

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

**Wednesday, April 27, 2011
Town of San Anselmo
Deer Park Villa – 367 Bolinas Road
Fairfax, CA 94930**

Members Present:

Belvedere: No members present
Corte Madera: Alexandra Cock, Carla Condon, Bob Ravasio
Fairfax: Larry Bragman, John Reed, Lew Tremaine, David Weinsoff
Larkspur: Larry Chu, Kathy Hartzell, Joan Lundstrom, Len Rifkind
Mill Valley: Garry Lion, Shawn Marshall, Stephanie Moulton-Peters
Novato: Denise Athas, Jeanne MacLeamey, Madeline Kellner
Ross: Scot Hunter, Chris Martin, Carla Small, Rick Strauss
San Anselmo: Kay Coleman, Ford Greene, Jeff Kroot, Barbara Thornton
San Rafael: Al Boro, Greg Brockbank, Damon Connolly, Barbara Heller, Marc Levine
Sausalito: Michael Kelly, Linda Pfeifer, Herb Weiner
Tiburon: No members present

Call to Order: President Marshall called the business meeting to order at 7:15 p.m.

Marshall spoke of the recent passing of District 3 Supervisor, Charles McGlashan and asked that the meeting be adjourned in his memory. Marshall also said that while she was flattered to be considered for appointment to McGlashan's vacant supervisorial seat, she was happy to support whoever the Governor appointed.

Public Comment: Greg Brockbank spoke highly of a class he had taken at Dominican University on sustainability. He asked the membership to respond to a survey he had distributed to determine if there was interest in a course geared to local officials entitled, "Sustainability 101 for Municipal Decision-Makers."

Susan Miller, Marin Master Gardeners Class of 2011, asked each city to endorse the "Marin 100+ Garden Challenge", to create 100 or more gardens in each city. She said the idea was to promote a healthy, locally-grown food supply, save water and cut greenhouse gas emissions, build community and beautify our neighborhoods. She also said the goal was to make Marin County the healthiest county in the state.

Garry Lion said that the Marin Economic Forum was giving a Spring 2011 Economic Update at Autodesk on May 5; he said that elected officials were especially welcome to attend this workshop.

Welcome and Introduction of Guests: Mayor Greene welcomed everyone to the meeting. He introduced the members of the San Anselmo Town Council who were all present except for Vice Mayor Tom McInerney, and members of Town Staff: Town Manager Debbie Stutsman, Police Chief Chuck Maynard, Town Attorney Rob Epstein, Assistant Public Works Director Sean Condry, Community Development Director Dave Donery, Finance & Administration Director Daria Carrillo, Town Librarian Linda Kenton, Ross Valley Fire Chief Roger Meagor, Interim Planning & Building Director Diane Henderson, and Administrative Assistant Jeannie Courteau. Mayor Greene gave personal thanks to each Town of San Anselmo staff member for their work on behalf of the Town Council and community.

Mayor Greene welcomed the following guests: President of Marin Sanitary Service, Patty Garbarino, Ross Valley Sanitary District Boardmember Frank Egger, League of California Cities Regional Public Affairs Manager Nancy Hall Bennett, and the speaker, Norman Solomon.

Mayor Greene turned the meeting back over to President Marshall.

Approval of Minutes: From the meeting held on March 23, 2011

MCCMC Secretary Crane Iacopi noted there was a correction on page 4 of the minutes to reflect that the Town of Fairfax, during the roll call vote by city, had voted to support Ross Mirakarimi and Sarah Gurney for California Coastal Commission.

*Motion and seconded (Moulton-Peters/Hartzell) to approve the minutes, as amended.
Motion passed by acclamation.*

Committee Reports:

- LAFCO (Barbara Heller; Carla Condon)

MCCMC appointee Barbara Heller and alternate, Carla Condon, gave the report. Heller said that the LAFCO budget was funded three ways, with cities paying one third, the County of Marin paying one third, and the special districts paying one third. In an attempt to keep costs down, Heller said the LAFCO budget committee (of which she is a member) proposed a FY 2011-12 budget of \$330,555, an increase of 2.2% over the previous year, which would be funded out of a one-time appropriation from reserves. She said this scenario would mean no increase in cost to the cities. She said public comments were welcome and that the budget was set for adoption at the May 13 meeting.

