

MARIN COUNTY COUNCIL OF MAYORS AND COUNCILMEMBERS

DRAFT
MINUTES

Wednesday, April 25, 2018

Hosted by the City of Larkspur

Jason's Restaurant 300 Drakes Landing Road, Greenbrae

Members Present

Belvedere: McAuliffe
 Corte Madera: Andrews, Bailey, Condon, Furst
 Fairfax: Ackerman, Coler, Goddard, Reed
 Larkspur: Chu, Haroff, Hillmer, Morrison
 Mill Valley: McCauley, McEntee, Moulton-Peters, Wickham
 Novato: Drew, Eklund, Lucan
 Ross: Kuhl, Robbins
 San Anselmo: Brown, Colbert, Coleman, Wright
 San Rafael: Colin, Bushey, McCullough
 Sausalito: Burns, Cleveland-Knowles, Cox, Hoffman, Withy
 Tiburon: Fraser, Fredericks, Thier

Ex Officio: Belvedere City Manager Craig Middleton; Fairfax Town Manager Garrett Toy; Larkspur City Manager, Dan Schwarz; Mill Valley City Manager Jim McCann; Ross Town Manager Joe Chinn; MCCMC Secretary Rebecca Vaughn

Guests were: Marin County Supervisor Dennis Rodoni; Field Representative for Assemblymember Marc Levine, Joan Lubamersky; Marin Economic Forum Director Robin Sternberg

Call to Order

President Kate Colin called the meeting to order at 6:55p.m., welcomed everyone to the Marin County Council of Mayors and Councilmembers for April 25, 2018 and started the meeting with Two Truths and a Lie as an ice breaker. She announced the launch of the one-book Book Club event where everyone will be given the opportunity to read *The Color of Law*, which is an important book for public servants. The County of Marin ranked number one in terms of racial disparity. This author of this book researched racial disparities in government. Mill Valley will be hosting the author on May 9th. Copies of the book will be delivered to each Marin City/Town in early May so that they can be distributed to their respective Councilmembers. She then called for public comment.

Public Comment

1. Ross Asselstine, San Anselmo – Has attended numerous public meetings around Ross Valley. He came from a civically-involved family, and suspects that many public servants do, as well. He thanked everyone for the time and effort they put in to making our local cities run smoothly
2. Sharon Rushton, Chairperson for sustainable TamAlmonte - She thanked MCCMC, Mill Valley and San Rafael for opposing SB 828 and urged other cities to oppose the bill. Under SB828, Cities and Counties would need to identify and potentially upzone many new sites every 8 years. Bill changes the intent of the Housing Element, moving it from planning tool to a quota. Opponents of the Bill say that overly aggressive housing goals set up cities for failure and potential legal challenge. The Bill recently passed the Senate Housing and

1 Transportation Committee, and Senator Mike McGuire, who is a member of that committee,
2 voted in favor of the bill. It will soon head toward the Appropriations committee. Please lobby
3 against SB 828 and send letters of opposition as soon as possible.
4

- 5
- 6 3. Robin Sternberg, CEO Marin Economic Forum – Mission is to promote sustainable economic
7 vitality and social equity. Wanted to announce upcoming event about housing shortage in
8 Marin. Housing shortage is contributing to the inequity in Marin. Time to come up with
9 community solutions, we can work together to come up with creative ideas to move us
10 forward and address housing and traffic issues.
11

- 12 4. Renee Goddard, Fairfax – She brought a card for Bob Ravasio for everyone to sign. He was
13 in a bike accident a week ago, and while being transported, his ambulance was in an
14 accident.
15

16 Following Public Comment, President Colin introduced Larkspur Mayor Dan Hillmer.
17

18 **Welcome and Introduction of Guests**

19 Mayor Hillmer welcomed everyone to the Town of Corte Madera. He introduced the following
20 members of the Larkspur City Council present: Vice Mayor Ann Morrison and Councilmembers
21 Larry Chu, Kevin Haroff and Catherine Way. The following Town staff were introduced: City
22 Manager Dan Schwarz; Assistant to the City Manager Shannon O'Hare; Director of Finance Cathy
23 Orme; City Clerk Jamie Kuryllo; Director of Public Works Julian Skinner; Director of Planning Neal
24 Toft; Parks and Recreation Director Dick Whitley, Library Director Janice Akel; Central Marin Police
25 Chief Michael Norton; Fire Chief Scott Shurtz. He also thanked Supervisor Dennis Rodoni and Joan
26 Lubmersky, Field Representative for Assemblymember Marc Levine, for attending.
27
28

29 Once dinner service was underway, President Colin began the Committee Reports.
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32 **5. Committee Reports:**

