Comments to the Board on Resolution 626

A concerned Del Mar neighbor

For the October 24, 2026 Board meeting

Over the last few days, the listserv has produced a few comments advising that I should trust the board and not question their judgment. It's rude and bratty to criticize them for doing something because I object to its effect on me. Some suggest that they know better than I do and that the thing I am resisting is not as bad as I think it will be.

But these comments ignore hard evidence about both the board and pickleball. With no explanation, the board canceled a public comment opportunity intended to be a part of the evaluative process for Del Mar. Members petitioned the board to engage in mediation as outlined by California civil code, but the board refused to complete that process before voting on this resolution. (I wonder if they paid their lawyer with your money to determine whether they can legally do that.) We hear that the argument has dragged on and on, so we should put it to bed and stripe the court. But the board never acknowledges that that's because there has been over a decade of organized opposition, a clear sign that the piecemeal changes to Del Mar have hardly reflected the general will of members. Why is it truculent of me to hold to my objections but not inexplicably obstinate of the board to hang on so tightly to their plan in light of all this? Meanwhile, a member has noted that pickleball is in fact causing a noise nuisance at Moonraker now.

We are at The Sea Ranch, and not someplace else; let's make the issue specific to the place. The vision committee cites Larry Halprin, saying that the Sea Ranch is not a resort. It is not a place of entitlement to a panoply of entertainments for oneself or one's tenants. We are not entitled to fit this place to the short timescales of human desires; we are responsible for increasing our protection of these spaces from the damaging human noise and impact that's nearly impossible to escape. If that line of argument doesn't compel, I'll say that while governance overreach affects my neighborhood now, there's no guarantee that a disruptive plan for your neighborhood won't be next.