

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

**Wednesday, MAY 25, 2011
City of San Rafael
Embassy Suites Hotel – 101 McGinnis Parkway
San Rafael, CA 94903**

Members Present:

Belvedere: No members present
Corte Madera: Alexandra Cock, Diane Furst, Bob Ravasio
Fairfax: David Weinsoff
Larkspur: Dan Hillmer, Len Rifkind
Mill Valley: Garry Lion, Stephanie Moulton-Peters
Novato: Pat Eklund
Ross: No members present
San Anselmo: Tom McInerney, Jeff Kroot
San Rafael: Al Boro, Greg Brockbank, Damon Connolly, Barbara Heller, Marc Levine
Sausalito: Michael Kelly, Jonathan Leone, Linda Pfeifer, Herb Weiner
Tiburon: Alice Fredericks, Emmett O'Donnell, Jeff Slavitz

Call to Order: Past President Jeff Slavitz, filling in for President Marshall, called the business meeting to order at 7p.m.

Public Comment: None.

Welcome and Introduction of Guests: Mayor Boro welcomed everyone to the meeting. He introduced the members of the San Rafael Council (listed above) and Staff: City Manager Nancy Mackle, Assistant City Manager Jim Schutz, City Clerk Esther Beirne, City Attorney Rob Epstein, Community Services Director Carlene McCart, Community Development Director Bob Brown, Acting Economic Development Director Stephanie Lovette, Fire Chief Chris Gray, Library Director David Dodd, Police Chief Matt Odetto, Police Captain Dave Starnes, Administrative Assistant Patti Brenna, and Public Works Director Nader Mansourian.

Boro also welcomed the following guests: Marin County Administrator Matthew Hymel, Conservation Corps North Bay Chief Executive Officer Marilee Eckert, Assistant to the CEO Terry Hennessy, Chief Program Officer Will Becker, Natural Resources & Contracting Director Max Korten, Marin LAFO Chief Executive Peter Banning, League of Women Voters representative Patsy White, Marin Municipal Water District General Manager Paul Helliker, Marin County Parks & Open Space Director & General Manager Linda Dahl, Friends of the Railway member John Diamante, and Office of Congresswoman Lynn Woolsey's District Director Wendy Friefeld.

Mayor Boro turned the meeting back over to presiding Chair Slavitz.

Approval of Minutes: From the meeting held on April 27, 2011

Moved and seconded (Heller/Fredericks) to approve the minutes, as written. Motion passed by acclamation.

Discussion Items:

- **Call for volunteers to form a subcommittee to finalize proposal for annual McGlashan Award for Passion and Purpose – (President Marshall)**

Stephanie Moulton-Peters said there had been further discussion about the proposed award which raised the following questions: 1) is it appropriate for MCCMC to give the award, and 2)

how to go about it. She recommended the formation of a subcommittee to address these questions. Greg Brockbank and David Weinsoff volunteered to serve on the committee. Moulton-Peters invited anyone else who was interested to contact her.

- **Executive Committee Policy regarding speakers who are political candidates –** (President Marshall)

Chair Slavitz said that there had been discussion after the last meeting about amending the by-laws to disallow political candidates as MCCMC speakers. He said the Executive Committee had reviewed the existing policy (which disallows declared candidates within six months of an election as speakers) but did not recommend making any changes at this time.

- **MMA recommendation for staffing of MCCMC Legislative Committee –** (Belvedere City Manager George Rodericks)

Rodericks said that the Marin Managers Association (MMA) had met to discuss the issue of staffing for the committee. He said that due to budget cuts, the cities no longer had the staff resources available to provide staff support to the committee. He said MMA recommended hiring someone at \$7,000 per year (for roughly 10 hours per month) to staff the committee. He said the cost would be split evenly among the cities, and the contract administered by the City of San Rafael, similar to the contract administration of the cities' League of California Cities lobbyist contract. Rodericks said that the item would come back to the membership for approval in June.

Committee Reports:

- GGBHTD (Al Boro)

Mayor Boro reported on a recent meeting in which a proposal to impose a speed limit on bicycles on the Bridge was discussed; he said staff had taken the comments of the bicycle advocacy groups and others under advisement, and the matter was continued to late June or early July. Boro reported on the ongoing construction process and said that beginning May 31, bicycle traffic which would be able to access the Bridge from the East side only. He also reported on the budget and said that most of the employees who had been laid off were absorbed into the organization in other capacities. Boro said that locally, the Muir Woods Shuttle started on May 7 and would continue through the summer, and that there had been a successful launch of a "food truck crush" on Friday nights at the Larkspur Ferry landing.

- Pension Reform and OPEB subcommittee (Larry Chu)

Committee member Emmett O'Donnell gave the report. He said that the group's final report would be complete by the June meeting and would include a summary of findings, a spreadsheet of each participating agency's current information, a "toolkit" for use by agencies, and a sample resolution. He emphasized that the purpose of the toolkit was to educate local officials and not be used as a punitive tool against employees. O'Donnell also said that Chair Chu recommended keeping the committee going in some fashion in order to focus on legislative and legal initiatives on this topic in the near future.

