

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

Wednesday, April 27, 2016  
Hosted by the Town of San Anselmo  
Green Chile Kitchen  
1335 4<sup>th</sup> Street, San Rafael

**Members Present**

Belvedere: Claire McAuliffe  
Corte Madera: Sloan Bailey, Diane Furst, James Andrews, Carla Condon  
Fairfax: Barbara Coler, Renee Goddard, John Reed  
Larkspur: Larry Chu, Kevin Haroff, Ann Morrison, Catherine Way  
Mill Valley: John McCauley, Sashi McEntee  
Novato: Denise Athas, Pam Drew, Pat Eklund, Eric Lucan  
Ross: Elizabeth Brekhus, Katie Hoertkorn, Beach Kuhl, , Elizabeth Robbins  
San Anselmo: Matt Brown, Kay Coleman, Ford Greene, Tom McInerney  
San Rafael: Maribeth Bushey, John Gamblin, Andrew McCullough, Gary Phillips  
Sausalito: Linda Pfeiffer, Ray Withy  
Tiburon: Alice Fredericks

Ex Officio: Fairfax City Manager Garrett Toy, Larkspur City Manager Dan Schwarz, Mill Valley City Manager Jim McCann, Ross Town Manager Joe Chinn, San Anselmo Town Manager Debra Stutsman, San Rafael City Manager Jim Schutz, and Novato City Clerk/MCCMC Secretary Sheri Hartz.

**Call to Order**

President Denise Athas called the meeting to order and introduced Mayor Greene who welcomed and introduced his guests Daphne Greene and Randy Wallace. Also present were Joan Lubamersky and Maria Jenninngs from Assemblymember Levine's office, District 2 Supervisor Katie Rice, San Anselmo Councilmembers Vice Mayor Kay Coleman, Tom McInerney, Matt Brown, and John Wright. San Anselmo staff members present included Town Attorney Rob Epstein, Deputy Town Attorney Megan Acevedo, Police Chief Todd Cusimano, Police Captain Mike Norton, Director of Recreation and Parks Dave Donery, Finance Manager Daria Carrillo, Public Works Director Sean Condry, Planning Director Elise Simonen, Town Librarian Linda Kenton and Town Clerk Carla Kacmar.

**Public Comment**

1. Fairfax Mayor Goddard, spoke in support of the Reduce our Car Trips by 2 Challenge which would happen during the month of May.
2. Elizabeth Sutton, Artworks Downtown, thanked the group and welcomed them, stating that they were celebrating their 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary, and that they were providing affordable housing for 17 artists, and were connecting arts and the community. She added that they hosted a 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday artwalk every month, and that 20,000 people attended annually.

**Guest Speaker Presentation**

Corte Madera Mayor and MCCMC Vice President Sloan Bailey introduced his guest speaker, Judge Geoff Howard, Marin Superior Court, who spoke spoke about the Court, which he had

been serving on for a little over a year. He stated that the Court was comprised of 12 judges when at full capacity, along with a Commissioner and 110 staff, and operated on an annual budget of \$14 million, of which \$ 11.6 million was staff costs. He stated that the judges were elected but were initially appointed by the governor to fill vacancies of retirees. He said that most of the work the Court did was dealing with misdemeanors and infractions, adding that, judging from filings, felonies were down 20%, and that civil filings, misdemeanors and traffic were down as well, with only juvenile filings on the rise. He discussed the successful, volunteer-based, Community Court Program where volunteer attorneys assisted people in navigating the system to clear tickets, fines and other low level issue, and connect veterans with services to which they were entitled.

### **Committee Reports**

Homeless Policy Steering Committee: Councilmember Morrison reported that County Health and Human Services had recently done a focus study on 20 homeless individuals, tracking them to determine how long they had been homeless, how they are helped through homeless programs. She spoke about the Home for All program, which was outreach and engagement focused and was working wisely to assist those in all cities who lived on the streets and in their cars.

ABAG: Mayor Eklund reported on the recent ABAG special General Assembly, stating that the agenda had been changed to include a presentation of the process versus a summary of options as had been originally scheduled. She stated that the GA adopted the FY 2016/17 workplan and budget for ABAG, and added that, at a subsequent meeting, the Joint ABAG Administrative and MTC Planning Committees had voted to move forward on Option 7, but that she had been the only vote against due to concerns over loss of ABAG staff, only having one Executive Director and the potential that the ABAG Executive Board would be disbanded at some point in the future. She reported that a letter signed by several Assemblymembers had been received which recommended Option 4.

TAM Report: Councilmember Fredericks reported on an upcoming vote of the TAM Board to authorize a request of funding for the North-South Greeway Multi-Use Path Gap Closure Project and gave background on the connections the path will make when complete. She also stated that TAM's strategic vision planning process had begun.

MCCMC Legislative Committee Report: Councilmember Fredericks stated that the Committee had considered about 12 bills, opposing AB 2501, AB 2522 and AB 2586, and supporting AB 2502. She said that the remaining bills they considered were on the watchlist, the most controversial of which was SB 1102.

GGBHTD: Councilmember Fredericks reported that the Board had approved fare increases for the regional bus, paratransit and ferry services to take effect on July 1. She stated that the increase is one initiative that will address the District's projected \$35M deficit. She added that fixed rate fares in Marin would match Marin Transit's and would not be subject to the increase.

Marin Transit: Councilmember Bushey reported on a senior mobility study which showed that 186K trips were provided to seniors by Marin Transit in the previous year. She added that, by

2025, it was expected that more than half of Marin residents would be over 60 years of age, which would create a significant impact on transportation.

**Program:** Sharon Ellison, M.S., Author and Communication Consultant - *“Powerful Non Defensive Communication”*

Ms. Ellison, who has been a TED talker, spoke about how to effectively communicate and gave examples of unrealistic expectations people may have when communicating with a difficult individual. She demonstrated through storytelling how to more effectively communicate and provided examples from her personal and professional life. She said we prompt each other’s defenses all the time without meaning to and that, by changing our intention, tone of voice, body language and phrasing we can communicate in a more purely curious way without triggering defensiveness.

### **Business Meeting**

#### **Approval of Minutes – February 24, 2016 meeting**

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

#### **Approval of Minutes – March 30, 2016 meeting**

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

#### **Nominations for Marin LAFCO Alternate Seat** (*Vacancy announced last month, letters of interest solicited*)

*There was a motion/second (Condon/McCullough) to nominate Sashi McEntee. Motion passed by acclamation.*

#### **Announcement of Upcoming Vacancy and Call for Letters of Interest – ABAG Representative**

President Athas announced the upcoming vacancy and solicited letters of interest for the term which would expire June 30, 2016; (*letter of interest from Pat Eklund is attached; nominations to occur next month*)

#### **Adjournment**

At 8:30 p.m., President Athas adjourned the meeting to the May 25, 2016 meeting in the City of San Rafael.

Submitted,

Sheri Hartz  
MCCMC Secretary