

MARIN COUNTY COUNCIL OF MAYORS AND COUNCILMEMBERS
Draft Minutes

Wednesday, September 16, 2015
Hosted by the Town of Corte Madera
Corte Madera Community Center
498 Tamalpais Drive, Corte Madera

Members Present

Belvedere: Sandra Donnell, Bob McCaskill, Marty Winter
Corte Madera: Sloan Bailey, Carla Condon, Diane Furst, Michael Lappert, Bob Ravasio
Fairfax: Peter Lacques, John Reed
Larkspur: Larry Chu, Kevin Haroff, Dan Hillmer, Ann Morrison, Catherine Way
Mill Valley: Garry Lion, John McCauley
Novato: Denise Athas, Pat Eklund, Madeline Kellner, Eric Lucan, Jeanne MacLeamy
Ross: Elizabeth Brekhus, Elizabeth Robbins, Carla Small
San Anselmo: Kay Coleman, Doug Kelly, Tom McInerney, John Wright
San Rafael: Maribeth Bushey, Kate Colin, Andrew McCullough, Gary Phillips
Sausalito: Jill James Hoffman, Linda Pfeifer, Ray Withy
Tiburon: no attendees

Ex Officio: Belvedere City Manager Mary Neilan, Fairfax Town Manager Garrett Toy, Novato City Manager Michael Frank, Ross Town Manager Joe Chinn, San Anselmo Town Manager Debbie Stutsman, San Rafael City Manager Jim Schutz, Corte Madera Town Clerk Rebecca Vaughn and Novato City Clerk/MCCMC Secretary Sheri Hartz.

Call to Order

President Athas called the meeting to order at 6:55 p.m., introducing herself as the new President and Corte Madera Councilmember Sloan Bailey as Vice President, and stated that outgoing President Stephanie Moulton-Peters would be recognized at the next month's meeting.

Welcome and Introduction of Guests: Mayor Carla Condon opened the meeting, stating that she was excited to welcome special guest speaker Tyler Florence. She introduced guests and Corte Madera staff including Town Manager Dave Bracken, Police Chief Todd Cusimano, Finance Director George Warman, Parks and Recreation Director Mario Fiorentini, Planning Director Adam Wolff, and Town Attorney Randy Riddle, as well as League of California Cities representative Nancy Hall Bennett, Executive Director of the Chamber of Commerce Julie Kritzberger, Julie Neward, Property Manager of The Village, and Monty Stephens, Town Center Manager. She thanked the Lions Club for pouring the wine and concluded by welcoming Donna Perreault, Mr. Florence's assistant.

Public Comment

Novato Councilmember Madeline Kellner read an announcement on behalf of Supervisor Sears about the Marin County Division of Aging and Adult Services' upcoming communication survey. She said that the survey sought to gauge how well Marin County has done letting key leaders know about their services and planning activities and to identify areas where communication can be improved with elected community representatives, and encouraged everyone to participate.

Dr. Bob Bundy spoke about the bad fire season, stating that a lot of communities had sent fire fighters to other communities, and suggested that joint strike teams would increase efficiencies but that adequate personnel should be left behind for local coverage.

Program: Tyler Florence, Author, Restaurateur, Winemaker and Businessman

Mr. Florence discussed his background, stating that he and his family had moved to Marin County ten years ago. He described his experiences in school and working for famous chefs, and ultimately stumbling into a position with the Food Network where he had hosted several shows.

He went on to discuss his thoughts about what life in Marin was like and the amount of time he and others spent commuting, the result of which was days of lost time per year. He shared his vision for what might be possible if decision makers in the County looked at the problem with fresh eyes and worked together toward a common goal which he called the Marin Mid-Century project. He proposed the creation of a sustainable community that would take cars off the road, via interconnected villages and the attraction of business for a new tech hub complete with live-work space. He challenged everyone to start a dialogue with their colleagues and to have a collective conversation about what Marin County was going to look like in 2050.

Business Meeting

There was a motion/second (Kellner/Eklund) to add Adoption of the Annual budget to the agenda, following the Approval of the Minutes. Motion passed by acclamation.

