

MARIN COUNTY COUNCIL OF MAYORS AND COUNCILMEMBERS

**DRAFT**

MINUTES

Wednesday, September 27, 2017

Hosted by the City of San Rafael

Terrapin Crossroads ~ 100 Yacht Club Drive, San Rafael

**Members Present**

Belvedere: Winter  
Corte Madera: Bailey, Condon  
Fairfax: Coler, Goddard, Lacques, Reed, Weinsoff  
Larkspur: Chu, Haroff, Hillmer, Morrison, Way  
Mill Valley: McCauley, McEntee, Moulton-Peters, Sloan, Wickham  
Novato: Athas, Drew, Eklund, Fryday, Lucan  
Ross: Brekhus, Hoertkorn Kuhl, Robbins, Russell  
San Anselmo: Brown, Coleman, McInerney, Wright  
San Rafael: Bushey, Colin, Gamblin; McCullough; Phillips  
Sausalito: Burns, Cox, Withy  
Tiburon: Fredericks, Thier

**Ex Officio:** Fairfax Town Manager Garrett Toy; Larkspur City Manager Dan Schwarz; Mill Valley City Manager Jim McCann; Novato City Manager Regan Candelario; Ross Town Manager Joe Chinn; San Anselmo Town Manager David Donery; Sausalito City Manager Adam Politzer; MCCMC Secretary Rebecca Vaughn

**Guests were:** Marin County Board of Supervisors Judy Arnold, Damon Connolly, Katie Rice and Dennis Rodoni; Joan Lubamersky, Field Representative for Assemblyman Marc Levine; Anna Pletcher, Candidate for Marin County District Attorney.

**Call to Order**

President Colin called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. and welcomed everyone to the Marin County Council of Mayors and Councilmembers for September 27, 2017. President Colin offered her thanks to outgoing President, Sloan Bailey, for his service to MCCMC during his tenure as President, and presented him with a plaque, a bottle of wine and a pair of official San Rafael sunglasses.

**Public Comment**

Pat Eklund, Novato – Announced that she is running for Vice President of ABAG. One other candidate, from Palo Alto, has filed papers. However, he terms out in 2019, so he will only be able to serve two years as Vice President and will not be able to serve as President. She will submit her petition on Friday. On October 20, the ABAG Clerk will mail ballots to each of the City Clerks in Marin as well as the County clerk. Ballots need to be received at MTC by noon on Monday Nov 6<sup>th</sup> and they will be counted on November 8<sup>th</sup>.

President Colin asked for further public comment. Seeing none, she introduced San Rafael Mayor Gary Phillips.

**Welcome and Introduction of Guests**

Mayor Gary Phillips welcomed everyone to the City of San Rafael. He recognized the many School Board members and Trustees in attendance. He acknowledged special guests: Jenny Calloway, representing Congressman Jared Huffman; Joan Lubamersky, representing Assemblymember Marc

1 Levine; and Marin County Supervisors Damon Connolly, Katie Rice, Judy Arnold, and Dennis  
2 Rodoni. He introduced the following members of the San Rafael City Council present: Vice Mayor  
3 Maribeth Bushey and Councilmembers Kate Colin, John Gamblin and Andrew McCullough. The  
4 following City staff were introduced: City Manager Jim Schutz, Assistant City Attorney Lisa Goldfein,  
5 Assistant City Manager Cristine Alilovich, Police Chief Diana Bishob, Fire Chief Chris Gray,  
6 Community Development Director Paul Jensen, Public Works Director Bill Guerin, Human  
7 Resources Director Stacey Peterson, Director of Economic Development Danielle O’Leary, Finance  
8 Director Mark Moses, Interim Community Services Director Debbie Yonkin, District Manager/San  
9 Rafael Sanitation District Doris Toy, Assistant Library Director Henry Bankhead and City Clerk  
10 Esther Beirne.

