

MARIN COUNTY COUNCIL OF MAYORS AND COUNCILMEMBERS
Draft Minutes

Wednesday, March 25, 2015
Hosted by the City of San Rafael
Fenix
919 Fourth Street, San Rafael

Members Present

Belvedere: Bob McCaskill

Corte Madera: Sloan Bailey, Carla Condon, Diane Furst, Bob Ravasio

Fairfax: Renee Goddard, Peter Lacques, John Reed, David Weinsoff

Larkspur: Larry Chu, Kevin Haroff

Mill Valley: Garry Lion, John McCauley, Stephanie Moulton-Peters

Novato: Denise Athas, Pat Eklund, Madeline Kellner, Eric Lucan

Ross: Elizabeth Brekhus

San Anselmo: Kay Coleman, Ford Greene, Doug Kelly, Tom McInerney, John Wright

San Rafael: Kate Colin, John Gamblin, Andrew McCullough, Gary Phillips

Sausalito: Jill Hoffman, Linda Pfeifer, Tom Theodores, Herb Weiner, Ray Withy

Tiburon: Alice Fredericks, Erin Tollini

Ex Officio: Fairfax Town Manager Garrett Toy, Larkspur Town Manager Dan Schwartz, Mill Valley City Manager Jim McCann, Novato City Manager Michael Frank, San Anselmo Town Manager Debbie Stutsman, San Rafael City Manager Nancy Mackle, San Rafael Assistant City Manager Jim Schutz, Sausalito Town Manager Adam Politzer, Tiburon Town Manager Peggy Curran and Novato City Clerk/MCCMC Secretary Sheri Hartz.

Call to Order

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

Welcome and Introduction of Guests

Mayor Gary Phillips welcomed the members and guests, who included Damon Connolly, District 1 Supervisor, County of Marin; Mark Van Gorder, PG&E Government Relations Representative, Marin & Napa; Nancy Hall Bennett, League of California Cities, Regional Public Affairs Manager, North Bay Division and Marin County District Attorney Otis Bruce. Also present were San Rafael staff members Chief of Police Diana Bishop, Assistant to the City Manager Lauren Crandell, Fire Chief Chris Gray, Community Development Director Paul Jensen, and Management Analyst Rebecca Woodbury.

Public Comments: None

Speakers: Jonathan Reichental, Ph.D., Chief Information Officer, City of Palo Alto and Sarah Houghton, Library Director, City of San Rafael

Presentation: *“Creating a new operating system for cities: Using technology and open data to improve community engagement and government transparency”*

Mr. Reichental gave a presentation on the intersection of technology and the work of cities, stating that people are interested in new solutions and using technology to make life better. He said that, as the population grows, we must figure out solutions for cities and rethink the way things are done. He discussed the impact technology can have in our lives, stating that the volume of data being produced was unprecedented, especially in government, and that most

organizations were letting this resource go untapped. He gave examples of data being applied to save lives such as in a natural disaster, or with crime mapping and predictive policing.

He gave examples from his own city, Palo Alto, where they were able to present pavement condition data in a more meaningful way, had aggregated data on every tree in the city, and explained a challenge they had hosted to create an app to help the animal shelter find homes for pets.

Sarah Houghton spoke about Code for Marin, a new group working toward building a framework to make data accessible. She explained that it was part of Code for America, whose purpose was to facilitate communication and build open source technology to grow the network of people dedicated to making government more open. She stated that the next step for this group was to do an inventory of web accessible government data to be used for building high priority apps and maps. She added that they need the help and support of municipal staff and elected officials to find this data and suggested that local jurisdictions could pass an open data by default resolution.

Business Meeting

Approval of Minutes – February 25, 2015 meeting

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

MCCMC Committee Reports

Homeless Subcommittee Report: Councilmember Colin reported that a staff report and PowerPoint presentation were complete and would be coming forward on Council agendas in the next few months.

Climate Change/Sea Level Rise Report: Mill Valley Mayor Moulton-Peters stated that this committee represented all the cities that surrounded the bay and that recently there had been a grant opportunity from the County to do a vulnerability assessment. She said that information was pending on what level of funding Marin County would receive from the Coastal Conservancy.

