Midcoast Community Council

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

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Gregg Dieguez, Chair Claire Toutant, Vice Chair Dan Haggerty, Treasurer Scott Bollinger, Secretary Gus Mattammal Kimberly Williams Ann Rothman

Minutes for Meeting of June 14, 2023

(7:07pm) Call to Order

This meeting was conducted as a hybrid teleconference meeting. The physical location for the in-person portion was held at the Granada Community Services District office, 510 Avenue Alhambra, 3rd floor, El Granada, CA.

Council members present:

- Gregg Dieguez, Chair
- Claire Toutant, Vice Chair
- Dan Haggerty, Treasurer
- Scott Bollinger, Secretary
- Gus Mattammal
- Ann Rothman-Remote present
- Kimberly Williams

1. (7:10pm) Board of Supervisors report and reports from other government officials

- A. Harvey Rarback, Half Moon Bay City Council, reported on the following items:
 - 1) Affordable housing for farm workers:
 - a) The affordable housing project at 555 Kelly Avenue is moving forward as a joint project with ALAS and Mercy Housing. A permit for construction is being sought for the site.
 - b) The City received a grant of \$5 million for a housing project at 880 Stone Pine Road to begin development within the year.
 - 2) Half Moon Bay's short-term rental ordinance was approved by the CA Coastal Commission. It limits unhosted short-term rentals to 60 days per year.
 - 3) The City Council approved its workplan which includes improving community broadband, exploring annexation of Moonridge, Miramar and farmlands off of Hwy 92, as well as exploring a skyway transportation option.

Council Comments/Questions:

 A request was made for the MCC to have a role in any annexation proposal process for Miramar.

- It was noted that the MCC is requesting funds from the County for a feasibility study for improvement of communications in the unincorporated areas.
- Concerns were raised about the design of 555 Kelly Avenue, aesthetics and height.
- The question was asked who would benefit from the annexation of Miramar. Harvey replied that Miramar could benefit from being part of a single entity in terms of coordination, repairs, and other City services.
- The point was made that if HMB annexes Moonridge, also annexing Miramar balances the City's revenue, making the annexation affordable.
- It was announced that Supervisor Mueller and Mayor Penrose will be hosting community office hours on Thursday, June 15th at Café Mezzaluna at 9am.

B. (7:25) Krystlyn Giedt, Coastside Chamber of Commerce, announced the following:

- 1) On Friday, June 16th at 2:00pm the mural at the sheriff's office will be unveiled.
- 2) Supervisor Mueller's open house will also be on June 16th at 4:00pm.
- 3) The pride event in HMB went well with around 500 people in attendance.
- 4) She thanked the MCC for participating in the Emergency Preparedness Event.

2.) (7:30) Public Comment:

- 1) An announcement was made that SamTrans will start offering an on-demand microtransit service in Half Moon Bay and El Granada on June 18th. The free SamTrans Ride Plus app is compatible for Android and Apple devices and can be downloaded from Google Play and the App Store June 18th to July 31st.
- 2) Starting the public MCC meeting with the pledge of allegiance and recognizing veterans on the midcoast during Memorial Day and Veterans Day was brought up as a future item for discussion.

3) Consent Agenda

- A) Approve the Minutes of May 24th 2023
- B) Approve letter regarding SB 423 alerting Coastal Housing Permitting
- C) Approve a letter to fund wastewater testing for Fentanyl, etc.

Items A and C were approved by a 7/0 vote. Item B was pulled for further discussion.

4.) (7:35) Regular Agenda:

a. Quarry Park Off-Leash Dog Pilot update on findings, Hannah Ormshaw, SMC Parks

Hannah Ormshaw presented findings from the off-leash dog pilot program at Quarry Park. Park staff monitored for presence of dog waste, harassment of wildlife, dog entry into sensitive areas, dogs off trail, leash compliance, interactions with park visitors, and changes in park visitation numbers. These observations were taken two days a week over a four-hour period. She noted that data for fecal coliform levels was inconclusive. The pilot overall has produced mixed results so far, with some monitored areas of compliance showing small improvement while others saw a decrease in compliance or remained level.

Presentations will be given at the SMC Parks Commission meeting on July 6, 2023, and at the SMC Board of Supervisors on July 25, 2023. SMC Parks will be recommending to continue to have off-leash dog recreation at Quarry Park.