11  
12 President Colin then introduced Marin County Superintendent of Schools Mary Jane Burke and  
13 Tiburon Councilmember Alice Fredericks to speak about the origins of the Marin Community United  
14 meeting. Superintendent Burke explained that around 12 years ago, she began a conversation with  
15 Alice Fredericks about how interconnected the schools and the cities are and they decided to come  
16 together once per year as a larger community to be reminded of our collective work on behalf of the  
17 children, their families and Marin County in general. For many years, the Town of Tiburon hosted  
18 Community United, and she thanked San Rafael opening their doors to the group.

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20 Alice Fredericks, Tiburon – Councilmember Fredericks explained that the Superintendents, school  
21 board trustees and elected officials first came together as Marin United in 2005 when the State tried  
22 to take money that belonged to the schools to fill budget shortfalls. Proposition 76, which changed  
23 the way that schools were funded, was the unifying piece of legislation that brought the group  
24 together. Many shared topics have been discussed since then, such as drug and alcohol use and  
25 other health issues that affect youth, housing and its impact on the local economy, importance of  
26 quality preschools, and recruitment and retention of employees, etc. Tonight we learn about  
27 implementing tools that allow governments and other bureaucracies to serve our communities in this  
28 digital age.

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30 Once dinner service was underway, the first presentation began.

31  
32 4. **Presentation:** Alyssa Galloway, Manager of Global Patient Advocacy Network at BioMarin  
33 Pharmaceuticals presented an overview of BioMarin.  
34 Ms. Galloway explained that BioMarin creates therapies for ultra rare genetic conditions that  
35 primarily affect children, and that each of the conditions they treat affect under 5000 people world  
36 wide. She stated that BioMarin is currently celebrating its 20th anniversary. BioMarin is the  
37 global leader in rare disease treatment and therapies and is one of the only companies that focus  
38 exclusively on ultra-rare diseases. In some cases, diseases are so rare that the entire patient  
39 population can number fewer than 1000 people worldwide

40  
41 BioMarin came into being because of a boy named Ryan Dand, who was diagnosed with MPS I  
42 in 1991 at the age of four. His prognosis was considered terminal at the time and death was  
43 likely by age 10. Shortly after his diagnosis, his parents fundraised \$1 million to look for a cure.  
44 Meanwhile, there were researchers at UCLA working on a recombinant form of the enzyme  
45 missing in MPS I. Ryan’s parents used fundraised money to partner with Dr. Kachis to apply his  
46 research to a treatment. BioMarin rose out of this collaboration.

47  
48 Currently, BioMarin has Administrative space in San Rafael and research space in Novato.

49  
50 Ms. Galloway provided an update on Ryan, announcing that he is doing great, just graduated  
51 from college at the University of Louisville. He had participated in the Aldurazyme clinical trial  
52 and has been living a very full life as a result.

53

1 She stated that, to their very core, BioMarin is focused on their patients, with 65% of revenues  
2 going back to Research and Development, which is higher than the industry average of 18%.

3  
4 BioMarin is also one of the largest private sector employers north of the Golden Gate Bridge.  
5 Economic impact in Bay Area & Marin County is that more than \$23 million total in state and  
6 local taxes are paid each year.

7  
8 BioMarin supports the community. A table of charitable contributions since 2013 shows the  
9 following:

10 BioMarin has contributed over \$620,000 to the local community with \$433,000 charitable  
11 contributions and \$189,000 in Community sponsorships. Their current endeavor is the Biotech  
12 Partners Biotech academy at San Marin High School and the BioScience Career Institute at  
13 College of Marin. If this partnership which is meant to foster research and science careers does  
14 well at San Marin, it is expected to be expanded to other local high schools in the future.

