

MARIN COUNTY COUNCIL OF MAYORS AND COUNCILMEMBERS

MINUTES

Wednesday, February 25, 2009

Poggio Restaurant
777 Bridgeway Avenue
Sausalito, CA

Members Present

Belvedere: Sandra Donnell

Corte Madera: Alexandra Cock, Michael Lappert, Bob Ravasio

Fairfax: 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: Pat Eklund, Madeline Kellner, Jeanne Macleamy

Ross: William Cahill, Scott Hunter, Rick Strauss

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

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

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

Tiburon: Richard Collins, Alice Fredericks, Tom Gram, Jeff Slavitz

Also present were the following City and Town Managers: Dave Bracken, Corte Madera; Michael Rock, Fairfax; 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. and asked that a report from the League of California Cities be added to the agenda. *Moved and Seconded to approve the amended agenda. Motion passed.*

President Brandborg introduced the Mayor of Sausalito, Jonathan Leone.

Welcome and Introduction of Guests: Mayor Jonathan Leone welcomed everyone to the dinner hosted by the City of Sausalito and introduced the Sausalito Council Members and the following City staff: Debbie Pagliaro, Assistant to the City Manager; Rhett Redelings-MacDermott, Information Technology Manager; and Charles Francis, Interim Finance Director. Other guests who were introduced: Charles McGlashan, District 3 Supervisor; Susan Adams, District 1 Supervisor; Sue Peterson, Marin Builders Association; and Oonagh Kavanagh, Sausalito Chamber of Commerce.

Approval of Minutes: From the meeting held on January 28, 2009.

Moved and seconded to approve the minutes. Motion passed.

Speaker:

To accommodate the Speaker's schedule, the Committee Reports were delayed.

Mayor Leone introduced Supervisor McGlashan who introduced San Francisco Mayor Gavin Newsom.

Mayor Newsom described the efforts that led to the compromise on the Doyle Drive project; talked about the San Francisco health plan; about the layoffs of teachers and employees in San Francisco; about how inspired he had been by President Obama's speech about the Federal stimulus package that included capital projects as well as money for social programs; stated that the package provided opportunities for the cities; that the Bay Area had benefitted from having Feinstein and Boxer as our Senators; described the State budget crisis and the need to build partnerships; and talked about "seeding a vision" for the future with enthusiasm and optimism even in the current very difficult financial climate.

In response to questions, he stated that he supported a constitutional convention and changes to the system; that he supported a change from 2/3 to a 55% majority necessary to pass the State budget; that his travels around the State indicated that most people were concerned about the same issues; that San Francisco's health care system was paid for with State and Federal dollars; that unfunded pension liabilities posed a major looming crisis for cities and the State; and described the way San Francisco had put nurses and doctors back in schools and restored art programs in schools with a program called "San Francisco Promise."

Committee Reports

- a. Transportation Authority of Marin (TAM) – Alice Fredericks presented the report. She stated that the 580/101 connector work was on schedule; that the Gap closure project was moving along with the Puerto Suelo portion posing a challenge because of the unusual design conditions; that MTC was proceeding with a "hot lane" study wherein the extra capacity of the car pool lanes could be sold; that TAM wanted the lanes used for car pools, van pools and buses; that not all areas of Marin would be suitable for use as "hot lanes;" and reported that the Governor slashed the transportation budget by 50%.
- b. Legislative Committee – Alice Fredericks presented the report and stated that there was no new legislation to discuss because all the legislators were busy with the State budget; that the cities were still vulnerable; that budget reforms would be coming; and stated that the cities wanted the reform to be timely but also accountable with measurable outcomes.
- c. Golden Gate Bridge Highway & Transportation District – Al Boro presented the report. He stated that the District was operating at a deficit for the first time and had lost six million dollars from the State; that the bus driver pension fund had a shortfall; that they were expecting an 8- to 10-million dollar deficit in the next fiscal year; that auto traffic had declined but that bus and ferry ridership was up; that he was going to Washington D.C. to seek funding for a retrofit of the bridge and 35 million dollars to redo the cable; that they were set to receive 14-million dollars in Federal stimulus money; and he described the recent bike race across the bridge and how they had effectively handled the traffic on the bridge.
- d. Marin Economic Commission – Garry Lion presented the report and stated that they were issuing a Request for Proposals for a contractor to design the program and to line up funding for the program that would implement the Marin Economic Sustainability Plan.
- e. SMART – Peter Breen presented the report. He stated that NCRA rail expected to have freight trains running to Windsor by October; that Novato had chosen their train station locations; that a one-day trip to Portland was planned to test a car and then a trip to San Diego to try another vehicle; and that they had been courted by car vendors from around the world.
- f. JPA Oversight Committee – Larry Chu presented the report and stated that the Committee had decided that it was important to continue their oversight function and would do so.
- g. League of California Cities – Shawn Marshall presented the report. She stated that a guidebook for the Federal Economic Stimulus Package was available on the League's Web site through the "ARRA" link; that the League was sponsoring a briefing on AB32 and SB375 at the Hamilton Community Center in Novato and encouraged anyone interested in attending to contact Amy O'Gorman.

Alice Fredericks reported on the State Board meeting where they talked about the cost of the implementation of AB32 and SB375; that they were asking for no unfunded mandates

from the State; described the six budget measures that would be on the May 19th State ballot; warned that the League's message was that the cities were still vulnerable to take-aways from the State; and reported on the Constitutional Revision Convention.

Committee Elections:

Appointment of two representatives to the North Bay Division Executive Board:

Moved and seconded to appoint Greg Brockbank and Jonathan Leone to serve two-year terms on the North Bay Division Executive Board.

Appointment of Representative to the Marin County Disaster Council:

Moved and seconded to nominate Susan Brandborg to serve as the MCCMC Representative to the Marin County Disaster Council for a two-year term. Motion passed.

Future Appointment:

President Brandborg announced that the appointment of an Alternate Representative to the League of California Cities North Bay Division Executive Board for a two-year term would be made at the March 25th meeting.

Public Comment:

No speakers came forward.

Adjourn: 9:02 pm to the next meeting hosted by Belvedere on Wednesday, March 25, 2009.

Submitted,

Judy Anderson, Secretary-Treasurer