

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

**Wednesday, June 25, 2014  
Hosted by the City of Larkspur  
American Legion Hall – 500 Magnolia Avenue  
Larkspur, CA 94939**

**Members Present**

Belvedere: James Campbell, Sandra Donnell, Claire McAuliffe, Bob McCaskill, Marty Winter  
Corte Madera: Sloan Bailey, Carla Condon, Diane Furst, Michael Lappert, Bob Ravasio  
Fairfax: Barbara Coler, John Reed  
Larkspur: Larry Chu, Daniel Hillmer, Anne Morrison  
Mill Valley: Jessica Jackson, Garry Lion, John McCauley, Stephanie Moulton-Peters  
Novato: Denise Athas, Pat Eklund, Madeline Kellner, Eric Lucan, Jeanne MacLeamy  
Ross: Elizabeth Brekhus, Katie Hoertkorn, P. Beach Kuhl, Carla Small  
San Anselmo: Doug Kelly  
San Rafael: Maribeth Bushey, Kate Colin, Andrew McCullough  
Sausalito: Linda Pfeifer, Tom Theodores, Herb Weiner, Ray Withy  
Tiburon: Jim Fraser, Alice Fredericks

Ex Officio: Belvedere City Manager Neilan; Corte Madera Town Manager Dave Bracken;  
Larkspur City Manager Dan Schwarz; Mill Valley City Manager Jim McCann; Novato City Clerk  
Shari Hartz; San Rafael City Manager Nancy Mackle; Tiburon Town Manager Peggy Curran and  
Tiburon Town Clerk/MCCMC Secretary Diane Crane Iacopi.

**Call to Order**

President Moulton-Peters called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

**Welcome and Introduction of Guests**

Mayor Morrison welcomed the members and guests, including Supervisor Judy Arnold,  
Supervisory Steve Kinsey, Supervisor Katie Rice, and newly elected Supervisor Damon Connolly.  
She also introduced the members of the Larkspur Council [Haroff and Way absent] and City staff  
members Cynthia Huisman, Fran Gordon, Cathy Orme, Neal Toft, Dick Whitley, Bob Sinnott, and  
Nick Valeri.

**Public Comment**

*Marin Strong Start.* Pat Kendall and Patty Garbarino talked about a ¼-cent sales tax on the  
November ballot to fund programs to support early childhood education, especially preschool,  
after school care, and some limited health care programs. They stressed the importance of these  
types of programs that pay off later in life. Ms. Garbarino said the business community supports  
the effort, along with the North Bay Leadership Council.

*Human Trafficking.* Paula Kamena, Linda Whiton and Rev. Jan Heglin spoke. They said that  
Marin County now has a task force and the goal is to raise awareness and educate people about  
this topic; they said human trafficking does exist right here in Marin County and referenced a  
recent IJ article. They invited everyone to a workshop on September 14; they also encouraged  
the members to do what they can to support the local police departments in addressing this issue.

*Home For All.* Councilmember Kate Colin said the MCCMC subcommittee on homelessness  
(*Home For All*) had met at Homeward Bound and would soon come to each Council for outreach  
and provide an update on their activities; also joining them will be the REST group, who will give  
a broader picture and overview.

*Minimum Wage.* Mayor Eric Lucan proposed the formation of a committee to study an increase to the minimum wage. He said the purpose was to "join the discussion" as there was a ballot initiative in San Francisco, as well as some East Bay communities. He provided a handout on each table with more information. He proposed forming a group that could meet three times by year end and issue a white paper for the membership. Lucan said he had support of Mayor Phillips from San Rafael and asked for four to five others to join.

**Speakers/Program:** 1) "Leading at Mach 2 – A Fighter Pilot's Secret to Business Success": Anthony Burke; and 2) SMART Update: Farhad Mansourain and Bill Gamelan

Mayor Morrison introduced and gave the background of the first speaker, Anthony Burke. Burke described some of the core things he had learned as a fighter pilot, and shared a fascinating story about what he had experienced as a reserve officer who stepped forward in the wake of the 9/11 disaster.

He said a question worth asking was how can we achieve peak performance and get a little bit better every day? He said the things he had learned as a fighter pilot could be applied to business and perhaps even governmental settings. He stressed the importance of debriefing in order to improve your mission and create a stronger team. He said it was important to communicate what's on your mind -- or else you are flying alone. He also said that debriefing helps accelerate our experience and produce better results.