Marin Transit Report: Councilmember Kellner reported that Marin Transit was in the process of doing a school transportation study using TAM funding, where it was hoped that solutions would be found to congestion issues and to help students find ways to use transit. She said that the Muir Woods shuttle, which at peak usage transported 25% of all visitors to the park, was highly successful and that a mid-week shuttle might be added during the summer months. She concluded by stating that work was being done on a short range transit plan to address the growing needs of the elderly and disabled to be ready when SMART begins operation.

SMART Report: Mayor Moulton-Peters reported on the challenges associated with the use of creosote ties and said that, despite concerns about toxicity, it was allowed as a wood preservative, and that SMART was within its rights to use creosote at grade crossings. She said that there were community concerns and that meetings were held to address them. She also reported on the issue of whether a separate bike path can run alongside train tracks and said that an independent study would be commissioned by the Transit Authority to assist policy makers in their decision.

ABAG Report: Novato Mayor Pro Tem Eklund highlighted the written ABAG report provided in the packet and stated that applications for PCAs were due by May 30th.

GGBHTD: Tiburon Councilmember Fredericks reported on AB 40, stating that, regarding tolls for bicyclists and pedestrians, the bill should be opposed unless it was amended to include state bridges. She also reported that the GGBHTD had weighed in on regulating drones, and was looking for a balance between safety and security concerns and the cost savings realized by using drones to inspect difficult-to-reach infrastructure. She stated that GGBHTD staff were continuing discussions on balancing the configuration needs for the SMART extension to Larkspur with the difficulties the currently suggested reconfigurations for SMART at the Bettini Center would place on bus access. She concluded by reporting that routing changes between San Francisco and Marin would provide a midday reverse commute and that costs would be minimized by using former deadhead routes. She added that the service would address travel needs of employees located in Mission Bay and the Caltrain station area, including the new UCSF medical center and would link Caltrain routes to the financial district.

TAM Report: Councilmember Fredericks reported some upcoming road closures and listed some of TAM's contributions toward providing multi-modal travel including funding local bus service, completing segments of the carpool lane, major road projects, bicycle and pedestrian improvements, reduction of school congestion and local infrastructure projects.

MCCMC Legislative Committee Report: Councilmember Fredericks reported, regarding SB 47, that the Legislative Committee had voted to support Councilmember Weinsoff's request to bring a bill before MCCMC that addressed an issue outside the Committee's scope of authority.

She stated that SB 47 required an Office of Environmental Health hazard assessment analyzing turf made from recycled tires, often used for children's playgrounds, for potential health impacts, the concern being that the contaminants in tire crumb posed a risk to children and the environment. She said that the tire crumb had been reformulated to reduce lead levels to negligible amounts, but the Bill proposed that risks to children may be present in other contaminants that needed to be studied. She asked that a vote be taken on whether MCCMC would authorize the Legislative Committee to take a position on the bill.

Councilmember Weinsoff spoke, stating that this issue rose to the top in importance and that it was ill-advised to move pollution from one area to another. He added that tires were filled with dangerous components and that inhalation of crumbled rubber was a concern. He agreed that MCCMC should stay on mission but felt that when a bill attracted major attention as this one had, it should be supported. He asked for a vote to give the Legislative Committee authority to take a position on the bill. San Anselmo Vice Mayor Doug Kelly stated that there had been no studies done on the matter yet and that this action was premature.

There was a motion/second (Phillips/Brekhus) to approve authorization of the Legislative Committee to take a position on SB 47. Motion passed by acclamation.

Councilmember Fredericks also reported on the following action items:

1. Marc Levine's AB 157 bill to expedite the recapture of the third vehicle lane on the Richmond San Rafael Bridge passed out of the Assembly Transportation Committee on its way to the floor – SUPPORT
2. AB 4 prohibits transfer of truck weight fees from the State Highway Account to transportation debt service or the general fund, either by direct transfer or in the form of loans. It benefits local jurisdictions by providing a bigger pot in the SHA to share – SUPPORT

3. AB 1220 prohibits local jurisdictions from collecting TOT on short term rentals –
OPPOSE

At 8:40 p.m., President Moulton-Peters adjourned the meeting to the April 22, 2015 meeting in the City of Sausalito

Submitted,

Sheri Hartz
MCCMC Secretary

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