- 33
- 34 5.a. Metropolitan Transportation Commission – Report from Supervisor Damon Connolly
35 Pat Eklund gave report on behalf of Supervisor Connolly. MTC made a final decision for
36 funding priority development areas. One was in Sonoma County and the others were outside
37 our local area. Not sure if San Rafael got some money.
38
- 39 5.b. Association of Bay Area Governments –Report provided by Pat Eklund, Novato
40 Please read CASA section of her report. ABAG is still trying to find what their role is. At the
41 CASA Steering committee meeting, they have come up with Protection of Housing,
42 Protection of Renters, and Production of Homes as their primary themes. Will be coming
43 back in July or August with specific legislation to help achieve these objectives. They had a
44 great discussion on finance of housing. The panel was composed of three experts in the field.
45 Financing of housing is one of the issues holding them back. Trying to get more funding for
46 cities that do housing, looking at capping the property tax and then the excess would be put
47 aside in a fund for cities that do housing. They will be coming up with a list of other ideas.
48 Next month, every elected official and your staff, probably City Manager and Planning
49 Director, will be getting an anonymous survey to solicit input on unique challenges we are
50 facing related to housing experience in different markets and pace of jobs growth.
51

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2 5.c. Homeless Committee - Eric Lucan, Novato
3 The Committee met a couple of weeks ago and the purpose of the meeting was to talk about
4 the future of the Homeless Community Fund. The Committee recommended continuation of
5 the fund for the next three years, as well. Your members will be taking that to your Councils
6 for your consideration. In the first year, the fund would continue to fund the shower program.
7 The committee will be making other recommendations going forward
8
9
10 5.d. Transportation Authority of Marin – Report from Alice Fredericks, Tiburon
11 You have probably seen the expenditure plan for renewal of Measure A. If you go online and
12 look at the Staff Report for the upcoming TAM meeting, you'll see feedback from individual
13 city councils. Local road congestion is still a priority, so is Safe Routes to Schools, school
14 crossing guards and expansion of funding of yellow bus services. Councils that commented
15 also mentioned interest in using existing local and regional funds for Electric Vehicle (EV)
16 charging stations rather than making funding for EV charging stations a primary goal of the
17 sales tax measure.
18
19 5.e. MCCMC Legislative Committee – Report from Alice Fredericks, Tiburon
20 The Committee looked at AB1912, the JPA sudden death bill. It requires each past and
21 present member of a JPA to assume joint and several liabilities for their retirement funds.
22 The League of California Cities, and others, have written letters of opposition to this bill and
23 have outlined potential for lawsuits against the State should this bill become law. The
24 Legislative Committee voted to oppose it.
25
26 AB 3121 proposes to make communications between a union representative and a union
27 member privileged with respect to admission as evidence. Because most privileges are
28 reserved for special relationships where the confidentiality underscores the entire
29 relationship, the Legislative Committee voted to oppose the bill.
30
31 The Committee wrote letters of opposition to both housing bills, SB 827 and 828. SB827 is
32 gone now. Senator Weiner has already reported that it will be back next year. She is working
33 on getting a confirmed date to meet with McGuire regarding combatting the insinuation that
34 Marin does not build housing for all sorts of nefarious reasons.
35
36 The League's quarterly Transportation Committee meeting had a visit from AT&T Vice
37 President of External Affairs and a lobbying committee, and they told the cities that we
38 needed to get busy as cities developing policies that would allow them to deploy their Small
39 Cell infrastructure in our right of ways by ministerial action because they'll either be here
40 anyway or they'll be at the legislature with another bill. The equipment consists of big
41 computer boxes and flat panels. If you have already paid for undergrounding, then they will
42 want to put in tall skinny poles to accommodate the equipment. You can avoid the poles if
43 you have vertical structures owned by the City that are in the areas that they need to deploy
44 it, otherwise, they say that you have to develop these policies.
45
46 5.f. Sonoma/Marin Area Rail Transit (SMART) Commission – Dan Hillmer, Larkspur
47 Visit <http://www.sonomamarintrain.org> for the general manager's report. For the last two
48 months, SMART has run with 100% on-time arrivals. Copies at each table are copies of
49 background information on a telecommunications project between SONIC and SMART.
50
51 5.g. Marin Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) – Carla Condon, Corte Madera
52 For several months, we have had a temporary executive officer since Keane Simonds'
53 departure. They have been conducting a search for someone to take that position. Before
54 summer, there should be a new director chosen.