15  
16 5. Program / Guest Speaker: Jennifer Pahlka, Code for America  
17 Presentation: Code For America

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19 Guest speaker Jennifer Pahlka was introduced by Rebecca Woodbury, Senior Management  
20 Analyst in the San Rafael City Manager's Office. Ms. Woodbury started that she first attended a  
21 Code for America summit in Oakland two years ago. The event changed her perspective on what  
22 it means to work for government. The next year, returned to the Code for America summit with  
23 more City staff. From their attendance at the summit grew the "Together San Rafael" initiative.

24  
25 Jennifer Pahlka founded Code for America, a San Francisco-based non-profit organization that aims  
26 to make government more transparent and connected. From 2013-2014, she served as United  
27 States Deputy Chief Technology Officer, during which time she set in motion the creation of the  
28 United States Digital Service within the Executive Office of the President.

29  
30 Ms. Pahlka asked the following question of the group, "What if we built a government that works  
31 for all Americans in the digital age"? For example, think about how it would work if we were to try  
32 to get close to that ideal. What would be different in our country if everyone in our country had  
33 that kind of experience with government? What would be different today?

34  
35 The value of public service is being tested right now by people who haven't had positive  
36 experiences with government. To have a just society, government programs must work the way  
37 they should. Governments work with sensitive populations. \$470 billion is spent on government  
38 safety net programs, \$42 billion in charitable spending. Efficiency in government is very much a  
39 factor of social justice.

40  
41 Ms. Pahlka stated that we can't make government programs work without changing how  
42 government operates. Instead of starting with our policies, we need to start with our users, and  
43 adding technology does not always help. For example, there are different ways to buy and build  
44 child welfare services. If the State of California can make a change, anyone can.

45  
46 Ms. Pahlka discussed how the State was getting ready to do a new procurement for software.  
47 The software currently in use had been out of compliance for many years, but the Department

1 was going to go forward with a \$600 million procurement that was going to take six years to  
2 build.

3  
4 Ms. Pahlka offered to show them that there was another way if they would consider her option.  
5 She took the \$600 million procurement and broke it down into 6 bits that had separate  
6 requirements. The RFP asks for companies who wish to bid to demonstrate how they will meet  
7 user needs. The project has been completely embraced at the state level.

8  
9 She then discussed the importance of designing applications to meet user needs, using the  
10 Supplemental Nutrition Assistant Program (SNAP) as an example. California is one of worst  
11 states with respect to the adoption of SNAP. The website takes 45-55 minutes to use, it cost  
12 \$800 million to build and \$80 million a year to maintain. However, the website was one major  
13 reason why people were not getting through the SNAP application process. So Ms. Pahlka and  
14 her team made it possible to apply for SNAP in 7 minutes on a mobile phone.

15  
16 She also made it possible to apply for CalFresh in 7 on a mobile phone, while allowing the user  
17 to receive all follow up by text.

18  
19 She explained how following users gives developers data to work with. She showed how the  
20 system was failing, with interview notices arriving after the date of the interview or written in the  
21 wrong language. The system fails in requests for documentation that deter users and aren't  
22 needed (i.e. the fraud prevention program).

23  
24 But following user experience provides the data needed to improve operations. Data helps to  
25 identify and remove barriers and improves operations.

26 Ms. Pahlka discussed lightweight fixes, such as the importance of providing common services  
27 across jurisdictions, and the importance of getting people together to talk (such as the  
28 Community Compact Cabinet).

29  
30 Ms. Pahlka encouraged the group with the message, "You got this". She stated that each one of  
31 you is a designer in your own way. Technology is not something that you need extra people to  
32 do. User research is just about talking to people standing in line about what their experiences  
33 are. You can find tools to fix what's broken (or build the tools yourself).

34  
35 Ms. Pahlka encouraged the group to design around what people (users) actually need, to change  
36 policy to meet user needs, and to get in the feedback loop with people you serve.

37 It is important to skip the forms, forget the silos and just help the people when they need it,  
38 wherever they are.

39  
40 Question: Peter Lacques, Fairfax: Asked what services San Rafael is starting to offer through  
41 this model.

