

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

**Monday, September 29, 2014
Hosted by the City of Mill Valley
Mill Valley Community Center - 180 Camino Alto
Mill Valley, CA 94941**

Members Present

Belvedere: Sandra Donnell, Bob McCaskill
Corte Madera: Sloan Bailey, Bob Ravasio
Fairfax: Barbara Coler, Renee Goddard, John Reed
Larkspur: Larry Chu, Daniel Hillmer, Ann Morrison, Kevin Haroff, Catherine Way
Mill Valley: Jessica Jackson, Garry Lion, John McCauley, Stephanie Moulton-Peters, Ken Wachtel
Novato: Denise Athas, Pat Eklund, Madeline Kellner, Eric Lucan, Jeanne MacLeamy
Ross: Elizabeth Brekhus, P. Beach Kuhl, Elizabeth Robbins
San Anselmo: Doug Kelly
San Rafael: Kate Colin, Damon Connolly
Sausalito: Jonathan Leone, Linda Pfeifer, Tom Theodores, Herb Weiner, Ray Withy
Tiburon: Alice Fredericks, Emmett O'Donnel, Erin Tollini

Ex Officio: Belvedere City Manager Neilan; Mill Valley City Manager Jim McCann; San Rafael Assistant City Manager Jim Schutz; Sausalito City Manager Adam Politzer; Tiburon Town Manager Peggy Curran, Tiburon Town Clerk Diane Crane Iacopi and Novato City Clerk/MCCMC Secretary Sheri Hartz.

Call to Order

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

Welcome and Introduction of Guests

Mayor Moulton-Peters welcomed the members and guests, including Supervisor Steve Kinsey, Supervisor Katie Rice, TAM Executive Director Dianne Steinhauer, former Mill Valley Mayor Andy Berman, Dave Parisi and Bonnie Nelson. She also introduced Mill Valley staff members Police Chief Angel Bernal, City Librarian Anji Brenner, Director of Public Works Jill Barnes, Director of Planning and Building Vincent Smith, Interim Fire Chief Tom Welch, Assistants to the City Manager Mary Lansing and Linn Walsh, Director of Finance and Human Resources Eric Erickson and Interim City Clerk Seth Allingham.

Commendation

Mayor Moulton-Peters, accompanied by Herb Weiner, Denise Athas, Alice Fredericks, Madeline Kellner and Larry Chu, presented outgoing MCCMC Secretary Diane Crane Iacopi with a plaque bearing the pins of all of the 11 Marin County cities in appreciation of her five years of service to the organization. Diane made brief comments, thanking everyone for the recognition and stating that it had been her pleasure to serve in the capacity of Secretary/Treasurer.

Welcome

Incoming MCCMC Secretary/Treasurer Sheri Hartz was introduced and welcomed.

Public Comment

Councilmember Bob Ravasio, Corte Madera, announced the upcoming Transportation Alternatives for Marin meeting regarding bike and pedestrian issues.

Speakers/Program:

Speaker: Bonnie Nelson, Founding Principal Nelson/Nygaard: Mobility, accessibility and sustainability consultants

Presentation: Transportation 101: Creating safer, healthier and stronger communities in Marin County

Mayor Moulton-Peters introduced and gave the background of the speaker, Bonnie Nelson.

Ms. Nelson discussed the challenges of getting around Marin, stating that Marin grew up as a series of small cities, but had since become dominated by auto-oriented sprawl. She defined sprawl as an outcome of single land use, high speed arterials, few protected pedestrian crossings, an emphasis on access to arterials and few connections between streets. She added that we should be reducing vehicle miles travelled (VMT), which are related to illnesses that cause loss of life and displayed a chart showing the correlation between obesity rates and sedentary lifestyles/VMT. She stated that, where walking is part of normal life, people weigh less. She also discussed the generation of greenhouse gasses by transportation sources, most of which is from autos and also noted that, in sprawled communities, there are higher infrastructure costs.

Next, Ms. Nelson discussed six steps to a healthier lifestyle which included putting the needs of daily life within walking distance; recognizing that appropriate densities will work in Marin and that VMT declines with relatively small increases in density; that we should measure what matters, noting there is a difference between level of service grades and what you might want from an economic development standpoint. She said that walking and biking rates increase substantially in a moderately dense mixed use environment, that transit users are active and that transit use improves public health. She concluded by stating that we must manage transportation demand, manage and price parking and capitalize on Marin's assets.