1
2 5.h Disaster Preparedness Ad Hoc Committee – Report from Sashi McEntee, Mill Valley
3 The ad hoc committee was established to support the implementation of the County Wildfire
4 Protection Plan, the action plan developed by the County Disaster Council. The Committee
5 has been putting together a matrix of what all of the cities and towns are doing and will be
6 talking about the neighborhood groups. Then the fire professions will come to an upcoming
7 meeting and will talk about what they are doing and how we can support them. Then the
8 Committee will see how we can support these community plans that have been developed.
9

10 5.i Pension Reform/OPEB Ad Hoc Committee – Report from Larry Chu, Larkspur
11 The Committee met on Monday, the guest speaker was former California Assemblymember Joe
12 Nation, who is now with the Stanford Institute for Economic Policy Research. The Committee looked at
13 how these benefits going to effect our municipalities and our ability to manage cash flow in short term
14 budgeting. What is not in our control is that CalPERS will continue to lower the discount rate. The next
15 meeting will be in June and he hopes to get a CalPERS board member to attend as guest speaker.
16
17

18 6. Program/Guest Speaker
19 Making Warriors Well: Acupuncture and Military Medicine
20 Joseph M. Helms, MD – Founder and President, Acus Foundation
21 Stephanie m. Horn, PhD – Executive Director, Acus Foundation
22

23 Mayor Hillmer stated that he was inspired by last month’s speakers. Dr. Joe Helms is at the
24 forefront of bringing medical acupuncture to the United States Military. Dr. Helms practices
25 in Berkeley. For past 40 years he has been teaching medical acupuncture across the
26 country, and approximately 7500 medical providers have completed this training and 400
27 military medical providers have completed the training.
28

29 Dr. Helms introduced Dr. Stephanie Hom – Ten years ago, the Surgeon General of the Air
30 Force invited him to create a program for military audiences. Between 2007-2013, they had
31 developed a handful of military unique approaches for pain, acute pain, phantom pain,
32 chronic pain, sleep disturbances, and post-traumatic stress. They had very good success
33 with these treatments and did not want to walk away from this training when the funding
34 went away. At that point, he created the Acus Foundation to continue to fund the research,
35 training of military physicians and treatment of military and former military.
36

37 Dr. Hom stated that Dr. Helms has been the driving force in medical military acupuncture in
38 the United States. He has also maintained a private medical practice for over 40 years, as
39 well. In 2014, he brought medical acupuncture to military healthcare by founding the Acus
40 Foundation.
41

42 She then showed a video describing how doctors are trained and how the treatment helps
43 both military and former military members. Medical acupuncture provides a new toolkit to
44 help patients get beyond the wall. Bringing in new approaches to managing acute pain has
45 resulted in a 45% drop in opioid prescriptions. Since 2015, 450 military doctors have been
46 trained in medical acupuncture. Most physicians complete the specialized 300 hour course
47 that concentrates on military related illnesses such as post-traumatic stress.
48

49 The training program targets residents in their 2nd and 3rd years. They can incorporate the
50 training into their practices for the rest of their careers. Benefits of the treatment include

1 reduction in pain and increase in overall well-being, a 42% reduction in NSAID use, 34%
2 reduction in muscle related pain and 14% reduction of benzodiazepine use,
3

4 Acus was named by EIU as 1 of 8 nationwide programs successfully combatting the opioid
5 crisis. Acus was named one of Oprah's 2018 Health Heroes and designated Dr. Helms the
6 "Opioid Fighter". In June, they will graduate their 3rd cohort of physicians. In August, they
7 will welcome their 4th cohort of 36 physicians. They are growing, and their dream is to have
8 a health care system where medical acupuncture is supported and recommended.
9

10 In conclusion, Dr. Hom asks for the group's help in getting the word out about their mission
11 to bring this treatment to all service members and veterans.
12

13 Pat Eklund, Novato – Do you have a local office? Homeward Bound in Novato is looking to
14 help end homelessness for veterans in Marin County. There are a lot of homeless folks who
15 are veterans.

16 Dr. Helms – Acus Foundation office is located in Berkeley, not sure how we would
17 overlap with non-military.

18 Dr. Hom – Their ten year plan is to have numerous clinics offering this treatment to all
19 patients. Right now they're focusing on the Airforce and then will expand their service.

20 Dr. Helms – They are breaking into the VA Hospital to offer treatment, offering the
21 training to 3-4 residents, but it is a slow process.

22 Dr. Hom – They are bringing in physicians from other Airforce Bases to train in Las
23 Vegas and are hoping to bring in more.
24

25 Stephanie Moulton-Peters, Mill Valley – Our County Public Health Officer reported Marin
26 County has the highest opioid use of the Bay Area Counties. Is there a parallel effort with
27 civilian population and if so, who is working on that?

