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Moraga Citizen Corps Council Revived

By Sophie Braccini



From left: Dennis Rein, Bob Priebe, Jonathan Goodwin, Gary Borelli, and Linda Borelli Photo Sophie Braccini

By many accounts, there has been a Citizen Corps Council in Moraga for a long time. However, no meetings have ever been held and nobody really knows who comprises its membership. When Dennis Rein was hired as Emergency Preparedness Coordinator for Moraga and Orinda, and now Lafayette as well, he understood that the job would include acting as the Moraga-Orinda Fire Department liaison to Lamorinda's three Citizen Corps Councils. Orinda and Lafayette have active councils in place; Rein recently undertook the task of reviving the one

in Moraga. According to its web site the Citizen Corps' mission is "to harness the power of every individual through education, training, and volunteer service to make communities safer, stronger, and better prepared to respond to the threats of terrorism, crime, public health issues, and disasters of all kinds." It was launched by George Bush in 2002, following the events of September 11, 2001. Citizen Corps is coordinated nationally by the Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

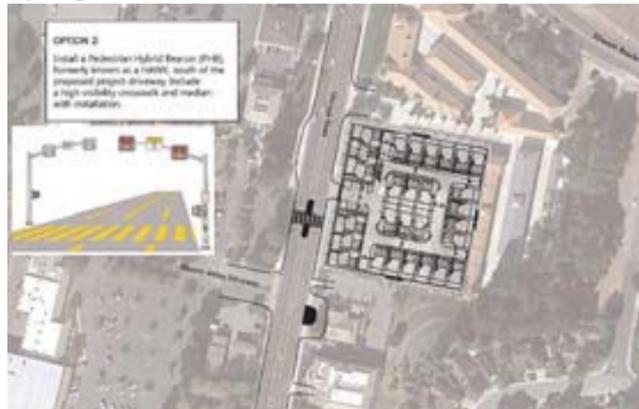
Rein invited representatives of local groups involved in emergency preparedness to a meeting on May 9. The attendees included Police Chief Bob Priebe, Canyon resident Jonathan Goodwin, and Linda and Gary Borelli of Moraga Neighborhood Emergency Preparedness (MNEP). Representatives from the Red Cross and the local Community Emergency Response Team were unable to attend.

The Citizen Corp Councils of Lafayette and Orinda operate quite differently from each other.

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Old Bowling Alley Site Still a Challenging Piece of Dirt

By Sophie Braccini



Proposal by Fehr and Peers for a pedestrian crossing on Moraga Road

From staff report

On May 7 Signature Properties presented, to a joint meeting of Moraga's Design Review Committee and Planning Commission, a development project for 26 medium density homes closely packed on about two acres of the vacant, flat lot along Moraga Road across from the Rheem Shopping Center.

It is the third project proposed for this site; previous plans included one for roughly 40 apartments and then 21 detached single-family residences. This new project was developed after discussions with Town staff, encour-

aging the developer to increase the density of the single-family homes. The project proposes clusters of three, four and six parcels, plus a 27th lot where a bioswale (landscape drainage area) would be built.

"The price point for these homes would be from the high-\$500,000s to the mid- \$600,000s," said the developer. "This price point will make this project successful." Staff and commissioners raised several issues with the project, in spite of some strong points.

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