Following her presentation, Ms. Nelson responded to questions.

Linda Pfeiffer, Sausalito, asked about taking transit, stating that there was an element of elitism that transit was not for us. She said that exposure to exhaust caused health concerns and that transit-oriented development put people near those elements. Ms. Nelson responded that transit was much safer now than it once was, that transit was not only the alternative for those who have no alternative and that incentives should be put in the right places.

Dan Hillmer, Larkspur, stated that development patterns were not set by Marin but by Plan Bay Area. He said we needed to bridge with regional agencies and advocate for lower densities. He concluded by stating that we need to plan for the car, which is a reality, and keep transportation funding going.

Catherine Way, Larkspur, stated that we were at a crossroads between east/west and north/south, and that there were many influences on a small town, and that the issue was bigger than just Larkspur or Marin. She said that all places where arterials pass through become a choke point and asked what the next steps were. Ms. Nelson responded that a countywide transportation plan should be done to coordinate land use and transportation, and that infill projects around downtown should be created so that housing was not just along the highway corridor.

Doug Kelley, San Anselmo, asked why we would want to increase density. Ms. Nelson responded that density creates walkability. She added that we wanted our children to be able to live in Marin someday and that, even if there was no new development, Marin would be impacted by traffic so it should reap some of the benefits.

Business Meeting

Approval of Minutes – June 25, 2014 meeting

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

Approval of 2014-15 MCCMC Budget – There was a motion/second (Weinsoff/Morrison) to adopt the 2014-15 MCCMC Budget. Motion passed by acclamation.

MCCMC Committee Reports

- MTC Report (Supervisor Kinsey)
- MCCMC Legislative Committee Report (Fredericks)
- TAM Report (Fredericks)
- GGBTD (Fredericks)
- ABAG (Eklund – written report attached)
- League of California Cities (Bennett)
- Marin Transit (Kellner)
- Homeless Subcommittee (Colin)
- Minimum Wage Study Group (Lucan)

MTC: Supervisor Kinsey stated that he would report to MCCMC on MTC on a quarterly basis if desired. He spoke about the third lane of the Richmond/San Rafael Bridge on the Contra Costa side, stating that pedestrian and bicycle improvements would be decoupled from the third lane, to be parallel. Regarding the countywide transportation plan, he stated that, if one were adopted, it would be binding and therefore we do not want to pursue it even though Marin is one of only two counties that do not have one. He said there would be an upcoming workshop to discuss the matter and that Marin needed a vision of where it was going, but not necessarily and CTP as it currently existed. He said the next regional transportation process would begin next year, encouraged all to be involved as process begins again and volunteered to lead the effort to organize Marin's response.

MCCMC Legislative Committee: Mayor Fredericks reported that the following day would be the last day to sign bills, stating that AB 1193 and 1183 were chaptered, that AB 1537, a pilot to change default density, was still pending; that AB194 regarding Brown Act requirements had been vetoed and that SB 1077, a pilot program to study road usage charges in California, had passed.

TAM: Mayor Fredericks reported that the purpose of the workshop Supervisor Kinsey had mentioned was to get community input on transportation priorities. She also announced future closures and referred to the marinferryconnection.com website for information.

GGBTD: Mayor Fredericks announced the upcoming bridge closure and spoke about the suicide barrier project, stating that planning for post-build concerns such as maintenance of the net, clean out of garbage and practice rescues had begun. She said that surveys for ferry facility dredging would happen the following year.

Homeless Subcommittee: Mayor Lucan stated that presentations were available and thanked the subcommittee for its work.

Minimum Wage Study Group: Mayor Lucan stated that they were seeking more members to the group whose purpose was to look at the minimum wage issue in light of upcoming ballot items that were coming forward. He announced an upcoming meeting where Robert Eycler of the Marin Economic Forum would speak and answer questions.

Adjournment

President Moulton-Peters thanked the speaker for her excellent presentation. She adjourned the meeting at 8:57 p.m. The meeting was adjourned until October 22, 2014 in Novato.

Submitted,

Sheri Hartz
MCCMC Secretary

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