

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

**Wednesday, September 27, 2013
Hosted by the Town of Ross
Lagunitas Country Club – 205 Lagunitas Road
Ross, CA 94957**

Members Present

Belvedere: No members present
Corte Madera: Sloan Bailey, Diane Furst, Bob Ravasio
Fairfax: Barbara Coler, John Reed, David Weinsoff
Larkspur: Larry Chu, Ann Morrison, Len Rifkind
Mill Valley: Andrew Berman, Garry Lion, Stephanie Moulton-Peters
Novato: Denise Athas, Pat Eklund, Eric Lucan, Jeanne MacLeamy, Madeline Kellner
Ross: Elizabeth Brekhus, P. Beach Kuhl, Katie Hoertkorn, R. Rupert Russell
San Anselmo: Kay Coleman, Jeff Kroot, Tom McInerney
San Rafael: Damon Connolly, Kate Colin, Gary Phillips
Sausalito: Tom Theodores, Ray Withy, Herb Weiner
Tiburon: Alice Fredericks

City Managers: Larkspur City Manager Dan Schwarz; Mill Valley City Manager Jim McCann;
Novato City Manager Michael Frank; Ross Town Manager Rob Braulik; San Anselmo Town
Manager Debbie Stutsman; San Rafael City Manager Nancy Mackle; and Sausalito City Manager
Adam Politzer.

Call to Order

President Rifkind called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m.

Welcome and Introduction of Guests

Mayor Kuhl welcomed everyone to the Town of Ross and provided some interesting facts about the Town and the building that now houses the Lagunitas Country Club.

Mayor Kuhl introduced the Ross Town Council (noting that Councilmember Small could not be present), and members of Town Staff: City Manager Braulik, Town Attorney Greg Stepanicich, Police Chief Erik Masterson; and he gave a special thanks to Town Clerk/Administrative Analyst Linda Lopez, for organizing the event.

Mayor Kuhl also acknowledged Social Hour guests Joan Lubamersky, Office of Assemblyman Marc Levine, and John Diamante, Friends of the Railway.

Business Meeting: President Rifkind opened the business meeting at 7:15 p.m.

Public Comment: Mayor Weiner gave a "shout out" to the winners of the America's Cup, Oracle Team USA.

Incoming President's Remarks: President Rifkind distributed a handout he and VP Moulton-Peters had prepared which included suggestions they had received from members for speaker topics and meeting structure. He said the goal was to support members in their wishes to keep meetings meaningful and relevant.

Recognition of Outgoing President

President Rifkind presented Mayor Weiner with a plaque thanking him for his service during the past year. Mayor Weiner said a few words about the importance of paying attention to the "little things" in life.

Approval of Minutes: August 28, 2013 meeting

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

Approval of Budget for FY 2013-14

There was a motion and second (Kuhl/Kellner) to approve the budget. Motion passed by acclamation.

Announcement of Upcoming Vacancies

President Rifkind noted the vacancies that would occur as a result of his not seeking re-election on the following committees: Cal-ID RAN; Disaster Advisory Council (DC3), and the Homeless Policy Committee. He asked for letters of interest on these committees.

Rifkind also said the position of President would become vacant in December, and while noting that Vice President Moulton-Peters would most certainly be appointed to fill the vacancy, he duly noted the call for nominations for the position of Vice President for the record.

Committee Reports

ABAG – Pat Eklund said there would be no more meetings [Plan Bay Area] until after the November elections. She said she had finally received a meeting timeline from ABAG for the next four years. She also noted that the Executive Committee would do a performance review of the Executive Director on December 5 and she welcomed any input from the group.

Homeless Policy Committee – Councilmember Colin said that the committee is primarily comprised of service providers. She noted that Councilmember Rifkind is the MCCMC representative to the group, and she and Mayor Phillips attend the meetings and facilitate discussions regarding solutions. She acknowledged the County for allowing the City of San Rafael to have a seat at the table. Colin went on to say that September was Homeless Month in San Rafael and she described downtown and also talked about a program called "Downtown Streets Team" that put qualified homeless people to work to clean streets in exchanged for food and a housing voucher. She said that the City of San Rafael had hired a mental health outreach person to team with a sworn officer to work together to address and solve homeless issues in the City. She said she hoped they could partner with other cities in the County, as well.

