

MARIN COUNTY COUNCIL OF MAYORS AND COUNCILMEMBERS
Draft Minutes

Wednesday, January 27, 2016
Hosted by the City of Mill Valley
Outdoor Art Club
One West Blithedale Avenue, Mill Valley

Members Present

Belvedere: Clair McAuliffe, James Campbell, Sandra Donnell, Bob McCaskill
Corte Madera: Sloan Bailey, Diane Furst, James Andrews
Fairfax: Renee Goddard, Peter Lacques, John Reed, David Weinsoff
Larkspur: Kevin Haroff, Ann Morrison
Mill Valley: John McCauley, Sashi McEntee, Stephanie Moulton-Peters, Jessica Sloan, Jim Wickham
Novato: Denise Athas, Pat Eklund, Eric Lucan
Ross: P. Beach Kuhl, Carla Small
San Anselmo: Matt Brown, Kay Coleman, Ford Greene, Tom McInerney, John Wright
San Rafael: Maribeth Bushey, Kate Colin, John Gamblin, Andrew McCullough
Sausalito: Jill Hoffman
Tiburon: Alice Fredericks, Erin Tollini

Ex Officio: Belvedere City Manager Mary Neilan; Fairfax Town Manager Garrett Toy, Larkspur City Manager Dan Schwarz, Mill Valley City Manager Jim McCann, Novato Interim City Manager Cathy Capriola, Ross Town Manager Joe Chinn, San Anselmo Town Manager Debbie Stutsman, San Rafael City Manager Jim Schutz, Mill Valley City Clerk Kelsey Rogers and Novato City Clerk/MCCMC Secretary Sheri Hartz.

Call to Order

President Denise Athas called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. and welcomed attendees. She introduced Mill Valley Mayor John McCauley and newly elected councilmembers Jim Wickham and Sashi McEntee from Mill Valley and Matt Brown from San Anselmo.

Welcome and Introduction of Guests

Mayor McCauley recognized Mill Valley Vice Mayor Jessica Sloan and Councilmembers Stephanie Moulton-Peters, Jim Wickham and Sashi McEntee. He also introduced Mill Valley staff members City Manager Jim McCann, City Attorney Greg Stepanicich, Director of Finance and Human Resources Eric Erickson, Director of Planning and Building Vin Smith, Librarian Anji Brenner, Fire Chief Tom Welch, Interim Public Works Director Bob Peterson, Assistants to the City Manager Linn Walsh and Mary Lansing, Community Engagement Supervisor Sean Mooney, Deputy City Clerk/Administrative Analyst Seth Allingham, and City Clerk/Administrative Analyst Kelsey Rogers. He also welcomed Marin County Supervisor Kate Sears, her District Aide Maureen Parton, Supervisor Steve Kinsey, and Nancy Hall Bennett from the League of California Cities. He then provided a brief history about the location.

Public Comment – None

Committee Reports

MTC Report: Supervisor Kinsey stated that MTC had been working on behalf of Marin on the Richmond/San Rafael Bridge project, upon which construction would begin in the summer of 2016, and added that they were fortunate to have regional funding for the third eastbound lane.

He reported that they were working on a way to get SMART to extend to Larkspur, to give opportunities to Novato for a downtown station, and to support all the cities and towns along the SMART line as it came into operation. He added that work was being done so that the Clipper Card system would be available for SMART. He also stated that there were \$470M in transit replacement dollars, which could be allocated to make improvements to BART, expand Muni, and provide funding for other transit systems. He said that the federal government had funded a six year program for transportation, but, at the same time, the state had swapped excise tax for sales tax but that gasoline sales had gone down, and that legislative solutions were being sought.

TAM Report: Councilmember Fredericks stated that, at its upcoming meeting, the TAM Board would be asked to approve a request to MTC for funding for improvements on the approaches to the Richmond San Rafael Bridge, including East Sir Francis Drake Boulevard and the Bellam Boulevard off-ramp/ intersection. She stated that the projects, proposed in collaboration with affected jurisdictions, were needed to provide access to the third lane on the bridge, adding that the collaborative effort for approaches on local roads were also focused on providing continued access to local businesses.

Regarding the third lane, she stated that progress on the bike lane project on the upper deck might lag the eastbound lower deck car lane due to right of way issues related to East Sir Francis Drake improvements, but that the third lane eastbound project itself was moving forward with a completion date of fall 2017. She concluded by stating that her report did not address the challenges for the new bike lanes, but they continued to be aggressively addressed.

MCCMC Legislative Committee Report: Councilmember Fredericks reported on the following items of legislation:

- The Legislative Committee voted to support AB 21, a clean up bill following recently approved marijuana legislation, which would remove the pre-emption provision of previous legislation and allow all state legislation affecting marijuana cultivation to pre-empt local ordinances if the local legislation had not taken effect by March of 2016 . This bill was chaptered.
- The Committee voted to support SB 593, Short Term Rentals, if clarified to allow information on rental activity to be used to enforce local ordinances. The bill allowed hosting platforms to collect the TOT on short term vacation rentals and required quarterly reporting of activity to the local jurisdiction if appropriate legislation was adopted. Several jurisdictions in Marin had prohibited STRs based on concerns about preserving the peace, quiet and safety of neighborhoods and protecting the rights of residents with long term commitments to community, even though TOT was attractive and reasonable levels of short term rental activity was desired.
- The Committee voted to continue to support transportation funding bills, including AB 591, to address the billions of dollars needed for deferred maintenance, with a focus on ensuring that revenues would be fairly allocated to local governments.
- The Committee voted to oppose SB876, Homelessness, which essentially made the homeless a protected class with respect to use of public facilities, focusing on concerns that state funding for the enforcement of the proposed protections and local money for any subsequent litigation would be better spent on providing more permanent solutions to homelessness. The bill duplicated SB 609 on which the committee previously took an oppose position.