Mayor Morrison thanked the speaker and also mentioned his book, *The Art of the Debrief*.

SMART General Manager Farhad Mansourian spoke next. He gave a powerpoint presentation on the progress of the SMART train: 43 miles of track from Cloverdale to Larkspur with 10 stations and seven, two-car train sets; the self-propelled diesel units are the cleanest most efficient vehicles on the market; also quiet at 85 decibels. He said the two-car units can carry just over 300 people plus bikes, wheelchairs and strollers, and that the SMART connector bus will take people from San Rafael to Larkspur. He said that vehicle testing would take place in 2015 and that passenger service would start in 2016

SMART Engineer Bill Gamelan covered the technical specifications of the project and said they had rebuilt half of the 43-mile rail alignment, including five bridges with seven more to go. He noted the updated features, including a continuous welded rail and new-style concrete ties. Gamelan said the rails, ties and ballast are all made in the USA.

Mansourian described the permit process and said there were 15 state and regional governmental agencies to work with. He described the successful outcome of the purchase of the Mira Monte Marsh which not only satisfied and exceeded the mitigation measures needed by SMART but helped preserve a valuable 60-acre tidal property of importance for future generations.

With regard to train safety, Mansourian appealed to the electeds to help with train safety awareness in their communities. He said that many younger people were not familiar with trains like previous generations. He noted that communities that sought "quiet zones" would be faced with greater liabilities for safety if the trains were unable to sound their horns when they approached and left the stations.

Because federal law requires gates, red lights, flashing lights and bells, as well as the blowing of horns, Mansourian said that the Federal Rail Authority had responded and would require additional improvements, such as special medians and quad gates in the vicinity of crossings in quiet zones. Therefore, he said that SMART was going ahead and designing, at the behest of the SMART Board, the project as "quiet zone ready". He also noted this was at a cost of 11 million

dollars. He said the communities seeking quiet zones would have to indemnify SMART through signing a waiver. He asked the electeds to keep all this in mind as the project progressed.

## **Business Meeting**

### **Approval of Minutes – May 28, 2014 meeting**

There was a motion/second (Eklund/Kellner) to approve the minutes. Motion passed by acclamation.

**Approval of 2014-15 MCCMC Meeting Schedule –** There was a motion/second (Donnell/Lion) to adopt the calendar with a change to the September date (September 29) and the cancellation of the November meeting to be continued to the regular January 2015 meeting date. Motion passed by acclamation.

**Vote on Bylaws Amendment –** There was a motion/second (Athas/Kellner) to approve the amendment. The Secretary called a voice vote by city; motion passed unanimously. [A report on the bylaws amendment was given at the May meeting and a copy was mailed to all members.]

### **MCCMC Committee Appointments**

- a) **MCCMC Executive Committee –** Motion/second to appoint Stephanie Moulton-Peters as President and Denise Athas as Vice President – voted passed by acclamation.
- b) **ABAG Executive Committee Delegate –** Motion/second to reappoint Pat Eklund for a two year term – vote passed by acclamation [Councilmember Kelly made a motion to close the nominations after withdrawing his name from the running.]
- c) **ABAG Executive Committee Alternate --** Motion/second to appoint Jessica Jackson to a two-year term as alternate – vote passed by acclamation.

**Announcement of Open Position on Marin County School Board Association –** President Moulton-Peters said there would be more information on this position at the September meeting.

### **MCCMC Committee Reports**

- ABAG (written report in packet)
- Martin Transit District (written report in packet)
- Legislative Committee (written report in packet)
- League of California Cities

**League:** Nancy Bennett said there was an opening for a Second Vice President candidate from Marin County. She said the nominations would close on Friday and an appointment would take place at the July 24 meeting in Benicia. She also announced the upcoming CITIPAC event in Yountville on August 24.

## **Adjournment**

President Moulton-Peters thanked the speakers for their excellent presentations. She adjourned the meeting at 9 p.m. in memory of the recent passing of several members or those close to them -- Robert Small of Ross, former Mayor Vaso Medegovich of Corte Madera, and Tom McInerney's mother. The meeting was adjourned until September 29 in Mill Valley [no meeting in July/August].

Submitted,

Diane Crane Iacopi  
MCCMC Secretary