

## 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  
<http://www.MidcoastCommunityCouncil.org>

Claire Toutant, Chair  
Gregg Dieguez, Vice Chair  
Michelle Weil, Treasurer  
Len Erickson, Secretary  
Jill Grant, Acting Secretary  
Dave Olson  
Dan Haggerty

## Minutes for Meeting of June 8, 2022

**Call to Order** (7:01pm) Five council members present (Jill Grant, Len Erickson absent). This meeting was conducted virtually in compliance with State and County COVID-related orders.

### 1. Report from Board of Supervisors and Government Officials (7:03)

**Lena Silberman (Aide to SMC Supervisor Horsley):** Presentation for RCD El Granada Wildlife Resiliency is on June 28th at 6-7:30 pm. Junetenth webinars are ongoing at SMC. The community is invited to attend future webinars: June 14th (local perspectives on housing), June 21st (education), June 28th (black leadership, creativity, resilience, and looking to the future). Next SMC Board of Supervisors meeting will ratify the agriculture commission - built around participation from local farm workers. Lena is looking into composting sites in the county and handling the fentanyl crisis. Covid numbers are very high in SMC. The county recommends boosters.

**Cid Young:** Did the numbers for the one-day point in time homeless count published?

**Lena Silberman (Aide to SMC Supervisor Horsley):** Not sure. The county's "Ending homelessness program" presentation was given and is available online.

**Harvey Rarback:** Homeless count was published in the Half Moon Bay Review (local newspaper). The City of HMB is applying for Eastside Trail from Spindriff Road to Frenchman's Creek with a pedestrian bridge over the creek and a study for a roundabout to replace the signal at Frenchman's Creek which is not compliant with Caltrans standards and causes traffic congestion. Christina Corpus is the new sheriff in town and will replace Sheriff Bolanas at the beginning of 2023. The City of HMB needs to renegotiate their contract with the sheriff.

**Cid Young:** Will there be more enforcement in HMB at the homeless hotels?

**Harvey Rarback:** You get what you pay for.

**Cid Young:** Lots of stolen items on Nextdoor (local community app). Will the City of HMB consider upping their budget for policing?

**Harvey Rarback:** Homeless hotel (Coast House) has not raised crime rate. Police budget is ~23% of the entire budget and will probably stay the same.

**Dan Haggerty (MCC):** Frenchman's Creek roundabout would be a small radius (due to space) and sufficiently slow down speed of cars. Would you support using Vision Software (used by Caltrans) to show how vehicles would move through the new roundabout and pedestrians moving on the sidewalks?

**Harvey Rarback:** At this point, we are just applying for a grant but the application does include a study which could use your recommended software and I support that.

**Claire Toutant (MCC):** Announcement - there are four open seats on the MCC with the election taking place this fall of 2022. You must declare your candidacy by August 12, 2022. Details are on the MCC website ([midcoastcommunitycouncil.org](http://midcoastcommunitycouncil.org)). For more help, use the SMC Elections website or contact MCC councilmember, Dave , for assistance. The eucalyptus tree cutting exemption has been extended for another year. The Parallel Trail has broken ground and will be complete at the

end of summer 2022. Recommends the "California Field Atlas: the Coasts of California" as an excellent read.

### **3. Consent Agenda (18:50)**

**Motion to Approve** minutes for May 25, 2022 Regular Meeting, recognize Pride Month and World Oceans Day, renew Resolution to Continue Remote Meetings in light of continued COVID risk, and approve policy that any candidates for election to the MCC will pay to publish their own candidate statements, which will be limited to 200 words.

Moved (Olson), 2nd (Dieguez). Approved 5-0.

### **4. Regular Agenda (21:00)**

**4a. Presentation of MidPeninsula Open Space Trail Update Information on Specific Transportation Demand Management to support Purissima Multimodal Trail Project (Tyler Smith and Tina Hugg).** This presentation is an update from the Feb. 2022 meeting. Midpen is looking for community feedback on ways to get people out of their cars while using these remote areas. 200,000 people visit Purissima Creek each year, specifically looking at the 4 trailhead parking lots to improve visitor experience. Future community presentations will be held on June 29th Open House and there will be another virtual Open House in mid-July.

