

Midcoast Community Council

An elected Advisory Council to the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors representing Montara, Moss Beach, El Granada, Princeton, and Miramar

PO Box 248, Moss Beach, CA 94038

www.MidcoastCommunityCouncil.org

Claire Toutant, Chair
Len Erickson, Vice Chair
Barbra Mathewson, Treasurer
Dave Olson, Secretary
Dan Haggerty
Michelle Weil
Tamar Powell

Minutes for Meeting of May 8, 2019

Call to Order (7:00)

Councilmembers present: Toutant, Erickson, Mathewson, Olson, Haggerty, Powell

1. Government Officials

Ellie Dallman, County: Active transportation plan is in preliminary stages. Oriented towards pedestrians and bicyclists in unincorporated county. See <http://walkbikesmc.org>.

Youth Commission openings available. Applications available here <https://www.smchealth.org/smcy>

The HMB Library is receiving an award for best library in architecture and design.

Parallel trail - in design. Pursuing grants for construction through CCAG.

Dan asked about the barriers in the 30 Cafe RFP process; Ellie will check and get back to Dan.

Harvey Rarback, HMB Mayor: Coastside Emergency Preparedness. Last week CFPD agreed to sponsor the two local CERT teams. CEAP recent meeting requested MCC representation at their meetings (Barbra is our rep). HMB CC and MCC worked on joint letters to our Coastside state legislators.

Chris Johnson, SMC Parks Dog Management Committee: Two on-leash pilot projects have started Junipero Serra and Coyote Point parks. Some lack of clarity regarding evaluation metrics, criteria has been published. Pilot is to determine if on-leash access continues or ends. See the materials on the County Parks website. Next steps are to decide on off-leash areas in parks.

Ed Larenas, SMCHD: The district has trail has hired ESA to do engineering for repairs to West Point trail. The current plan is to not build a rock wall, but will try a sand replenishment project. At Surfers Beach ESA will work on the sand replenishment project

Dan asked about Ketch Joanne and why state wouldn't allow bathrooms to be used. Ed said he wasn't aware of details, but rules are strict.

2. Public Comment & Announcements (7:20):

No public comments.

Announcements:

Claire announced that the Climate Ready SMC Coalition will have a workshop June 15th "Turning the Tide" on sea level rise. The Coastside Memorial Day Shelter in Place exercise will be held May 25th and 26th. A first aide and CPR class sponsored by GCSD will be held June 18th.

3. Consent Agenda (7:23)

Moved Barba, second Len. Approved 6-0

4. Regular Agenda

a. (7:25) – Update on Parks Issues by Nicholas Calderon

The Quarry park master plan is in internal review, will come back to MCC in summer, to Park and Rec Commission in fall. To Board of Supervisors for approval in 2020.

Rich Sampson, CalFire Forester Division Chief for SMC and Santa Cruz County discussed plans for Quarry Park. Cal Fire locally sent three projects (Quarry Park, Kings Mt., and one in Santa Cruz county) to the new wildfire prevention grant program. All three were approved. The Quarry Park project will clear most of the existing dirt roads for 50 feet either side of all eucalyptus and other trees 10" or less, and some larger trees. It will use light equipment, no other road changes are planned.

The projects do not require CEQA process, but are going through environmental reviews, and will have a CDP for the project (on the May 22 SMC Planning Commission agenda). See <http://resources.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/Signed-Quarry-Park-County-Park-Project.pdf> for more details.

Kris Liang is concerned about lack of a permanent County Parks director. She has heard that is now delayed due to a plan to promote from within. She wants past professional experience. She is very concerned about Quarry Park master plan, based on experiences with Fitzgerald Marine Reserve master plan follow through. She asks the MCC board stay engaged. Len said Peggy will speak to that issue in a future meeting.

Ed Larenas said that the projects in presentation are great projects. Dardanelle trail project had major problems, cleared native plants that were clearly marked, asks that staff prevent similar problems at Quarry Park.

Mary Larenas said that she has heard past Parks Directors say that the FMR Master plan was a suggestion, not a framework or process, wants Quarry Park master plan to be followed. Fire suppression would be helped if no smoking rules were enforced.

b. (7:55) Presentation on Fitzgerald Marine Reserve 50th Anniversary

Karen Kalumuck discussed the 50th anniversary and history of the Reserve. She covered the Ohlone period and their experiences with the Spanish, then Mexicans, and the Ranchos. She briefly covered the post-goldrush period, Weinke and his spa. Charlie Nye's restaurant. Ocean Shore period and on to autos. Used for research by UCB students among others. Land turned into county reserve in 1969. Protected abalone and other species. 700 citations were issued for collecting in first year. In 1992 FMR became part of the Farallones sanctuary, and in 1999 part of a state reserve.

