
CSFN NEWSLETTER

Monarch Butterfly in Decline by Glenn Rogers, RLA



WHY THE BUTTERFLY IS IN DECLINE:

Many numerous natural disasters have happened simultaneously throughout the United States and in Mexico causing the Monarch Butterfly to be in serious decline and near extinction. Presently, 20,000 butterflies have been counted in the western migration route or a 86% decline in the population since last year. 1. The cause of their demise is said to be “affected by shared threats: a reduced

**Monarch
butterflies
overwintering in
Pacific Grove,
CA. Joanna
Gilkeson/
USFWS**



abundance of milkweed plants caused by an increase in genetically modified herbicide-resistant crops, a loss of nectar resources from flower plants, and degraded overwintering forest habitats due to deforestation.” 2. Monarchs lay their eggs on Milkweed and the larvae feed on the same plant. Beside a lack of food caused by storms, the cold and harsh winds can have a harmful effect on the Monarch. During one serious winter storm, as many as 500 million Monarch butterflies were said to have perished. 3.

A field of burst Milkweed pods. Photo by : Auric. Today, there are as many Monarchs as in the year 2019, sadly, that is far too few.

During one serious winter storm, as many as 500 million Monarch butterflies were said to have perished.

THE IMPORTANCE OF MILKWEED:

Milkweed used to be abundant along the side of roads and was frequently found growing along crops grown for food. With the the spraying of the land with *Roundup* and the use of pesticide resistant produce, Milkweed, so important to the existence of the Monarch Butterfly, has diminished. It is believed that 97% of the Milkweed has been eradicated. 3.

FIRE:

Another factor reducing the population of Monarch butterflies has been fire. The Western Migration of butterflies needed to travel in fire ravaged California with the air filled with fumes from burning houses, forests, house hold cleaners, pesticides or herbicides, plastic and other noxious chemicals present in the air. Fire too is said to be a product of *Global Warming* as storms travel more

slowly through the landscape dropping more rain than normal. Warmer air is able to hold more humidity, therefore, storms can be more intense because they carry more water. The additional rain provides more water for grass to flourish that can eventually burn. The antiquated policy of fire suppression, for decades, has not helped diminish wildfires.

BARK BEATLE INFESTATION AND OUR FOREST:

It is believed that 129 million Pine trees are dead from Bark Beetle infestation and the drought. Historically, Bark Beetle would perish as winter temperatures froze the Bark Beetle. Today, the temperature is never cold enough to kill Bark Beetle. Unfortunately, this has led to the Bark Beetles being able to feed year round, hastening the demise of our Pine forest.

The central migration flock of Monarch butterflies would nest in the forests of Mexico. These forests are being affected by encroachment of the forest by farmers wishing to increase their crop by clear cutting forests. These forests are also ravaged by Bark Beetle.

A PLAN TO INCREASE THE POPULATION OF MONARCHS:

Two conflicting plans are being developed to save the Monarch Butterfly. One plan by the Environmental Defense Fund is purchasing land along migration routes and providing the land with Milkweed habitat. The land purchased has been as large as 36 acres along the flyway. Farmers willing to allow Milkweed to grow in their crops have also been targeted and have been providing habitat for the Monarch butterflies also.

A second plan that is well meaning but could be counter productive is provided by The Fish and Wildlife agency. “The Fish and Wildlife agency has decided to cultivate the milkweed plant in refuges and several other areas under its control to develop a natural habitat in 2,00,000 acres of land and 35 corridor Interstate, from Texas till the state of Minnesota, which is believed to be the main area where above 50% of Monarch butterflies migrate.” 4. Also, this agency is offering to sell to the general public Milkweed that can be planted along roadsides, forests, parks and in house backyards. With the disappearance of 97% of our local Milkweed, tropical or Mexican Milkweed has been planted as a substitute to our local species. With the planting of these non-native Milkweed species, Monarch Butterflies have become disoriented and confused. Instead of continuing their migration, they have stayed where they are and have become infected with parasites. 5. The California Native Plant Society (CNPS) recommends seed from native plants be planted no more than fifty miles from where the seed was gathered. Now we know why!

SIXTH EXTINCTION:

The problem of extinction is not particular to Monarch Butterflies. It is said that yearly 10,000 species perish from extinction. This would make 50% of all species extinct by the year 2100. Unfortunately, insects are especially vulnerable. Insects are often food for larger creatures. With the reduction of insects, we can expect other creatures to go extinct as well.