### **Public Clarifying Questions & Comments**

**Cid Young:** Will you partner with others for the shuttle like at Tunitas Creek Beach? Now charging \$7.19/gallon for premium gas in HMB. Will this mean more visitors and what about the waste of fossil fuels, and gridlock? Will parking lots be impervious materials? There is no storm drainage out here on the coast.

**Tina Hugg (Midpen):** Want options that don't rely on cars. Visitation has not gone down due to high gas prices. Looking at EV charging stations. Noted impervious comment.

### **Council Clarifying Questions & Comments**

**Michelle Weil (MCC):** Like the idea of signage for new trails to increase visitor use. A reservation system will not work for families with small children. Public transit may help those without families. Appreciate Midpen's work on this issue.

**Dan Haggerty (MCC):** Not in favor of striped parking standards or excessive signs which take away from the natural experience. Thanks to Midpen - a great asset to the community.

**Dave Olson (MCC):** Midpen and the County added more parking signs to restrict parking along the roads for fire safety. Would use and be happy to see a shuttle moving visitors to parks midweek. As a new owner of an e-bike, will you consider e-bikes on trails? Thanks for the process.

**Gregg Dieguez (MCC):** The directions to the preserve are unclear. There are great views along the way but I could use only a few pull-outs along the road to the preserve. Bikes need to use the pull-outs. Maybe have no car access with only bikes and buses allowed? Is there a map of the trails to put on a phone during hiking? Maybe e-bikes at a central place for use instead of cars?

**Claire Toutant (MCC):** Please come back when you have more to tell us.

**4b. Review of Policies and Procedures (Olson) Discussion of issues related to use of committees by the MCC, and other topics.** Committees for elected bodies include Standing Committees with a quorum or less than a quorum and one or more public members on it are required to have an agenda, minutes and be publicly accessible (zoom). An ad hoc Committee has no agenda, minutes, etc. and are used for specific projects of a limited time duration. The MCC has not had standing committees for years. We used to have a planning/zoning standing committee which helped create the Coastside Design Review Committee (CDRC). Meeting materials should be posted at least 3 days (72 hours) prior to the meeting to allow public and council member review before the meeting. Major changes to letters at MCC meetings should be avoided. If major changes are required it should go back to the committee for revisions and be presented at the next MCC meeting. If there is a time crunch, the MCC can declare a special meeting.

## No Public Clarifying Questions or Comments

### Council Clarifying Questions & Comments

**Gregg Dieguez (MCC):** Would like to retain old MCC members to advise. Does that take a Standing Committee? And when can a committee speak for the MCC? Conflicting materials should be posted at least 3 days (72 hours) prior to the meeting to allow public and council member review before the meeting or it should have a special meeting.

**Claire Toutant (MCC):** Can a council member contact a past MCC council member to discuss issues even if it is every week? I would support posting materials even more than 72 hours prior to a meeting.

**Dan Haggerty:** The MCC has not had Standing Committees because there hasn't been the need. I think the MCC needs to assess on a case-by-case basis whether a letter is to be edited during the meeting or not.

**Dave Olson (MCC):** Any councilmember can always communicate with any members of the public but when it's more than a quorum (4 or more for MCC) of council members meeting with the public, it may violate the Brown Act. If it's a committee contacting the public then you must follow the committee rules. For example, our MCC Planning Committee is not run as a committee and we should stop calling it a committee to avoid Brown Act violations. The Committee cannot speak for the MCC unless it is authorized by the MCC. Alternate agenda materials should be posted at least 3 days (72 hours) prior to the meeting to allow public and council member review before the meeting or it should have a special meeting. A council member may contact a past MCC council member to discuss issues even if it is every week

#### 4c. Continuing correspondence with the County regarding effects of leaded aircraft fuel.

#### Consider the current position and correspondence of the MCC regarding potential lead hazards.

This letter disputes statements from DPW using the [Reid-Hillview Airport Airborne Lead Study Report](#) as evidence. The letter asks SMC for an independent assessment of the safety of agricultural practices at the airport and for a reduction of "touch and goes" at the airport. The letter supports using Measure K funds to install an unleaded fuel tank as soon as possible and prior to 2030.

