Sarah Hameed and seconded by George Clyde.

The motion passed unanimously. Below is the final text approved by the motion.

To approve the letter, as amended, and request that the Sanctuary Superintendent, Dan Howard, submit the letter to Regulations.gov Docket Number BOEM-2017-0074.

**Members' and Alternates' Reports** (advisory council)

Bec Detrich - The Sonoma County Office of Education committed to climate action and other counties are starting that pick that up. As part of the Next Generation Science Standards, all Sonoma County children will learn about climate change. A few weeks ago, Jennifer trained the staff at Bec's organization, Westminster Woods, on the Winged Ambassadors program. With Leslie, Westminster Woods will offer a program on microplastics to kids. Her organization also has a schools lab related to marine mammals, which will include a map of the National Marine Sanctuary System and a link to Jennifer's podcasts. The Sonoma Environmental Education Collaborative recently finished a second day on the topic of climate change and strategies to address it.

George – There was a presentation at the GFNMS Advisory Council meeting about abalone, the warm water blob, and sea urchins. George said he would provide Lilli with information about that to send to the CBNMSAC. There is a new proposal for a lease in Tomales Bay for commercial aquaculture of geoduck clams, which may not be good for the environment. The company has submitted an application to do it, which has not yet been approved.

Dick Ogg – The crab season in Sonoma County dwindled to nothing, and mostly people pulled up their gear and are preparing for the salmon season. There was a delay farther north on the crab season due to a low percentage of meat on the crab (under 20%). He set gear on February 3 and pulled it three days later; the quality of the crab was not good, and the price is low. There will be a decision March 1 regarding the salmon season.

Noah Wagner – To add to that, from March 1, 10 – 4, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife is having a meeting to hear about, and give input on, the salmon season. Both regulators and scientists will be there.

Brian – Regarding GFNMS science efforts, there will be some intertidal monitoring at the Southeast Farallon islands; this effort will be transferred to the Partnership for Interdisciplinary Studies of Coastal Oceans (PISCO). On the GFNMS education front, they completed an elephant seal exploration, and went to Año Nuevo. They are also planning an Albatross soiree for April 28. In resource protection news, the Maverick's surf contest was not held. A write paper has been written about moving sand at Surfers Beach. Finally, at the GFNMS volunteer appreciation event the evening of February 8, George is being recognized with the GFNMS volunteer of the year award.

John – The Port of Oakland is considering developing a program to ask for some vessel speed reductions from outside the Golden Gate, and there may possibly be a discount for ships going to the Port that slow down as part of the Port program. The Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach have done this for a long time now, with focus on reducing air emission; an ancillary benefit is reducing ship strikes of whales. - On a related note, Dan said on March 1, there would be a ceremony in Los Angeles, hosted by the NMSF, recognizing companies whose ships slowed down as part of the voluntary speed reduction incentive program.

Bill – The Petaluma City Council adopted the Sonoma County Climate Action Plan. A lawsuit kept it from being adopted with full provisions. The plan is a step in the right direction.

Leslie adjourned the meeting at 3:08 PM.