

**COUNTY COUNCIL OF MAYORS AND COUNCILMEMBERS
MINUTES**

**Thursday, November 17, 2011
Town of Corte Madera
Corte Madera Recreation Center
498 Tamalpais Drive
Corte Madera, CA 94925**

Members Present:

Belvedere: Sandra Donnell
Corte Madera: Alexandra Cock, Carla Condon, Diane Furst, Michael Lappert, Bob Ravasio
Fairfax: David Weinsoff
Larkspur: Dan Hilmer, Len Rifkind
Mill Valley: Garry Lion, Shawn Marshall, Stephanie Moulton-Peters, Ken Wachtel
Novato: Denise Athas, Carole Dillon-Knutson, Pat Eklund, Jeanne MacLeamy
Ross: R. Ruppert Russell
San Anselmo: Kay Coleman, Jeff Kroot, Tom McInerney, Barbara Thornton, Lori Lopin
San Rafael: Al Boro, Greg Brockbank, Damon Connolly, Barbara Heller, Marc Levine
Sausalito: Michael Kelly, Herb Weiner
Tiburon: Alice Fredericks, Emmett O'Donnell, Jeff Slavitz

City Managers Present (ex officio):

Belvedere: George Rodericks, Felicia Wheaton (Asst. City Manager)
Corte Madera: David Bracken
Larkspur: Dan Schwarz
Mill Valley: Jim McCann
Novato: Michael Frank
San Anselmo: Debra Stutsman
Sausalito: Adam Politzer

Call to Order: Immediate Past President Shawn Marshall called the business meeting to order at 7p.m. She congratulated the members who had been re-elected, as well as new members.

Public Comment: None.

Welcome and Introduction of Guests: Mayor Cock introduced the members of the Corte Madera Town Council (all present) and Town staff: Dan Bell, Beth Benz, Shani Combs, Maureen Daly, Mario Fiorentini, Barry Hogue, Roger Sprehn, and Jim Shirk of the Twin Cities Police Department. She also welcomed guests Wendy Friefeld of Congresswoman Lynn Woolsey's office, Mary Currie, Public Affairs Director of the Golden Gate Bridge, Highway & Transportation District, Patsy White and Margaret Jones of the League of Women Voters, and guest speaker, Harry Thomas.

Mayor Cock thanked the staff for working to obtain a grant which had been used to upgrade and rebuild the Corte Madera Community Center.

Approval of Minutes: From the meeting held on October 26, 2011

Moved and seconded to approve the minutes, as written. Motion passed by acclamation.

Appointments to Fill Pending Vacancies

- **ABAG** – Carole Dillon Knutson, incumbent (not seeking re-election) plus one other vacancy (alternate representative) Term Expiration - June 2012/ Letter of interest received from Pat Eklund

Motion: To appoint Pat Eklund to the ABAG Board.
Moved: MacLeamy, seconded by Thornton
Vote: Unanimous

President Marshall noted that the alternate position on the ABAG Board was still open.

- **BCDC** – Joan Lundstrom, incumbent (resignation effective October 15, 2011)
Term Expiration - No set term limit – Appointment is made by ABAG to 27-member board
Letter of interest from Marc Levine

There were two motions: one (Motion by Furst) to nominate Alexandra Cock; the second (Motion by O'Donnell) to nominate Marc Levine.

President Marshall said that the membership would utilize the new by-laws provision to conduct contested elections by ballot. MCCMC Secretary Crane Iacopi distributed the ballots, one to each city, and the two candidates each spoke of their interest in serving and qualifications.

- **Cal-ID Remote Access Network** - Barbara Thornton, incumbent (not seeking re-election) Term Expiration – March 2012 –

No letters of interest/no candidates/no action taken.