If we stop adding carbon to our atmosphere today, which is felt to be the cause of *Global Warming*, the amount of carbon that remains will linger for another 40 years into the future. Although individuals that purchase electric cars, eat vegetarian food and have installed solar panels in their homes is helpful, it is not the solution to our climate crisis. We must enact serious legislation that can correct our dependence on the fossil fuel industry. We must stop this behavior soon or we shall become a world with far less diversity in wildlife.

HOPE FOR THE FUTURE:

Today, the cost of renewable energy is decreasing 10% every year, despite the fact that the fossil fuel industry is being subsidized at a rate 40 times greater than the renewable energy sector. Eventually, this will allow all nations to be able to have the same renewable energy output as Germany did one day in the recent past. That day, Germany provided 81% of its total energy requirement from renewable sources!

FOOT NOTE:

1. <http://blogs.edf.org/growingreturns/2018/12/04/western-monarch-butterfly-population-decline/>
2. <https://www.inverse.com/article/52340-monarch-butterfly-california-decline>
3. https://www.biologicaldiversity.org/species/invertebrates/monarch_butterfly/
4. <https://www.monarch-butterfly.com/vanishing-monarch-butterflies.html>
5. <https://www.inverse.com/article/52340-monarch-butterfly-california-decline>

EXCOMM. - HOW TO REACH US:

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**From the President's Desk:
ATTENTION MUST BE PAID:**

This morning Northern Station notified us that our General Assembly could not meet this month. Libraries and Police Stations remain open, but their community room is restricted. No Great Books discussions, Advisory Boards and Committees will meet City wide. Civic Center is dark; City Hall is open but most commissions are absent. Yesterday the Board of Supervisors did meet to discuss the crisis with the Mayor and Public Health Director. Maybe the Warriors will have to play to vacant seats in the very near future!

Previously I called members of the Executive Committee and other chairs of our committees and neighborhood associations. The consensus was that the crisis is real and that we must respond to it. We already have some members in self-quarantine even though they remain asymptomatic. The time for containment of the corona virus is done: the time for mitigation of its spread is pressing upon us.

Therefore, the General Assembly will not meet next Tuesday, March 17, The LUTC and EXCOMM meetings on March 25 (past the March 20 proclamation date) I leave to the call of their chairs. I make this decision on behalf of all of our members, hoping that they will flock to the meeting next month for an even better hearing of all of our concerns, of which the corona virus will hopefully be less of one. But as for the 17th: Happy St. Patrick's Day, and Erin Go Braugh!

Charles Head, President of CSFN



**CSFN GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING AGENDA
Tuesday, March 17, 2020 / 6:30 PM / Northern Station**

Cancelled

Glenn Rogers, Vice President CSFN



DRAFT MINUTES FOR CSFN G.A. ON FEB. 18, 2020

- I. **Introduction.** Charles Head (SHARP) called the meeting to order at 6:45.
 - A. Quorum Declared: 10 delegates from 8 organizations signed in, along with 3 guests.
 - B. Host: President Head talked about hosting itself.
- II. Program:: Architect Eugene Lew presented his new planning concept Dom-i-city.
- III. **Officers' Reports**
 - A. President – Planning and BOS were on Holiday. Will attend MTHA meeting Thursday and OMI-NIA meeting later this month (My new year's resolution to visit at least one meeting a month). From the President's Message in the NL>
 - B. Vice President – Antarctica's temperature is rising.
 - C. Recording Secretary – Draft Minutes are in the NL.
 - D. Corresponding Secretary – No Report.
 - E. Treasurer – Financial sheet available (CDs left off). Yearend reports nearing completion: working on filings for the Ethics Commission.
- IV. **Committee Reports.**
 - A. Ex Comm – No Report.
 - B. Bylaws – Still waiting to vote on changes.
 - C. Government and Elections - Chair Wooding (MTHA) presented a resolution to support Prop F in Federal Court. The emergency was declared and the resolution passed, both unanimously. “ Be it resolved that CSFN affirms its support of Prop F and its enforcement by the City and County of San Francisco, and be it further resolved that if there is an appeal of the court's decision, CSFN may file an amicus curiae brief in support.
 - D. Land Use and Transportation – in NL. Glenn Rogers (ParcMerced) read a resolution on Treasure Island that will be printed and votes next month.
 - E. Open Space – Vacant.
 - F. Newsletter – The editor was complimented on this issue.
 - G. Holiday Dinner – The GA voted to support the motion to change this into the Events Committee, unanimously.
 - H. Media and Outreach – No Report.
 - I. Nominations Committee – Mary Harris (OMI-NIA), Maurice Franco (MCA), and Leo Martinez (EDIA) were appointed.
- V. **Approval of the Jan. 2020 minutes – was unanimous.**
- VI. **Unfinished Business:**