GGBHTD Report: Councilmember Fredericks reported on route changes, as follows:

Ferry/RTE 8

The Bridge District proposed several changes in transit service as part of a strategic vision plan to reduce predicted deficits and provide efficient service to as many riders as possible. A public hearing was held in Tiburon to gather public input about the proposals to provide commuter ferry service and change direct commuter service from the peninsula to SF. Public concerns included a challenge to the low ridership data, and an objection to the extra time required to transfer from the Marin Transit buses that serve the peninsula to the commuter buses at the freeway. Staff would address the public concerns in the final reporting to the Board at the February meeting.

RTE 10/70

The Board of Directors approved a public hearing on proposed changes to Transit Rtes 70 and 10. A new GGB route, Route 30, was proposed to serve Rte 10 and incorporate Rte 70's current evening trips. Additional new routes to serve the 19th Avenue corridor and Fisherman's Wharf areas were also proposed. Public comment was encouraged. The hearing was planned for Thursday, February 25, 2016.

Vista Point

A ban on personal vehicle parking during peak visitation hours to Vista Point proposed would be in place during the Super Bowl. The ban would serve as a template for proposed management of Vista Point parking during holidays and the tourist season. Vehicles waiting to park often backed up two lanes of the bridge and impede access to 101 north in Marin. Some bus stops locations in San Francisco would be changed to accommodate street closures.

Marin Transit Report: Councilmember Bushey reported that Marin Transit would be rolling out a 17% increase in service – the biggest ever – in the next few months, and was conducting community outreach. She said she would follow up at the next meeting with details on all of the committee meetings that would be happening and that Nancy Whelan, Marin Transit's Executive Director, would be contacting City Managers to discuss what programs were desired in particular communities.

SMART Report: Councilmember Moulton-Peters reported that SMART was going to Larkspur, and had gotten \$20 M in federal funding to match local funds. She reported that relocating service at the Bettini Transit Center would be difficult to navigate, and would affect 9,000 buses a day, but they but were hopeful. Regarding bike issues, she stated that \$35 M would have been spent on bike paths by the end of 2016.

Major Crimes Task Force Report: Mayor Eklund stated that the Task Force's annual report had been part of the agenda packet for this meeting, and related a sad case found in the report. She thanked the Town of Ross for rejoining team and encouraged everyone to read the report.

ABAG Report: Mayor Eklund stated that in June 2016 there would be a ballot measure throughout the nine counties in the amount of \$12 per person for San Francisco bay wetlands restoration. She stated that there was a schedule change for release of the scenarios, and that they were working towards a combined open house/public workshop on May 21st. She reported that the ABAG Executive Board had approved a forecast which included an increase in population, jobs and households, and housing units, and announce an upcoming 5:00 p.m. meeting in Novato regarding the MTC/ABAG proposed merger.

Program: Mark DiCamillo, Senior VP and Director, The Field Poll: *Polling Trends in California and Across the Nation in the 2016 Election Year*

Mr. DiCamillo reported that the American public's trust in the federal government was at an all time low with only 19% having a great deal of trust. He said that the reasons have to do with cynicism about government which most believed was run by special interests. He said, however, that Americans viewed local and state government more favorably.

He discussed the approval ratings of President Obama and Governor Brown, stating that most think the state is in good hands and noting the job rating recovery. He added that, traditionally, public opinion rebounds when economic times improve and money is being allocated for projects the public likes.

He reported that the top ten priorities for the state government to address included water problems; economic issues; improving the job situation; balancing the budget; reducing the influence of special interests; improving state roads, bridges and transit; reducing crime; improving schools; dealing with illegal immigration, and updating the tax system.

He discussed citizen opinion on their local elected, stating that most found them to be very responsive. He said that the issues on the November 2016 ballot would likely include marijuana, gun control, the death penalty, prescription drug costs, and a minimum wage increase, to name a few.

Business Meeting

Approval of Minutes – November 18, 2015 meeting

There was a motion/second (Donnell/Moulton-Peters) to approve the minutes. Motion passed by acclamation.

President's Report – Nancy Hall Bennett described the activities and purposes of the League of California Cities and invited participation.

Presentation – Marin Managers Association, Mary Neilan, Belvedere Town Manager

Ms. Neilan, MMA Chair, stated that the association consisted of Marin's 11 city and town managers, plus the County Administrator and met monthly to discuss common challenges and try to get ahead of issues. She said that the ICMA also assisted by providing training and resources, and a senior advisor who attended the monthly meetings. She stated that only three of current members are woman and that more were needed to adequately represent Marin's demographics. She added that most city managers have advanced degrees, come from various disciplines and have moved around for opportunities to advance. She explained that the city manager job was comprised of two parts: the work with councils to support their policy making role, and they manage the administration of their cities. She said that the demands of the role depended on the city's size and demographics, plus the types of services it offered, and that city managers needed to be knowledgeable to cover a wide range of issues and topics. She said that they needed to be good at communication, problem-solving, like people and skilled at using the resources available.

At 8:26 p.m., President Athas adjourned the meeting to the February 24th meeting in the City of Novato.

Submitted,

Sheri Hartz
MCCMC Secretary

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