Approval of Minutes – June 24, 2015 meeting

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

Adoption of Annual Budget

There was a motion/second (Kellner/Morrison) to adopt the FY 2015-16 annual budget. Motion passed by acclamation.

Proposed New Timeframe/Topics for Meetings

Vice President Bailey proposed the addition of a new topic to the agendas going forward. He explained that, in reviewing the bylaws, he had rediscovered MCCMC's purpose and felt that it might be valuable to invite speakers to provide insight into countywide issues. He said this could be accomplished by slightly reducing the social hour so that the overall length of the meeting would not be affected. He suggested groups such as Marin Managers, Police Officers Associations, and other professional associations, stating that the information provided could lead to functional consolidation. He solicited the membership to send him their thoughts and ideas for speakers.

Announcement of Upcoming Vacancies and Call for Letters of Interest

President Athas introduced item and solicited letters of interest for GGBHTD board member, Marin Major Crimes Task Force Oversight Committee (Rep and Alternate), Marin County Disaster Council Citizen Corps ("DC3") representative and Marin County Transit Board.

Letters of interest were solicited for nominations to be made at the October meeting with appointments to be made in January 2016 for expiring terms.

Minimum Wage Working Group White Paper

Novato Councilmember Eric Lucan presented the white paper, speaking briefly to the activities of the working group and recognizing members Larry Chu, Kay Coleman, Doug Kelly, Andrew McCullough, and Jessica Jackson. He shared a couple of quick highlights of report and laid out issues to consider. He said that the group did not suggest an increase, instead, they recommended that our cities need to be involved in discussion. Secondly, he said, if jurisdictions want to explore the issue, others should collaborate and proposed a countywide effort rather than city by city.

Committee Reports

League of California Cities: Nancy Hall Bennett reported breaking news regarding the legislative report, stating that AB 350 should have been SB 350. She said no action had been taken, but some cities did take action. She added that the bill had moved on with substantial amendments that took away petroleum reduction features. She said that the legislature was no longer in session and added that Senator McGuire deserved thanks for his work on medical marijuana.

TAM Report: written report provided with packet.

MCCMC Legislative Committee: written report provided with packet.

Marin Transit: Novato Councilmember Kellner reported that bus services had started for the College of Marin Kentfield campus from the downtown San Rafael transit center, and that they were cutting travel time by 25%. She stated that they had been funded by a fee that students voted to charge themselves to ride the bus. She also reported that Marin Transit had been working with Ross Valley schools, and was using the yellow bus service which served 450 students, reducing traffic on Tiburon Blvd. She said that the cost was \$600 per year per student and that a school bus study and recommendations were being worked on. She concluded by reporting that the Transit District and City of Novato Redwood and Grant Avenue bus facility improvements had been approved and that funding would come from TAM.

ABAG (written report attached): Novato Mayor Pro Tem Eklund reported on the revised Plan Bay Area Update 2017 performance targets, stating that they should be limited to those which were statutorily required. She stated that there would be 12 targets instead of nine, said that she was worried by the 2nd target, and encouraged everyone to refer to the written report attached to the packet.

She also reported that MTC had voted to limit ABAG's funding of land use planning for six months. With few exceptions, she stated that the MTC commissioners had voted to limit ABAG's funding and said that if ABAG planning was not funded, ABAG would have no recourse but to lay off staff. She said this was unacceptable and called for a General Assembly, to call for funding directly from the State. She stated that this was a power play, and that while 20% of cities were represented on the ABAG Executive Board, only 9% were on MTC. She added that governance and local control were at the heart of this issue and that discussions would continue.

Climate Change/Sea Level Rise: Councilmember Lucan announced that the sea level rise vulnerability assessment was getting started, but that not all cities and towns were represented. He said that each committee member and city manager would be receiving an email asking cities to agendize the appointment of a representative to the committee.

At 8:50 p.m., President Athas adjourned the meeting to the October 28, 2015 meeting in the Town of Fairfax.

Submitted,

Sheri Hartz
MCCMC Secretary

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