The Conversation Continues: We need to promote attendance, outreach.
- VII. **New Business.**
 - A. Peter Cohen of CCHO will discuss housing inequality.
 - B. Plan Bay Area San Francisco 2050 for a future program.
 - C. Logo Fair proposed for May, along with Elections.
- VIII. **Adjournment** was at 8:55. **Charles Head, President CSFN**



CSFN EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES

Wednesday, February 26, 2020 / 5:34 PM / Northern Station

Present: Charles Head, Glenn Rogers,, Claire Zvanski, Maurice Franco and Gregory Scott:

Absent: Richard Frisbie, Cindy Beckman. Guest Mari Eliza

5:34 pm **I Call to Order** / Ascertain Quorum / Quorum Met

5:35 pm **II Officers Reports**

- A. Vice President: Solar customers pay \$60 for grid they do not use.
 - 1. Mari offered to provide a Solar Resolution.
- B. President: Discussed different neighborhood presentations.
- C. Recording Secretary: GA Minutes provided and reviewed.
- D. Corresponding Secretary: Absent.
- E. Treasurer: Provided spread sheet showing solvent status. Discussed Ethics Commission fees paid and required to be filled out.

5:50 pm **III Committee Action Items**

- A. Open Space: 65 degrees in Antarctica reveals Sif island.
- B. Land Use and Transportation: Recommends adding environment to this committee.
- C. Government and Elections: Judge is favorable to proposition F.
- D. Newsletter/Media: Logos narrowed to 3 choices, Mari offered to rework two choices. old letterhead to be included in new logo review.
- E. Event Committee: No members present in this committee yet.
- F. Bylaws: Waiting to have 2/3 majority to make changes.
- G. Nominating Committee: A report is requested.

6:29 pm **IV Approve February 2020 Draft General Assembly Minutes to be approved, see Treasure Island Resolution attached.**

6:32 pm **V Unfinished Business**

- A. Peter Cohen (CCHO) from Council of Community Housing Organization to discuss low income, affordable & market rate housing in San Francisco on March 17, 2020.
- B. Election Summary to be part of March Program by Chris Bowman.
- C. Plan Bay Area San Francisco 2050 to be the Program on April 21, 2020 with Josh Switzky.
- D. Logo Faire to include old logo and several new suggestions.

6:35 pm **VI New Business**

- A. New article in Newsletter to be about Monarch butterflies.
- B. \$50 Door prize recommended to encourage membership & attendance. Greg Scott to bring raffle tickets. Only paid members are eligible for prizes.
- C. Claire suggests having new logos on letterheads of NL for comparison during Logo Faire competition.

6:45 pm **VII Adjourn**

Glenn Rogers, Vice President of CSFN



**CSFN LAND USE and TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 26, 2020**

4:17 Call to order. Boken, Head, Franco and Mari Eliza present.

Local Transportation Issues (SFMTA, SFCTA and BOS)

- I) **Transportation** SFMTA -2/18 Fare increases. B) SFCTA – 2/25 LRV4 and Muni

Reliability Working Group. LRV4 update by Kirschbaum. LRV4

independent audit by Y.T. Lin. Muni Reliability Working Group formed as

Peskin and Mandelman proposing to go to ballot to change Prop E.

Controller's Office was lead. Some new ideas and many old ideas.

New idea to co-ordinate MTA hiring with DPH requirements. Group

concluded organization was right-sized. Boken testified re MTA culture

and finances. C) BOS Transportation Issues D) Save MUNI event –

Tumlin was no-show. Carl Nolte of SF Chronicle spoke about fare evasion

and other issues facing Muni. D) Neighborhood Issues – Mari stated

that complaint filed as MTA community meetings lack due process.

Mari stated that MTA changing blue parking spots to white zones.

State Land Use Issues

Last day to introduce new bills for current session was February 21.

Wiener has two placeholder bills. Bill analysis by Rick Hall of EMIA

and Livable California. Discussed Livable California Google Group.

