

MARIN COUNTY COUNCIL OF MAYORS AND COUNCILMEMBERS

MINUTES

Wednesday, January 28, 2009

Marin Masonic Building

1010 Lootens Place

San Rafael, CA

Members Present

Belvedere: ---

Corte Madera: Alexandra Cock, Bob Ravasio

Fairfax: Larry Bragman, Susan Brandborg, David Weinsoff

Larkspur: Larry Chu, Daniel Hillmer, Joan Lundstrom

Mill Valley: Andrew Berman, Garry Lion, Shawn E. Marshall, Stephanie Moulton-Peters, Ken Wachtel

Novato: Madeline Kellner, Carole Knutson, Jeanne Macleamy, Patricia Thompson

Ross: William Cahill

San Anselmo: Peter Breen, Ted Freeman, Ford Greene, Judy House, Barbara Thornton

San Rafael: Al Boro, Greg Brockbank, Damon Connolly, Barbara Heller, Cyr Miller

Sausalito: Mike Kelly, Jonathan Leone, Linda Pfeifer, Herb Weiner

Tiburon: Alice Fredericks, Jeff Slavitz

Also present were the following City and Town Managers: George Rodericks, Belvedere; Anne Montgomery, Mill Valley; Patricia Thompson, Novato; Debra Stutsman, San Anselmo; Ken Nordhoff, San Rafael; Adam Politzer, Sausalito; and Peggy Curran, Tiburon.

Call to Order: President Susan Brandborg called the business meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. President Brandborg introduced the Mayor of San Rafael, Al Boro.

Acknowledgment/Presentation: President Brandborg congratulated Patsy White for her special birthday and for the honor she received as the Citizen of the Year for Novato. President Brandborg presented a Resolution of Appreciation to Amy O’Gorman for all of her hard work and advocacy for cities and congratulated her on her new position as Director of Regional Affairs.

Welcome and Introduction of Guests: Mayor Al Boro welcomed everyone to the dinner hosted by the City of San Rafael and introduced the San Rafael Council Members and the following Town staff: Ken Nordhoff, City Manager; Terri Hardesty, Assistant to the City Manager; Jim Schutz, Assistant City Manager; Bob Brown, Community Development Director; Chris Gray, Fire Chief; Cindy Mosser, Finance Manager; David Dodd, Library Director; Esther Beirne, City Clerk; Matt Odetto, Police Chief; Nancy Mackle, Deputy City Manager; Parvix Mokhtari, Interim Public Works Director; Rob Epstein, City Attorney; Brian Auger, Events Coordinator; Joanne Webster, Director, Downtown Business Improvement District.; Carlene McCart, Community Services Director; and Leslie Loomis, Human Resources Director.

Other guests who were introduced: Matthew Hymel, Marin County Administrator; Steve Kinsey, District 4 Supervisor; Sue Peterson, Marin Builders Association; Carleton Prince, Board President, Marin History Museum; Dawn Maurant, Curator, Marin History Museum; Merry Alberigi, Executive Director, Marin History Museum; Margaret Jones, League of Women Voters; Patsy White, Marin Economic Commission; Alec Hansen, President, Economic Competitiveness Group, Inc.; Nana Adeishvili, Principal, Economic Competitiveness Group, Inc.; and Amy O’Gorman, League of California Cities.

Approval of Minutes: From the meeting held on December 4, 2008.
Moved and seconded to approve the minutes. Motion passed.

Committee Reports

- a. Transportation Authority of Marin (TAM) – Alice Fredericks presented the report. She described the projects that were affected by the State budget impasse and the projects that could be eligible for Federal economic stimulus package funding in response to the call for “shovel ready” projects. She described the current proposals being considered by the State to balance their budget including suspending Prop 42 payments until September or October and delaying the monthly Highway Users Tax payment until September. She further reported that the State had \$650 million of unpaid contractor work, with \$102 million in CalTrans projects; that the funds that were recently released by the State would allow \$727,000 of outstanding bills to be paid for the 580/101 connector work; that California might be the recipient of four to five billion dollars from the Federal Economic Stimulus Package; that TAM had a great investment in making sure that any money that came to Marin was used in and stayed in Marin; and that the TAM Board would be looking at a ‘Ready to Go’ list at their January 29th meeting. In the short term, she reported that the Gap Closure Project would probably go forward with Federal funds; that the SMART track, the sound wall and the path were scheduled to be completed in the summer; that the 101/580 project would be delayed if the State didn’t adopt a budget by February 1st; and that, when the Gap Closure was completed, TAM, in collaboration with the 511 Rideshare Program and the MTC, would have van pool incentives in place in Marin, with details of the program available at 511.org.
- b. Legislative Committee – Alice Fredericks presented the report and stated that the Committee had focused on their work program with short discussions on AB 32, carbon emission reduction legislation and SB 375 that established sustainable community strategies as part of planning strategies. She stated that the discussion of SB 375 had included concern that the implementation legislation might create unfunded mandates and possibly usurp local land use authority.
- c. Golden Gate Bridge Highway & Transportation District – President Brandborg introduced Al Boro to give the report and announced that he had been recently elected as the President of the District Board. Al Boro presented the report. He stated that the State had taken away \$1.8 Million from the State Transit System Fund; that \$6.7 million was still in play and could also be lost; that the Suicide Barrier Study was due out in the Spring and that the District couldn’t afford to build it; that he had met with legislators and others to form a non-profit to provide private funding for the barrier to be used along with State and Federal money. He further reported that the median barrier project would start in February with a grant from MTC of \$20 million dollars along with \$5 million already in the District’s operating budget to pay for the \$25 million dollar project; that the District had committed 75 million dollars to the Doyle Drive project from the capital improvement fund, not from tolls; that the seismic retrofit of the bridge continued and was in the third phase; and that the final bid would be put out in 2010 for the design work on the Towers; that Translink had been made available and was being refined; that bike racks were being installed on all the buses; and gave an update on the purchase and retrofitting of the two used ferries from the State of Washington.
- d. Marin Economic Commission – Garry Lion presented the report. He gave an overview of the Marin Economic Sustainability Plan that included a proposal for a Marin Economic Sustainability Forum and support for a Business Improvement District as the best way to implement such a plan. He introduced Howard Hansen, a consultant who worked on the plan. Mr. Hansen urged the formation of the Forum to bring together all the stakeholders to work on the economic health of the county. He reviewed a proposed organizational chart that outlined the staff that would implement the program; used Sonoma County as an example of a county that was using the concept successfully; noted that Marin County had committed \$150,000 for the first year of operation; described possible funding