- League of California Cities (Nancy Hall Bennett)

Nancy Hall Bennett said the League had just released a “hot bills” list which was distributed by e-mail today. She invited the membership to attend the April 28 North Bay Division meeting at Inn Marin in Novato; she said the next meeting would be held in American Canyon on July 28. Bennett said there was no change in the state budget since her last report.

- SMART (Joan Lundstrom)

Joan Lundstrom gave a recap of the items considered at the March 14 Board meeting and actions taken to address the \$100 million plus shortfall to build the train system between downtown Santa Rosa and downtown San Rafael. She said the Board held a special workshop on April 6 to continue its discussions of cost-saving measures and cuts to the system. She said the Board voted to issue a 13-year bond to embark on the first segment of the project at its April 20 regular meeting.

Other Reports

- McGlashan Award for Passion and Purpose (Stephanie Moulton-Peters)

Councilmember Moulton-Peters said the untimely death of Charles McGlashan had sent shockwaves through our communities, at the same time highlighting his many accomplishments during his six-year tenure on the Board of Supervisors. She said that one way to honor his legacy was through the creation of a “McGlashan Award for Passion and Purpose”. She said that the proposal envisioned two awards, given concurrently on an annual basis by MCCMC. She said the award would be non-partisan and “non-issues” based. It would focus on the leadership qualities Mr. McGlashan exemplified during his life—vision, courage, tenacity, commitment, and tangible and outstanding accomplishment. Moulton-Peters said that elected officials from the cities, towns

and county government would be eligible for the award, while members of the MCCCCMC Executive Committee and proposed nominations committee would not be eligible while serving on those committees. She said the second award would be given to a community leader.

Moulton-Peters described the proposed nomination and selection process and said the awards would either be given at the June or September meetings, at the discretion of the outgoing MCCCCMC President. She said that the awards were envisioned to be attractive plaques with room enough to add names over time. The awardees would be given the plaque for one year and then it would pass on to the next award recipient, and a paper certificate of recognition would be given to each recipient to keep, according to Moulton-Peters.

President Marshall commended Ms. Moulton-Peters for her work on this effort and opened the floor to discussion.

Len Rifkind said that he respected the work of the MCCCCMC Executive Committee and suggested that members of this committee not be excluded from the nomination process. He also suggested that the idea of giving the award each year might be reconsidered so as not to dilute its impact.

Joan Lundstrom suggested that a revised draft come back to the membership, prior to adoption. President Marshall agreed, and asked everyone to direct their comments to Councilmember Moulton-Peters before the next meeting.

Program: "A Green New Deal"

Speaker: Norman Solomon

Mayor Greene introduced Mr. Solomon, stating that he was a man of integrity and purpose.

Mr. Solomon said that in his work on the Commission on a Green New Deal, www.greennewdeal.info, he had concluded that social justice was an important part of the concept of sustainability. He said that the national discussion of the deficit had been skewed to place the blame on workers and unions. He said that the "madness of militarism" was actually the primary cause of the rising deficit. He said that the money spent on that portion of the budget could come back to cities and towns and the public schools. Instead, he said the current economic crisis was creating an increasing economic apartheid in our society. He said that it was important to "reframe the debate" and as long as the conversation was focused on a deficit, further cuts would be made to social programs such as Medicare. He said the goal of our government should be full employment; that the "trickle down" economic theory was "voodoo" and did not create jobs.

Mr. Solomon challenged the membership to question this thinking and take action to reverse the downward spiral. He said that one way to address the deficit was to hold corporations accountable for their share of taxes. He said there was legislation, for instance, that proposed charging a one-quarter of one percent transaction tax on Wall Street.

President Marshall thanked Mr. Solomon for his thought-provoking presentation. Mayor Greene challenged his fellow elected officials to remember why they had run for office in the first place, and to use that memory as their guide in acting and thinking.

Adjourn: 8:45 p.m. *in memory of Charles McGlashan, District 3 Supervisor.*

Submitted,

Diane Crane Iacopi,
Secretary/Treasurer