Local Land Use Issues

A) Planning Commission – Melgar out Imperial in. Dennis Richards

on leave until mid February which has passed. He is suing DBI. Rich

Hillis new Planning Director. Quit Planning Commission and other job.

- J) **BOS Land Use Issues** C) Neighborhood Issues – Sale of multiple

building by Veritas at once. Estimate is 76 buildings. Many have rent controlled units. Notice of sale sent over Xmas holidays. Question if units will remain rent controlled unless owner move-in and how many total units effected. Committee supports information gathering by SF Housing Rights Committee. Franco stated minutes re MCA issues from previous meeting incorrect. Mari stated Block Book Notice (BBN) gives neighbors more clout as well as more notice. BBN has fee attached but possible discount for 501(c)3. Larissa at United to Save Mission has info. BBN also important because get all department correspondence so can know when to Sunshine city contractors for specific development projects. Franco stated that when reviewing MCA notices 20% – 30% are not Marina.

A) **Committee Actions** – Motion from Chair to sever Land Use Committee and Transportation Committee. Motion from Chair to rename Transportation Committee to Transportation and Environment Committee. Boken lacks high level of expertise in land use. Franco cited not enough attendance at LU&TC meetings. Mari stated United to Save Mission acted on her recommendation. Have conference calls like Livable California. Don't demand meeting attendance or action items. Mari stated meetings could be more effective if bring issues to committee and ask for expert advise so committee is clearinghouse. Neighborhoods can compare notes. Mari brought up need to preserve SF. Boken brought up issue re who has land use expertise to deal with citywide and regional issues. Mari stated Livable California handling regional and state land use issues. Items continued until next LU&TC meeting.

New Business A) Request from Chair for reimbursement of \$85. for attendance at Commonwealth Club Luncheon for Women with guest speakers Ann Caen and Francesca Vietor of SFPUC Commission.

B) Hand over CSFN Land Use mailbox key to Head for USPS mailbox 156616 located on Geary at Fillmore.

5:26

Adjourn.

Eileen Boken, Chair LUTC



Government and Elections Report by George Wooding

CSFN recommended voting “no” on Measure A

Proposition A - City College Job Training, Repair and Earthquake Safety Measure

▼ less To fix/repair City College facilities; make necessary seismic retrofit/earthquake safety improvements; make the College more environmentally sustainable through energy efficient buildings/increased renewable energy use; and acquire, construct, repair facilities, sites/equipment to prepare students for well-paid, local science, technology, and arts related jobs, shall San Francisco Community College District’s measure authorizing \$845,000,000 in bonds at legal rates, levying 1.1 cents/\$100 assessed value (\$47,500,000 annually until approximately 2053) be approved, requiring audits and citizen oversight?

	Ballots cast	Percentage
YES	182,432	71.61%
NO	72,340	28.39%
Total	254,772	100%
Under Votes	20,193	
Over Votes	48	

This measure requires 55% affirmative votes to pass.

CSFN Recommended a “Yes” vote on measure B

To improve fire, earthquake, and emergency response by improving, constructing, and/or replacing: deteriorating cisterns, pipes, and tunnels, and related facilities to ensure firefighters a reliable water supply for fires and disasters; neighborhood fire and police stations and supporting facilities; the City’s 911 Call Center; and other disaster response and public safety facilities, and to pay related costs, shall the City and County of San Francisco issue \$628,500,000 in general obligation bonds, with a duration up to 30 years from the time of issuance, an estimated average tax rate of \$0.015/\$100 of assessed property value, and projected average annual revenues of \$40,000,000, subject to citizen oversight and regular audits?

Ballots cast	Percentage	
YES	211,226	82.4%
NO	45,101	17.6%
Total	256,327	100%
Under Votes	18,632	
Over Votes	54	

This measure requires 66⅔% affirmative votes to pass.

CSFN recommended a “Yes” vote on Measure C

Ballots cast	Percentage
YES	173,806 70.05%
NO	74,295 29.95%
Total	248,101 100%
Under Votes	26,863
Over Votes	49

This measure requires 50%+1 affirmative votes to pass.

CSFN Recommended a “Yes” vote on Measure D

Shall the City tax owners or tenants who keep ground floor retail or other commercial space vacant in some areas of San Francisco, at rates of between \$250 and \$1,000 per street-facing foot, starting January 1, 2021 and without any expiration date, and use the annual revenues, estimated at a range of a minimal amount to \$5 million, to assist small businesses?