42  
43 Response: San Rafael City Manager Jim Schutz responded that the website has been updated,  
44 they are utilizing a Customer Relationship Management (CRM) system for communication with  
45 the public, Romulus reporting in community regarding things that need to be fixed, an "open  
46 counter" program will be avail in San Rafael soon, and it is already being used in Novato. The

1 “Open Counter” is available online 24 hours per day. And finally, Open Gov, which Sausalito has  
2 been using, helps the City be responsive to the public.

3  
4 **6.. Committee Reports:**

5 6.a. Metropolitan Transportation Commission – Report from Supervisor Damon Connolly  
6 Supervisor Connolly thanked the membership for the opportunity to represent the  
7 communities of Marin on the MTC, including the schools which have many unique  
8 transportation issues. Currently, the top issue at MTC is SB 595, known as Regional  
9 Measure 3, the proposed bay area bridge toll increase of up to three dollars. This does not  
10 include the Golden Gate Bridge. Bill passed legislature is now on Governor’s desk, and he  
11 has until Oct 15 to decide whether or not to sign it. Then it would go to voters, most likely in  
12 June 2018. It is a \$4.5 billion package, aimed at regional and local congestion relief.  
13 Ultimately, MTC will decide the amount of increase, and how to phase it in. Lower tolls would  
14 mean that projects will scale down proportionally.  
15 Marin project list includes: 101/580 direct connector (\$135 million on Marin side, and \$75  
16 million on Contra Costa side). The new San Rafael Bettini Transit Center will receive \$30  
17 million. The Marin Sonoma Narrows corridor will receive \$120 million, which will take it  
18 almost to completion. And Highway 37, a long term project, will receive a down payment of  
19 \$100 million.

20  
21 2018 will likely see not only RM3 on the June ballot, but SB 1 will likely be facing a  
22 referendum to overturn it statewide.

23  
24 Finally, Drawdown Marin will take place on October 3, 2017. County of Marin will be  
25 launching its Climate Action Plan. Flyers were provided on each table.

26  
27 6.b. Association of Bay Area Governments – Please see written report provided by Pat Eklund,  
28 Novato, and included in the agenda packet for the September 27, 2017 MCCMC meeting.

29  
30 6.c. Golden Gate Bridge, Highway and Transportation District – Report from Alice Fredericks,  
31 Tiburon  
32 Councilmember Fredericks, due to time constraints, only provided an update on the MCCMC  
33 Legislative Committee

34  
35 6.d. MCCMC Legislative Committee – Report from Alice Fredericks, Tiburon  
36 It is predicted that, in the next Legislative session, there will be more legislative requirements  
37 to meet the housing shortage that constrain local government land use authority. Right now,  
38 legislature has passed bills that have modestly addressed housing shortage, including SB2 a  
39 \$75 recordation fee for specific real estate documents. SB3 is a \$3 billion general obligation  
40 bond for affordable housing projects. But, when we had Redevelopment Agencies, they  
41 generated much more money. There are several other bills on the Governor’s desk as well,  
42 but all limit local government discretion in some form or another.

43  
44 SB540 creates workforce opportunity zones, but law constrains government’s ability to deny  
45 applications within the zone under a range of circumstances. Projects that comply with plan  
46 have automatic permit extension for a certain number of years. The law constrains  
47 governments’ ability to deny applications within the zone under a range of circumstances,  
48 and also constrains ability to require environmental studies for a project. There is a “carrot”  
49 in that jurisdictions can apply for grants to develop specific plan and environmental studies.