- TAM (Alice Fredericks)

Fredericks said that TAM had submitted its "unrestrained" project list to MTC for consideration in its Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). She said that TAM had formed an ad hoc committee to compile comments for MTC and ABAG during their July review of SB 375 methodology. Fredericks also reported on local transportation projects and said that the Central Marin ferry connection project was underway, and that the Marin/Sonoma "Narrows" project bids and come in lower than estimated. She said that another exciting project was a software program called

“Dynamic Ride Share” that utilized smart phones. She said the Sonoma Congestion Management Agency was the lead agency on this project.

- MCCMC Legislative Committee (Alice Fredericks)

Chair Fredericks said that the committee had taken action on eight bills at its last meeting. One of the bills supported by the committee was AB 442 (Huffman) which would allow the letting of contracts to certain non-profit groups to provide services to keep the state parks open. Fredericks said the contracts would be publicly reported and reviewed. She said this was especially timely in Marin where four popular parks were closing – China Camp, Oolampali, and two others. Another Huffman bill supported by the committee was one that would allow second units to be counted as low income housing units, according to Fredericks. Finally, Fredericks thanked the Marin cities for their advocacy and said that often, the voices of small cities are not heard. She especially thanked the City of San Rafael for having providing the staff time and resources to the Committee, and especially noted the good work of Acting Economic Development Director, Stephanie Lovette, who had staffed the committee over the last year or more.

- League of California Cities (Nancy Hall Bennett)

Nancy Hall Bennett reported that while there was still no budget approval, Governor Brown sought approval to move forward with the extension of current taxes after June 30. She said that Assemblyman Huffman was working in support of Redevelopment Agency reform, and that the League continued to support the existence of redevelopment agencies as an important tool for cities to fuel economic growth. On other matters of importance to cities, Bennett said that the California Supreme Court had ruled that 30,000 prisoners would have to be released due to overcrowding in the state’s prisons, and that on June 10, the Citizens Redistricting Committee would release its new congressional boundaries.

Other Reports

- Conservation Corps, North Bay – Fee for Service Opportunities in Marin (Chief Executive Officer Marilee Eckert)

Marilee Eckert gave a powerpoint presentation showing the types of projects undertaken by the corps throughout the County of Marin. She said that public/private ventures were possible, as long as the projects were for the public benefit.

San Rafael Fire Chief Chris Gray commended Marilee and her group for the work the corps does in clearing brush and creating fire breaks which benefit not only the corps members, but the homeowners and the communities in which they work.

Announcement of Pending Vacancies – (appointments at June meeting)

- MCCMC Liaison to SMART (position currently held by Joan Lundstrom; appointee must be a member of TAM, not from the cities of San Rafael or Novato)
- Executive Committee – MCCMC President and Vice President for 2011-12 term (current Vice President is Madeline Kellner; letter of interest received from Greg Brockbank)

Chair Slavitz announced the vacancies and took nominations from the floor. He said the appointments would be voted on at the June meeting.

Motion: To nominate Stephanie Moulton-Peters to serve on the SMART board. (Lion/seconded by Fredericks)

Motion: To nominate Madeline Kellner for President. (Moulton-Peters/seconded by Fredericks)

Motion: To nominate Herb Weiner for Vice President. (Kelly/seconded by Fredericks)

Motion: To nominate Greg Brockbank for Vice President. (Kroot/seconded by Lion)

Speaker: Jon Havemen, Ph.D., Haveman Economic Consulting

Program: "Trends in the Marin Economy"

Mayor Boro introduced Mr. Havemen and presented his curriculum vitae.

In his powerpoint presentation, Mr. Havemen gave an overview of the current recession which he described as the worst decline in the US economy since WWII. He said that 4% of the gross domestic product had been lost which represented an enormous disruption, and that "austerity measures" which would go into effect in 2013-14 would continue to slow growth.

Mr. Havemen reviewed the economic indicators of the recession. He said that while cash on hand was high, unemployment was also high and housing was still "underwater" in many locations. He predicted continued slow growth over the next 3-4 years and said there was still a chance for a double dip recession if the federal policy makers made economic cuts to fast and too soon.

By and large, Havemen said that while the economic prognosis was good, there would be negative long-term consequences, if lawmakers continued to cut the education budget, for instance. He said the Bay Area remained on the frontier of economic growth and would remain strong.

Mr. Havemen engaged in a lively and informative question and answer period following his speech. Chair Slavitz thanked Mr. Havemen for his timely presentation.

Adjourn: 8:35 p.m. to the June 22 meeting in Sausalito.

Submitted,
Diane Crane Iacopi,
Secretary-Treasurer

May 25, 2011

Meeting of the Mayors Select Committee – 6:20 to 6:45 p.m.

Present: Boro, Cock, Lion, McInerney, Slavitz, Weiner, Eklund

Pat Eklund said that every seven years, ABAG determines the Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) and that ABAG staff had recommended that the housing and jobs within the spheres of influence (SOI) be split 50/50 between cities and the county. However, Eklund said that the ABAG Executive Committee had voted to affirm a 75/25 split.

Eklund maintained that this action would place an unfair burden on cities which she demonstrated in charts and hand-outs she brought to the meeting showing projected growth statistics between 2010 and 2040. She also noted that the Novato City Council had taken a position that the split be 50/50, and that the issue was very important for cities like San Rafael and Larkspur where the RHNA allocations showed the greatest increases in housing and jobs through 2014.

Chair Slavitz recommended that Eklund bring a resolution or letter of support of the 50/50 split to the next meeting for an endorsement by the membership, prior to the final vote of the ABAG Board in July.

Reported by: Diane Crane Iacopi, Secretary-Treasurer