Motion: Approve letter (Dieguez) 2nd (Olson). **Public Clarifying Questions & Comments**

**Abby Foster:** A public school teacher who supports the letter and has observed symptoms of high blood lead levels in Moss Beach children and is concerned about the issue.

**Harold:** The letter should be expanded to address the airport military usage, 12 years of drag racing, live fire fighting exercises, Dream Machines (2019 event had 3000 cars/planes), and daily flights and not limited to the one farmer who delivers to local restaurants and farmers' markets.

**Karen Wang:** I live in Montara and am concerned with aviation gas. I support the letter. What about the health of the farm workers? If the county is renting the land to farmers they should investigate this potential occupational exposure.

**Steve:** The letter is pretty cool. Why didn't the county require unleaded fuel at both airports? I like when you change letters. you represent us so it's good when you stick all your opinions into the letter. It makes it better. Maybe revise the letter to include Harold and Karen's comments?

**Lena:** This is a very important topic. They had 17,000 blood samples available. SMC does not have this many. The Supervisor supports and will advocate for the letter.

**Cid Young:** Feels like a brush off, not getting unleaded gas here. The airport is on septic which goes into the main aquifer located at the airport. Lead is polluting the groundwater. Include this in the letter. The public airport should connect to the sewer.

**Lauren:** A mother of two children who supports the letter and wants action now.

### Council Clarifying Questions & Comments

**Dan Haggerty:** I like that we live in an agricultural area. I like to see these fields worked with minimal farm equipment, spraying, etc. producing much higher quality food than big AG operations which feed

larger supermarkets. We should tread carefully, walk lightly so as not to hurt our agriculture. Pushing this issue before we truly know all the pros and cons may harm these farmers, before a scientific study is done. We should focus on providing unleaded fuel.

**Claire Toutant:** I agree with Dan. I don't want to threaten a farmer's livelihood. We talked about using RCD or UC-Extension to look at the (airport farming) situation and evaluate farming practices.

**Gregg Dieguez (MCC):** I think we should approve the letter. It's better to get the letter out now than to expand the topic. We can expand to the other topics later. In regards to Cid's comment, the airport is not the main source of water.

**Dave Olson:** I appreciate the work that went into this and I'm happy with the result.

**Michelle Weil:** Thanks everyone. I agree with Gregg to approve the letter now. I agree with Dan and don't want to hurt farmers. We need to know if farming is safe though.

**Claire Toutant:** This is a very complicated issue. I'm hesitant to ask for things if they aren't needed. I'd like someone who knows something about lead and AG to take this on. I want to approve the letter to show we want action on this. In regards to why the county didn't put an unleaded tank at HMB, San Carlos airport has a much larger volume of sales than HMB which sells very little.

Motion: Delete paragraph four (Haggerty) No 2nd. Dies on the floor.

Motion to Approve letter passes 4-1 (Haggerty opposed)

## **5. Council Activity (2:12)**

**Michelle Weil:** The El Granada RCD Scoping Meeting is on June 28th from 6-7:30 pm via zoom. The Panorama report will be released only to partners of the small team including Michelle Weil to provide feedback before it will be shared with the community on the 28th. Michelle was approved to be an Associate Director at the RCD.

**Gregg Dieguez:** Asked Michelle to share the report with other members of the MCC but she refused before the final recommendation was prepared. He stated, "I have a problem with that. Neither Len and I are members of the public wandering around blabbing but are people who could constructively contribute."

## **7. Future Agendas - RCD El Granada Scoping Project, Seamless Transportation project, School Traffic Safety, Midcoast Pride, Midcoast History, Midcoast Aging Project**

## **Adjournment**

Moved (Dieguez) 2nd (Olson). Approved 5-0