SMART – Stephanie Moulton-Peters noted that Mayor Phillips and Mayor Pro Tem Lucans also sat on the SMART Board. Moulton-Peters said that through the Small Starts Rail Funding program, SMART had qualified for the first time for federal funding. She said the funding could work toward making the connection between San Rafael to Larkspur Landing a reality.

GGBHTD – Alice Fredericks said there would be two public meetings about the proposed parking fees at Larkspur Ferry Landing from 3:30 to 7:30 p.m. on October 8 and 17.

Legislative Committee – Alice Fredericks summarized the activity of the committee over the past year and reviewed some current bills under consideration pertaining to CEQA reform. She said the committee had held a CEQA Reform study session conducted by Kyra Ross, lobbyist from Emmanuel Jones who represents Marin cities, Kristin Kolpitke, League of CA Cities analyst, and Linda Jackson, land use planner at TAM.

Fredericks commented that because local jurisdictions have control over how projects qualify for exemptions, granting exemptions is still under local control. She said that nearly all, if not all, of Marin is ineligible for streamlining under currently proposed legislation (but said that could change). She said that the Legislative Committee will continue to track the issue, but little activity is expected in the next legislative session.

TAM – Fredericks reported on the Corte Madera interchange project. She said there had been close to a dozen (11) meetings in 6 months that had helped shape a project that has the potential to address community concerns, balance the needs of all users and address a plethora of the congestion issues in the corridor. She said the original project, developed after years of input framed many clear priorities, many conflicting priorities, but was a 20-year fix for the northbound and southbound congestion and safety on 101 in the vicinity of the Greenbrae interchange.

Fredericks said the current recommendations are modifications made with community input that reapportion the benefits to the various user groups and stakeholders. She said that while she could not predict the outcome of the Thursday meeting (vote) of the TAM commission, she asked that everyone recognize the monumental feat of taking the community suggestions and packaging what is viable and feasible to offer the best possibility of meeting the needs of the contiguous jurisdictions, and the traveling public. She said it was a tall order for the original funding of \$40M to address highway congestion and safety issues. She said she hoped the focus would be on getting a project that will relieve congestion and meet as many other community needs as feasible.

League of California Cities – Madeline Kellner reported on the annual conference, noting the members who had attended and commented on the resolutions that had been introduced. She also said that the breakout sessions had been very useful.

Other Reports: Update on Proposal for County-wide Single Use Bag Ordinance).

Steve Devine, Program Manager, Waste Management Division (County Public Works Department). Mr. Devine said that an administrative draft of the EIR had been completed and would be available to the Marin cities in December or January, along with a draft model ordinance. At the same time, he noted continuing efforts to defeat such legislation by the "Save the Plastic Bag Coalition". He and his colleague, Michael Frost, handed out reusable cloth bags to the group.

Program: Restorative Justice Program and Marin County Schools

Speaker: Mike Daly, Chief Probation Officer;
Merissa Wertheimer, Restorative Circles Coordinator

Mr. Daly talked about the positive results in local schools using the restorative justice model. He said that the numbers of suspensions and expulsions had dropped dramatically (citing statistics from Davidson Middle School, in particular). Ms. Wertheimer talked about the mechanics of the "restorative circles". She assured the group, noting that she was from Texas where there is little tolerance for being "soft on crime", that these methods were indeed effective and not "soft"; rather, she said they help to resolve conflict and promote accountability.

During Q&A, the group raised questions about whether this model might be used in the adult criminal justice system to reduce recidivism. Mr. Daly said that a similar program was indeed being rolled out at certain levels of the justice system ("Insight Prison Program"). He said this was especially important since October 1 marked the two-year anniversary of the State's "realignment" of the prisons.

President Rifkind thanked the Town of Ross for hosting the meeting and he thanked the speakers for demonstrating how the restorative justice program was beneficial to cities and the community.

Adjournment: President Rifkind adjourned the meeting at 8:30 p.m.* to the October 23 meeting in San Anselmo. *(At which time he convened a brief meeting of the Mayors' Select Committee to continue discussion of his proposal for a county-wide disaster preparedness coordinator.)

Submitted,
Diane Crane Iacopi
MCCMC Secretary