28 Dr. Helms – There is no coordinated effort to bring acupuncture treatment to that
29 population at this time, funded by public monies. But a national foundation called
30 Acupuncturists Without Borders that go abroad to offer treatments, but he does not know
31 if they have an organized outreach. Perhaps they can mobilize something here to help
32 train physicians here.
33
34

35 **7. BUSINESS MEETING**

36
37 7.a. Report on Meeting of Mayors Select Committee and Convening of City Selection Committee for
38 the Purpose of Making the Following Requested Appointments:
39

40 President Colin stated that the Mayors Select Committee was convened for a brief meeting earlier in
41 the evening to discuss the issue of two appointments requested of the City Selection Committee.
42 The first appointment is to the Marin Countywide Oversight Committee.
43

44 7.a-1 Discussion and Possible Action by the City Selection Committee to Make an Appointment to a
45 Newly-Formed Board, the Marin Countywide Oversight Board to Be Effective July 1, 2018.

46 This vacancy was announced at the March 28, 2018 meeting and nominations were accepted from
47 the floor. No nominations were received. President Colin stated that the City Managers of the Cities
48 of San Rafael and Novato met and discussed this committee and noted that the work of this
49 committee will be technical in nature and would be best served by the appointment of city staff rather
50 than an elected official. The Mayors Select Committee is recommending that the primary

1 representative be the Finance Director of the City of San Rafael and that the Finance Director of the
2 City of Novato would serve as the Alternate representative. Both representatives would attend the
3 meetings since both cities need to be involved.

4
5 A written ballot was submitted from each Marin City/Town. The vote was tallied and confirmed as
6 follows:

7 Representative: Finance Director of the City of San Rafael

8 Alternate Representative: Finance Director of the City of Novato

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11 7.a-2 Discussion and Possible Action by the City Selection Committee to Make an Appointment to
12 Serve on the Marin Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO), Ahead of Carla Condon's (Corte
13 Madera) End of Term on May 31, 2018.

14

15 President Colin explained that, at the March 28th meeting, the appointment was announced and
16 Corte Madera Councilmember Bob Ravasio was nominated from the floor. Due to his accident, he
17 was not able to submit a letter of interest in time for publication in the agenda packet. During the
18 Mayors' Select Committee, Corte Madera Mayor Carla Condon offered to continue in her current
19 capacity as Representative to LAFCO, through the end of her term on Town Council, which ends
20 June 30, 2018. We will open nominations now and will solicit any additional letters of interest
21 throughout the month.

22

23 President Colin stated that we currently have one nomination, of Bob Ravasio, and asked if there
24 were any additional nominations from the floor.

25

26 Nominations from the floor:

27 1. Kevin Haroff, Larkspur, was nominated by Dan Hillmer, Larkspur. The nomination was
28 seconded by Ann Morrison, Larkspur.

29 2. Sloan Bailey, Corte Madera, was nominated by Diane Furst, Corte Madera. The nomination
30 was seconded by Jim Andrews, Corte Madera.

31

32 There was a motion and a second (Lucan/Condon) to continue the LAFCO appointment to the May
33 meeting. The motion was approved by acclamation.

34

35 Following the conclusion of the appointment process, the City Selection Committee was closed and
36 the meeting returned to regular Business Items.

37

38

39 7.b. Announcement of Upcoming Vacancies and Call for Letters of Interest

40 MCCMC Representative to Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) Executive Board
41 (Current terms expire June 30, 2018)

42 Two seats available: Representative and Alternate Representative

43 Incumbents are:

44 Representative: Pat Eklund, Novato (**see attached Letter of Interest received from Pat Eklund,**
45 **received 4/19/18)**

46 Alternate Representative: Elizabeth Brekhus, Ross

1 Two-year terms will run from July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2020

2

3 *Expiration of current terms will be announced and Letters of Interest will be solicited. Appointments*
4 *will be made at the May 23, 2018 MCCMC Meeting Hosted by Mill Valley*

5

6 Pam Drew nominated Pat Eklund, the nomination was seconded by Jim Andrews

7 Pat Eklund nominated Elizabeth Brekhus for Alternate. The nomination was seconded by Jim
8 Andrews

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12 7.c. Review of Draft Agenda for May 23, 2018 MCCMC Meeting Hosted by the City of Mill Valley.

13 There were no changes recommended to the draft agenda for May 23, 2018.

14

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16 7.d. Consideration and Possible Action to Approve the Draft Minutes of the March 28, 2018
17 MCCMC Meeting Hosted by the Town of Fairfax.

18

19 There was a motion/second (Withy/Kuhl) to approve the minutes as read. The motion passed
20 by acclamation.

21

22

23 **Adjournment**

24 President Colin thanked everyone for attending and adjourned the meeting at 8:35p.m. to
25 the next regular meeting scheduled for May 23, 2018 hosted by the City of Mill Valley.

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