- **GGHTTD**– Al Boro, incumbent (not seeking re-election)
Term Expiration – January 2012 (Appointment is made by Marin County Board of Supervisors) – Letter of interest received from Alice Fredericks

Motion: To appoint Alice Fredericks to the GGHBTD Board.
Moved: Rifkind, seconded by Weinsoff
Vote: Unanimous

- **LAFCO**– Jeff Slavitz, incumbent (not seeking re-election)
Term Expiration – May 2014 – Letter of Interest from Carla Condon

Motion: To appoint Carla Condon to LAFCO.
Moved: Eklund, seconded by Lappert
Vote: Unanimous

President Marshall asked MCCMC Secretary to announce the results of the BCDC election. Secretary Crane Iacopi said there were 7 ballots [cities] in favor of Marc Levine and 4 in favor of Alexandra Cock, with Levine obtaining the majority vote.

Committee Reports

1) Golden Gate Bridge Highway & Transportation District (Al Boro)

Mayor Boro gave his final report. He noted, among other things, that the call center for the district was being moved to the San Rafael Transit Center, and that Wifi would be available on busses in January 2012.

Following Mayor Boro's report, GGBHTD representative Mary Currie noted how valuable Mr. Boro's service had been to the District over the years, and how resignation was both a personal and professional loss. The MCCMC members gave Mr. Boro a standing ovation.

2) Transportation Authority of Marin (Alice Fredericks) – No report.

President Marshall thanked all the outgoing committee members for their service. The members who were present (Barbara Thornton, Jeff Slavitz, Greg Brockbank, and Al Boro) stood and stated how many years of service they had on their Councils and in their communities. The years ranged in number 10 to 40 years. The members applauded their outgoing colleagues.

Marshall then turned the meeting back over to Mayor Cock who introduced the program and speaker.

Program: *“Introduction to the Marin Economic Forum”*

Speaker: Harry Thomas, President of the Board, Marin Economic Forum

In his speech, Mr. Thomas gave some historical perspective on the economy of Marin County. He said that there was a time when Marin was known as a supplier of food and goods for San Francisco. He said that in 1852, Tomales was the largest city in Marin County.

At present, Thomas said that unemployment in Marin was lower than the state-wide average, however, as local elected officials already realized, many businesses were struggling in the current economy. He talked about the three-pronged approach (environment, economy, and social equity) of the Marin Economic Forum whose goal was to achieve a vital, thriving economy in Marin.

Thomas said that MEF was comprised of up to 30 members, including government, business and non-profit representation. He said that half of the members had to be affiliated with for-profit businesses. He said that its mission was not to duplicate the work of local Chambers of Commerce. Thomas said the group had the resources to educate, retain and attract business, and provide economic research and analysis. He said that the group promoted itself through round table discussions and dialog. He noted that he had conducted trainings for various groups, such as the Novato Leadership Forum, North Bay Leadership Council, and others.

During Q&A, Margaret Jones asked how unemployment statistics were compiled geographically. Mr. Thomas the statistics were based on where a person lived.

Stephanie Moulton-Peters asked how the forum might help local farmers market their “grown in Marin” produce so that residents could truly shop locally. Mr. Thomas agreed with her concern. He said that the group had done various promotions, for example, the creation of the “Cheese Trail” map for Marin County, but that more could be done.

Michael Lappert talked about the high start-up costs for businesses, and asked what local governments could do to help. Mr. Thomas said that one service offered by MEF was to assemble all the paperwork for a business within 24 hours to determine if it would be feasible for a business in a particular locale. He said the group had “mapped” the permit process for the City of Novato and hoped to do the same in other jurisdictions.

Mr. Thomas passed out copies of the Fall Economic Bulletin for the members.

President Marshall thanked the speaker and Town of Corte Madera for hosting the meeting. She wished everyone a good and thankful holiday season.

ADJOURN: The meeting was adjourned at 8:23 p.m. to the January 25, 2012 meeting in the Town of Fairfax.

Submitted,

Diane Crane Iacopi,
Secretary/Treasurer