It will be a minus -0.5 tide at 10:45 on Saturday. The event starts at 10am and ends at 4pm. Booths with Academy of Sciences, Cal F&W, Marine Mammal Center, NOAA Beach watch. Pacific Beach Coalition, Surfrider, others. Attendees will be shuttled from the LDS Church parking lot to the park.

c. (8:10) Letter to Community Development Director requesting Pre-Application Workshop

Claire summarized rationale of requesting pre-app, it's a PUD site, etc.

Greg Dieguez is concerned that the sewer system might be over capacity during extreme rain periods.

Carl May agrees with request for pre-app hearing. Concerned about cumulative impact of projects like this, on top of Cypress Point, etc., especially traffic.

Marcia Yates is concerned about possible height of project, and parking.

Len asked whether pre-app discussions are constrained, or can cover issues like sewer and traffic. Lisa Ketcham said that at this point we don't yet have details.

Chris Johnson - the value of the pre-application process is that it provides an opportunity for early public expression of concerns and suggestions, including cumulative impact. Often developers are open to input and sometimes have their eyes opened on strength of public feelings.

Dan moved approval, Barbra second, approved 6-0

d. (8:35) 1. Letter to Supervisor Horsley, Caltrans & CHP summarizing concerns about road closures and emergency planning. 2. Consider letter jointly from MCC and HMB to Senator Hill & Assemblymen Berman and Mullin regarding concerns about road closures

Greg Dieguez would like stronger letter; suggests that we summarize problem, and cover non-cell communication issues. Wants MCC to ask for how problems will be addressed.

Claire said that Sen. Hill promised to get responses from the various agencies and companies, and feels it's appropriate to leave it to the Senator.

Len asked Harvey for his thoughts. Harvey trusts that Sen. Hill will work over next months to get commitments. If no response in one month, Harvey will take it up at HMB CC meeting, MCC can do same.

Heather Peters, CEC Public Information Officer Thanked Harvey for his support on CERT sponsorship. Thanked HMB for Emergency Prep event last weekend. Mentioned that in addition to CERT, they have ham radio, large animal evacuation, and are trying to rebuild the medical corps. She suggested an additional paragraph mentioning coordination with CEC.

Carl May said that he thinks that the impact of evacuees during and after a disaster have not been taken into account. He mentioned exodus during Santa Rosa fires to rural parts of Sonoma County.

Len moved we adopt the letter to Horsley with an amendment to send copies to the three legislators, second Barbra. Approved 5-1, Dan opposed.

Council discussion about letter. Dan wants it to be stronger, particularly wants first bullet to say sufficient additional power that would prevent closing tunnel. Len talked about followup he got about fan power requirements, long term power for monitors, etc. Len thinks we should not be specific until we hear from agencies.

Harvey feels the most important thing is that at least one way traffic be possible during a power failure, even if led by police officers. Or allow use of Devils Slide Trail.

Dan moved an amendment to change the first bullet to "alternative power source that would prevent power loss, such as battery backup or generator" instead of "ensure minimal". Barbra seconded. Amendment fails 1-5, Dan in favor.

Moved by Len that letters be sent, Second Barbra, Motion approved 5-1, Dan opposed.

Dave suggested an amendment to add state Legislators from second letter as Cc to the letter to Supervisor Horsley. Moved Len, second Barbra, approved 5-1. Dan opposed.

Letters to Coastside legislators. Claire summarized rationale for letter.

Moved Len, second Barbra, approve 6-0.

5. Council Activity (9:00)

Len - RCD will have event in June taking a chipper up El Granada Blvd to help clear underbrush. Reiterated that CEAP requested MCC rep at meetings. Barbra hasn't received any notifications. Last month something happened to email, but has been regular. Len will give Barbra's email to Charise.

Tamar reported on MWSD meeting; some concerns about conflict of interest with SAM.
They had a hydrologist speak on Alta Vista Well.

6. Future Agendas (9:05)

Peggy Jensen, Parks Director
Office of Sustainability

Adjournment (9:10)