Public Comments/Questions:

- Fran Pollard asked if the dog waste levels and the fecal coliform levels are acceptable.
 Hannah responded that SMC Parks will continue to seek improvement but there is no target level. Fran expressed concern that dogs are trespassing into the "tot lot" where children play and Parks staff are not enforcing the rules.
- Burnett Silveria also raised the issue that off-leash dog owners aren't observing the separation of the children's play area, allowing their pets into the area that is off limits.
- Scott Bollinger asked who can give citations to those who violate the rules. Hannah replied that only rangers and ranger staff can give a citation.

b. CARES Program update, Jeff Essex, Executive Director, El Centro De Libertad

Jeff Essex reported that the CARES program, a partnership between City of Half Moon Bay and El Centro de Libertad, has been very successful to date. The program has worked well with the police department in providing response to calls where police intervention isn't needed. He reported that the Behavioral Health Commission has provided information to the County including data about return on investment. CARES recently secured money from the state of California that will apply through 2026.

- It was suggested that a recommendation be made to the County Board of Supervisors to expand the CARES Program to all of San Mateo County.
- It was also emphasized that the current program covers from Half Moon Bay to Montara, and there is a need to make the program more visible to the unincorporated areas.

c. Transportation Issues, Len Erickson

Len Erickson provided an overview of transportation issues on the Midcoast including the Surfer's Beach area. He reminded the Council and the Community that the original Coastal Development Permit (CDP) for Surfer's Beach will be up for review in 2025. Len outlined a Surfer's Beach action plan noting that a Caltrans geotechnical report is being prepared for evaluation of coastal trail repair options. Any project would need Coastal Commission review if changes are pursued. He will review the geotechnical report at the June 28th MCC meeting.

Additional projects are the bike lanes which would impact road shoulder parking, Caltrans right of way, and the Granada Community Park/Community Center project.

Len suggested the MCC's role is to understand the issues and where contacts can be made. He recommended the following coverage:

- Ann, Dan, and Gus to be the MCC ad-hoc committee.
- Ann and Kimberly would cover Moss Beach Hwy 1 corridor.
- Gus would cover the East Side Trail

Comments/Questions:

 Concern was expressed about visitor parking and removal of the GCSD existing parking area.

- Council members were reminded not to represent individual opinions or external policies as the policy of the MCC.
- A member of the public, Fran Pollard, requested to be part of the ad-hoc committee for coordination on bike lane location.

Action Item: Some of the recommended subgroup assignments to members of the MCC may be in conflict with the Brown Act. Gus will check with the County Attorney, Tim Fox, for direction regarding compliance with the act.

d. Retreat Follow-up round table discussion

A framework was proposed for how to categorize and manage the MCC priorities put forward at the retreat. The following points were discussed.

Comments/Questions:

- It was suggested to use the list for awareness and as a guideline but to focus on what can be done now and to clarify deliverables.
- It was pointed out that the Supervisor's version of CRISP may not match the CRISP priorities as originally defined by the MCC.
- Mike O'Neill announced that the CRISP proposal will be on the Emergency Management meeting agenda on June 15th, and advised everyone to review the staff report.
- Burnett Silveria asked how to address the items that aren't on the priority list and to integrate these into the topic areas presented.
- It was recommended that Chair Dieguez be in charge of the overall planning document; that this can function as an agenda planning tool.
- It was noted that budget discussions at the Board of Supervisors are coming up and there was a question about when the MCC would create an ask for funding for specific projects or studies if needed.
- Mike O'Neil clarified that it is late to submit a request at this juncture since funding allocations are already proposed. There may be a midyear allocation.
- Fran Pollard encouraged the MCC to proceed with submitting a budget request to the County for the needs of the midcoast.

Action items:

- Gregg Dieguez will create a spreadsheet with deliverables for the document, for MCC members to review and comment. He will work with Kimberly and another Council member to revise the list and bring it back to Council.
- Gregg Dieguez will create a budget plan for the action items. A workgroup of Gregg Dieguez, Gus Mattammal and Dan Haggerty will submit budget item requests to the County.

5.) (9:40) Review item 3.b pulled from the Consent Agenda.

A proposed letter expressing concerns about SB 423 which would alter multi-family housing permit approval in the coastal zone was reviewed and discussed.

Upon a motion made by Scott Bollinger and seconded by Gus Mattammal, the letter was unanimously approved as submitted, 7/0.

6.) Council Activity:

- Gregg Dieguez reported successful community outreach at Emergency Preparedness Day.
- Dan Haggerty expressed concern about prioritizing and scheduling agenda items too quickly. He suggested defining metrics for what qualifies to be on the agenda, to create a more focused and more efficient process.
- Gus Mattammal talked with Rob Bertolli about how annexation works and can share what he learned with anyone who may be interested.
- Kimberly Williams attended a portion of the Coastal Commission meeting and recommended the Council read the Commission staff's report on SB 423.

7.) Future Agenda:

- Retreat priority follow up.
- Montara mountain fire road issues.
- Dr. Travis Longcore to give a presentation on artificial lighting on July 12th.
- Propose lighting policy to the County.

Adjournment (10:05pm)

Kimberly Williams Moved, Scott Bollnger 2nd, Passed 7-0