

**MARIN COUNTY COUNCIL OF MAYORS AND COUNCILMEMBERS  
MINUTES**

**Thursday, December 3, 2009**

Homeward Bound

1385 N. Hamilton Parkway, Novato, CA 94949

**Members Present**

Belvedere: No members attended

Corte Madera: Diane Furst

Fairfax: Pamela Hartwell-Herrero, John Reed, David Weinsoff

Larkspur: Larry Chu, Joan Lundstrom, Len Rifkind

Mill Valley: Garry Lion

Novato: Denise Athas, Carole Dillon-Knutson, Pat Eklund, Madeline Kellner, Jeanne MacLeamy

Ross: No members attended

San Anselmo: Peter Breen, Kay Coleman, Ted Freeman, Tom McInerney

San Rafael: Al Boro, Greg Brockbank, Barbara Heller, Marc Levine, Cyr Miller

Sausalito: No members attended

Tiburon: Alice Fredericks, Jim Fraser, Emmett O'Donnell, Jeff Slavitz

Also present were the following City and Town Managers: Michael Frank, Novato; Debra Stutsman, San Anselmo; Ken Nordhoff, San Rafael; Peggy Curran, Tiburon, and Secretary/Treasurer Diane Crane Iacopi, Tiburon.

**Call to Order:** President Jeff Slavitz called the business meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and introduced the Novato Mayor, Jeanne MacLeamy.

**Welcome and Introduction of Guests:** Mayor MacLeamy welcomed everyone to the meeting and the Homeward Bound Center. She said that the City was celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary and invited everyone to visit the "new" historic city hall. She said it was available for rentals, as well.

Mayor MacLeamy introduced the members of the "all women" Novato City Council: newly elected Diane Athas, Mayor pro tempore Carole-Dillon Knutson, Pat Eklund, and Madeline Kellner. She also introduced members of the city staff: City Manager Michael Frank, Assistant City Manager Cathy Capriola, Redevelopment Administrator Ron Gerber, Executive Secretary Vickie Gerber, Community Services Director Pam Shinault, Police Chief Joe Kreins, and City Clerk Shirley Gremmels.

MacLeamy introduced Homeward Bound Director Mary Kay Sweeney and Development Director Paul Fordham. She said a few words about the mission and work of Homeward Bound and thanked Sweeney and Fordman for hosting the event. She also introduced the members of the "New Beginnings" catering team who were present.

Mayor MacLeamy introduced the following guests: Wendy Friefeld, District Director, Office of Congresswoman Lynn Woolsey, Matthew Hymel, Marin County Administrator; Margaret Jones, League of Women Voters representative; Charles Dalldorf, League of California Cities North Bay Division representative; and special guests, speaker Lee Domanico, CEO of Marin General Hospital, and Marie Gaynor Murphy.

President Slavitz then welcomed all the newly elected council members asked a representative of each city to introduce them. He also thanked the outgoing council members and acknowledged them for their service.

**Approval of Minutes:** From the meeting held on October 28, 2009

*Moved and seconded to approve the minutes. Motion passed.*

### **Announcement of Committee Vacancies:**

President Slavitz announced the following vacancies and asked that letters of interest be submitted to MCCMC Secretary Diane Crane Iacopi by January 15, 2010. He said that appointments would be made at the January 27, 2010 meeting, and that nominations would also be taken from the floor at that time.

- SMART (Sonoma/Marin Area Rail Transit Commission) – (MCCMC appointment to fill remainder of Peter Breen’s term ending January 2011 – nominee must be TAM commissioner or alternate, not from Novato or San Rafael)
- DISCO (Marin County Disaster Council) – (Board of Supervisors appointment; names submitted by MCCMC to replace Susan Brandborg, term ending March 2011)
- Golden Gate Bridge & Highway Transportation District – (MCCMC appointment of delegate to two-year term, expiring January 2010; Al Boro, incumbent)
- Marin County Transit District Board of Directors – (MCCMC appointment of delegate and alternate to two-year terms, expiring January 2010; Barbara Heller, incumbent; delegate Madeline Kellner and alternate Moulton-Peters’ terms expire in January 2011)
- Major Crimes Task Force (MCCMC appointment of delegate and alternate for two-year terms, expiring January 2010; Pat Eklund, incumbent; alternate position, vacant)
- League of California Cities, North Bay Division Executive Committee, (MCCMC appoints two delegates and one alternate, annually; alternate position is vacant, current delegates are Jonathan Leone and Greg Brockbank)
- Homeless Policy Committee (New vacancy – see letter from Supervisor Susan Adams in packet seeking one or two members from MCCMC)