50  
51 SB 35 Among other restrictions, SB 35 provides for streamlined ministerial approval process  
52 of certain affordable housing projects, prohibits cities from imposing parking requirements,  
53 and constrains community input. Among other restrictions to Local Land Use Authority, the

1 bill proposes that: Successive failures of a local jurisdiction to build regional housing  
2 allocations will trigger a developer's option to have his project approved by staff in a  
3 ministerial action, without community input, without environmental review. The bill prohibits  
4 imposing parking requirements under certain conditions.  
5

6 Constraining community input can be counter-productive. Even housing advocates have told  
7 legislators that community input can result in better project.  
8

9 As far as some legislators are concerned, we should follow the Governor's vision of building  
10 up, or the whispered vision of building in our open space.  
11

12 MCCMC's Legislative Committee was warned that the next session will see more legislation  
13 targeting jurisdictions that do not actually build to meet housing needs.  
14

15 She stated that as local leaders, we need to make available to our representatives in the  
16 state legislature a comprehensive list of what Marin jurisdictions already do, along with  
17 creative examples and ideas for what can be done.  
18

19 The MCCMC Legislative Committee was warned that the next session could see legislation  
20 aimed at jurisdictions which do not show progress to meet housing needs. We need to make  
21 a comprehensive list available of what our local jurisdictions are doing to meet housing  
22 needs, what we can do, and what creative ideas we may have.  
23

24 6.e. Sonoma-Marín Area Rail Transit (SMART) – Report from Dan Hillmer, Larkspur.  
25 Please visit the [Sonomamarintrain.org](http://Sonomamarintrain.org) website. In the section called Rider's Corner, you can  
26 share your experiences and observations about service, safety, etc. Please help SMART by  
27 providing them with your comments. SMART is working on closing gaps in schedule. The  
28 biggest trend is that there are many people who ride bicycles to the train, so SMART will be  
29 looking at expanding the capacity to carry trains.  
30

31 6.f. Marín Disaster and Citizen Corps Council (DC3) – Report from Catherine Way, Larkspur  
32 Councilmember Way announced that she is also the representative to the Disaster Education  
33 Subcommittee for DC3, and with recent hurricanes, tornadoes, earthquakes, fires in the news  
34 right now this is timely. She has provided a copy of her written report on each table. Would  
35 like to point out that DC3 had presentation on post disaster temporary ordinance to allow  
36 temporary housing and streamlining after a disaster and, if the County passes this, they will  
37 ask cities to also take a look at it.  
38

39 She has also been discussing with Kate Colin and Stephanie Moulton-Peters the need to  
40 create an ad hoc committee for disaster preparedness and education across jurisdictions.  
41 Please let her know if you want to participate on subcommittee.  
42

43 She also congratulated the communities of Larkspur and Corte Madera for successfully  
44 merging their two fire departments and leading the way in shared services.  
45

46 6.g. Marín Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) – Report from Carla Condon, Corte  
47 Madera  
48 Vice Mayor Condon announced that LAFCO Executive Director Keene Simonds has left  
49 Marin LAFCO to take the Executive Director position with LAFCO in San Diego. Marin  
50 LAFCO is currently engaged in a search for a replacement Executive Director and Rachel  
51 Jones, Marin LAFCO's Administrative Analyst, is keeping the office going and serving as  
52 Interim Executive Officer during the recruitment.\*  
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**BUSINESS MEETING**

7.a. Consideration and Possible Action to Approve MCCMC 2017-2018 Operating Budget

There was a motion/second (Eklund/Phillips) to approve the MCCMC Operating Budget for 2017-2018. The motion passed by acclamation.

7.b. Review of Draft Agenda for October 25, 2017 MCCMC Meeting Hosted by the Town of Tiburon

There were no comments on the draft October 25, 2017 MCCMC agenda.

7.c. Consideration and Possible Action to Approve the Draft Minutes of the June 28, 2017 MCCMC Meeting Hosted by the Town of San Anselmo.

There was a motion/second (Eklund/Moulton-Peters) to approve the minutes as corrected (corrections to be provided by Pat Eklund). The motion passed by acclamation.

**Adjournment**

President Colin thanked everyone for attending and adjourned the meeting at 8:50p.m. to the next regular meeting scheduled for October 25, 2017 hosted by the Town of Tiburon.