options going forward; and reported on the formation of a steering committee to include MCCMC members.

- e. SMART – Peter Breen presented the report. He stated that the primary contractor expected to provide rail cars, Colorado Rail Car, had gone out of business; that Charles McGlashan had been re-elected as the Chair for the second year; that Carol Dillon-Knutson had been replaced on the Board by Madeline Kellner for Novato; that Judy Arnold had replaced Hal Brown; that Citizens Committees had been formed; that NCRA would be doing some work on the rails working closely with SMART; that the Federal Economic Stimulus Package could include funding for tracks through the tunnel and bridges that needed replacement, all “shovel-ready” projects; and stated that the first run of the train should be in 2014.
- f. Marin Telecommunications Authority – Andy Berman presented the report. He stated that he had been a representative on the Authority for over three years; that the Board had completely changed; that it was an outstanding and effective board; that eleven member agencies were represented; that nine to eleven people showed up at every meeting; that a lot of time and energy had been spent to get the community media center up and running; that they had signed an agreement with a designated access provider, Community Media Center of Marin (CMCM); that CMCM was in the process of getting fiber connected directly to Comcast; that they would take over Channel 26 in April and the government channel shortly thereafter; that they had an outstanding Executive Director in Michael Eisenberger; worked closely with Midas and Marin.org to get the system video enabled; that ATT had a franchise under the State franchising law and was working to get PEG channels on their network; that they had moved offices and were sharing with other agencies to save money; and reported on the Strategic Planning process that was ongoing.

Committee Elections:

Appointment of Board members and Alternate for the League of California Cities North Bay Division Executive Board

President Brandborg explained that there were two positions on the League of California Cities North Bay Division Executive Board and one Alternate position open. She recommended that all three appointments be made at the next meeting.

Appointment of Representative and Alternate to the Marin County Transit District

Moved and seconded to appoint Madeline Kellner to serve as a Representative to the Marin County Transit District Board. Motion passed.

Moved and seconded to appoint Stephanie Moulton-Peters to serve as the Alternate Representative to the Marin County Transit District Board. Motion passed.

Future Appointment – Vacancy on the Marin County Disaster Council

President Brandborg announced that appointment would be made at the next meeting, that she was currently serving and was interested in continuing, but that other applicants were welcome to apply for the two-year term.

Coastal Commission Appointment

President Brandborg acknowledged the application for nomination for appointment from Mayor Sarah Gurney of Sebastopol that had been included in the packet and announced a number of endorsements that had been received as part of Steve Kinsey's application for appointment not

included in the packet. She explained that the name of the person or persons nominated would be sent to the Senate Rules Committee for consideration for appointment to the Coastal Commission.

President Brandborg requested that the Towns caucus with their Councils to reach consensus for a vote on the two candidates nominated, Sarah Gurney and Steve Kinsey, and noted that each Town had one vote according to the MCCMC Bylaws. After the caucus, President Brandborg took a roll call vote of the cities:

Belvedere: No vote; **Corte Madera:** Steve Kinsey; **Fairfax:** No vote; **Larkspur:** Steve Kinsey; **Mill Valley:** Steve Kinsey; **Novato:** Steve Kinsey; **San Anselmo:** Steve Kinsey; **San Rafael:** Steve Kinsey; **Sausalito:** Steve Kinsey; **Tiburon:** Steve Kinsey

Public Comment:

Shawn Marshall, City of Mill Valley, reported that the North Bay Division of the League would be working to find Amy O’Gorman’s replacement and that Fred Kelly would be the speaker at the next meeting on February 19th in Benicia.

Program: Senator Mark Leno provided a background on the State budget crisis; noted that California was only one of three states in the country that required a 2/3 vote to pass a budget; described a single-payer health system as the only viable answer to the huge increases in health care costs and explained how such a system would work. He encouraged Council members to contact him for assistance in solving local problems.

Adjourn: 9:15 pm to the next meeting hosted by Sausalito on Wednesday, February 28, 2009.

Submitted,

Judy Anderson, Secretary-Treasurer