### **Committee Reports**

- a. Golden Gate Bridge, Highway & Transportation District – Al Boro said that the recent closure of the Bay Bridge for emergency repairs had resulted in an additional \$70,000 in toll revenue from extra cars that crossed the Golden Gate Bridge. He said the District was facing a \$132 million deficit over the next five years and had undertaken a financial stability study to address the issue. He said that some ideas that had been discussed were to eliminate cash-taking at the gates and the possibility of paid parking at Larkspur. He said that the discussion was on-going and that there was no toll hike anticipated until 2013.
- b. SMART – Outgoing representative Peter Breen said that he had been honored to serve on the Board which was in the process of creating the most significant infrastructure improvement in the County since the opening of the Golden Gate Bridge in 1937. He said contracts had been let to start the planning of all the bridges along the length of the rail line. He said there had been recent changes to diesel engines and that the Board might move toward the purchase of the lighter, diesel version rather than the “light rail” that had been contemplated at one time. He said that the vacancy created by his resignation was an important one; he encouraged the membership to work together to keep moving the project forward.
- c. League of California Cities – North Bay Representative Chuck Dalldorf said that the League-sponsored ballot measure was moving forward and was waiting for a title and

summary from the Attorney General's office. He said that the measure proposed to close the Proposition 1A loopholes and protect other sources of revenue to cities, such as transient occupancy taxes, utility user taxes, Proposition 42 funds, and HUTA.

- d. TAM (Transportation Authority of Marin) – Alice Fredericks waived the report in favor of the Legislative Committee report.
- e. MCCMC Legislative Committee – Alice Fredericks invited all members to participate in the “Leadership Summit” at the Board of Supervisors Chambers on December 4 to discuss ideas of government reform and ballot measures that would appear on the November 2010 ballot. She said it would be a busy year ahead for the committee.
- f. Marin Economic Commission – Garry Lion said that anyone who was interested could still apply to serve on the Marin Economic Forum, which would focus on the three “E’s:” economic sustainability, social equity, and the environment. He said that a tentative slate of directors was being sent to the Board of Supervisors for their approval.

#### **Other Reports:**

ABAG – Carole Dillon-Knutson reported as Chair of the Legislative and Government Organization Committee. She said that representatives of the committee, along with anyone else who was interested, would be going to Sacramento on January 27, 2010 to observe the legislature first-hand and to meet with local representatives.

Marin Transit Board – Madeline Kellner reported that MTC would take up the issue of consolidation of transit agencies at its next meeting. She said the Novato “Dial-a-Ride” program was an example of a program that might be impacted by consolidation. She said this was a very useful community program. She welcomed member comments by December 23.

#### **Action Item: Committee Appointments**

Major Crimes Task Force – Recommendation to appoint Citizen Representative (Pat Eklund)

Pat Eklund said that the subcommittee had interviewed three excellent candidates and had agreed upon one who was most qualified, Mr. Ed Schulz. She said Mr. Schulz had lived in the County for 67 years, had served on the Civil Grand Jury and other advisory committees, and had been involved with police academies and parole boards. She asked that the group consider the subcommittee's recommendation of Ed Schulz to serve on the Major Crimes Task Force.

*Moved and seconded to appoint Ed Schulz as the MCCMC Citizen Representative to the Major Crimes Task Force. Motion passed.*

#### **Public Comment:**

John Diamonte lauded the Golden Gate Bridge District's Doyle Drive reconstruction project which he said could be built at half the cost due to the receipt of federal stimulus funding. He urged the membership to move forward with the SMART project and to choose a representative who favored its progress. He said that the North Coast Railroad Authority had won an important victory (permit application) and that freight trains would be rolling in Marin County once again by next year.

**Program:** “*The Future of Marin General Hospital*”

Speaker: **Lee Domanico**, CEO, Marin General Hospital District

Mr. Domanico talked about the transition of the hospital from private to public ownership.

He gave a brief outline of the formation of the district in the 1940's, through its construction in 1952, and its various forms of governance.

Mr. Domanico described the litigation settlement in 2006 whereby by Sutter Health Care will give up its control of the hospital by June 30, 2010. He said that \$35 million would be needed to rebuild the hospital and that the County of Marin had given the District a \$20 million line of credit to aid them in the transition.

In 2007, he said the Board adopted a new plan for governance of the District by a community board comprised of business and civic leaders, as well as an operating board. He said the hospital would be free-standing and would be able to accept public funds.

Mr. Domanico also discussed the issue of competition in the hospital market. He said that he thought Marin General was well positioned to compete based on its location and other factors such as volume and pricing. He said that Sutter had done a good job negotiating contracts with insurance companies for competitive pricing. He also said that the proximity of other hospitals offered opportunities for collaboration.

Mr. Domanico took questions from the audience.

In response to a question regarding whether the District would be able to recapture the \$120 million that Sutter had sent to its corporate office in Sacramento, Mr. Domanico said that the Board was working with the Attorney General's office on this question and that it was "not impossible."

Domanico said that while he currently answered to Sutter, he did not know who would become the CEO after the transition to the new district.

In response to a question regarding a trauma center, Mr. Domanico said that the Board had committed to the County that it would maintain a trauma center at Marin General Hospital as part of its transition plan.

**Adjourn:** 8:25 pm to the next meeting hosted by the Town of Ross at Jason's Restaurant in Greenbrae.

Submitted,

Diane Crane Iacopi, Secretary-Treasurer