Ballots cast	Percentage
YES	176,515 69.7%
NO	76,751 30.3%
Total	253,266 100%
Under Votes	21,673
Over Votes	74

This measure requires 66⅔% affirmative votes to pass.CFSN Recommends a “YES”

CSFN recommended a “YES” vote on Measure E

Shall the City tie annual square-footage allotment for certain Large Office Projects to whether the City is meeting its Affordable Housing Goals, and change the criteria for approving certain office projects?

	Ballots cast	Percentage
YES	135,324	54.67%
NO	112,216	45.33%
Total	247,540	100%
Under Votes	27,416	
Over Votes	57	

This measure requires 50%+1 affirmative votes to pass

George Wooding, Chair Government and Elections



TREASURE ISLAND BUILDING MORATORIUM RESOLUTION

Whereas, Treasure Island was the site where battleships were cleaned after a nuclear blast at the Bikini Atoll leaving radioactivity on site;

Whereas, the Navy deposited radium-dipped devices in landfills on Treasure Island in the past;

Whereas, in 2006 the Navy published an account of radioactivity on Treasure Island, however, since that publication, new locations of radioactivity have been found in areas where it was not supposed to be;

Whereas, in 2008 contractors found and removed almost 1,300 small radioactive objects on Site 12 beside housing areas;

Whereas, in 2011 state technicians tested Treasure Island's roads with gamma scanners and found 5 areas of "significantly elevated radiation levels" in places accessible to the public;

Whereas, cesium-137 was found close to a building where this substance was stored, when experts reported further tests were needed to be done, the Navy and the City's development authority said there was no need for action and the health department did not comment;

Therefore be it Resolved, that all parties involved in the cleanup of Treasure Island, including the District Attorney, the Navy, the City Development Authority on Treasure Island, the California Department of Toxic Substances Control, the SF Health Department, the Treasure Island Homeless Initiative, Lennar and FivePoint Holding LLC construction companies and the John Stewart Co. which manages leases on Treasure Island, halt construction on Treasure Island until these relevant agencies consider it safe and free of radioactivity and any other toxic waste.

Charles Head, President of CSFN

CSFN PO BOX 320098 San Francisco, CA 94132



Member Renewal

Name of Organization _____

Mailing Address _____ SF 941 Contact E-mail _____

Current Officers

Name	Office	Address (with ZIP)	Email Address	Phone

CSFN Delegate

Name	Address (with ZIP)	Email Address	Phone

If your organization has alternate CSFN delegates:

Name	Address (with ZIP)	Email Address	Phone

NEWSLETTER MAILING LIST – Each member is entitled to receive two copies of CSFN’s monthly newsletter Neighborhood Views as part of their membership fee. The first copy goes to the delegate and the second to a person designated by the organization. A member of an organization’s Board of Directors may subscribe to the CSFN newsletter at a rate of \$10 per year. Other persons may subscribe at \$15 per year. If you prefer to view the newsletter online or download it from the website www.csfn.net/newsletter check the box below and leave the following lines blank. Additional paid copies: use the back of this page. Include address and zip codes.

- Email us the newsletter to following email address(es): _____
- Do **not** send us a hard copy.
- Send a hard copy to: _____

Name	Office	Address (with ZIP)	Phone

DUES, DONATIONS AND NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIPTIONS

CSFN Annual Membership dues are \$45. Organizations wishing to include an additional donation to CSFN are encouraged to do so. Please add \$10 for each additional newsletter subscription for your organization’s board members and \$15 for other members. Make check payable to CSFN and mail to CSFN POBox 320098 SF CA 94132.

Annual Membership Dues: \$45.	_____
Newsletter Subscriptions: @ \$10.	_____
Newsletter Subscriptions: @ \$15.	_____
Additional Donation	_____
Total to CSFN	_____
Thank You!	

CSFN Membership Certification

CSFN Bylaws (Article II, Section A-G) require each voting member organization to certify that it has a membership of 35 or more in order to maintain voting privileges. Organizations not having the required membership are encouraged to join or retain membership as associate members without voting privileges.

Member Organization (35 or more members) _____

Associate (non-voting) Member Organization _____

Certifying Signature _____

Address if not listed above _____

CSFN Annual Membership Fee is Due in January. If not received by March 1, voting rights will be withdrawn.