

<p>Midcoast Community Council <i>An elected Advisory Council to the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors representing Montara, Moss Beach, El Granada, Princeton, and Miramonte</i> PO Box 248, Moss Beach, CA 94038 http://www.MidcoastCommunityCouncil.org</p>	<p>Claire Toutant, Chair Gregg Dieguez, Vice Chair Michelle Weil, Treasurer Len Erickson, Secretary Bill Grant, Assistant Secretary Dan Haggerty Dave Olson</p>
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DRAFT Minutes for Meeting of July 13, 2022

Call to Order (7:00 pm) All council members present. This meeting was conducted virtually in compliance with State and County COVID-related orders.

1. Report from Board of Supervisors and Government Officials (7:02)

Lena Silberman (Aide to SMC Supervisor Horsley): BA.5 is now the dominant Covid variant in San Mateo County and infections are up. At the end of June, SMC was in the CDC’s high tier, with 42 residents currently hospitalized. Prior to June, there were only 20 hospitalized. SMC recommends wearing a mask indoors and to get your vaccine booster to lower your risk. Although there are high rates of transmission, hospitals are not overwhelmed. On July 12th, the Cannabis Ordinance Update for cultivation was passed by BoS. On July 26th, the Board of Supervisors (BoS) will consider “Connect the Coastside” and the public is invited to comment.

At the request of Supervisor Horsley, Lena is pursuing additional funds for the El Granada Chipping Program and specific El Granada projects to reduce wildfire risk in response to the Draft RCD Scoping Project.

SMC has given \$50,000 to Abundant Grace for their Full Circle Food Justice Program and their farm apprenticeship programs and \$30,000 to the Cares Program for a new vehicle to expand the program to the Midcoast. The SMC Alert System is being updated and will be only limited to emergency situations and not traffic instances. The Department of Emergency Management is working on some major evacuation planning and hired a GIS expert and Chief Cosgrave. Lastly, the BoS is also working towards a minimum wage increase and a county Farm Workers Commission.

Gregg Dieguez: What’s the status of the county wildfire Coordinator? I heard Brian Kelly’s leaving so when will that be staffed?

Lena Silberman: There is a steering Committee working on this composed of Brian Kelly, and others from CalFire and Supervisors Canepa and Horsley. They already have three candidates lined up so it looks like there will not be a break in staffing.

Michelle Weil: We hope that a non-emergency road closure would still be reported on the SMC alert system. I would like to give Coastsiders input to the new person.

Cid Young: A minor traffic accident road closure needs notification. There was a traffic fatality accident on Hwy 92 and there was not one SMC alert. I brought this up at the board of supervisors meeting. My friends in Woodside were not notified about the Edgewood fire because they were not signed up for SMC Alerts. Luckily the sheriff was going door-to-door. The county needs another way to notify during power outages and for people not signed up. Coastsiders need to have SMC notification for minor traffic accidents as well as emergencies. Zone Haven only works if you are signed up for SMC Alerts.

Claire Toutant: This will be on the MCC agenda once staffing is tightened up.

Lena Silberman: We still want to push for people to sign up for SMC Alerts. The Board of Supervisors is looking at ways to notify residents during power failure in emergency situations where you cannot use SMC alert. It is always an issue in evacuations if power goes out. Sheriff going door-to-door is normal in evacuations. The county already uses radio ads and billboards to encourage people to sign up for SMC Alerts.

Dan Haggerty: Eucalyptus were cut at Frenchman's Creek and Medio Creek and are already regrowing. Can Lena ask Caltrans to treat the remaining stumps and regrowth, maybe as the tree expert recommended, remove the foliage and cover with light depriving material. The sooner the better.

Len Erickson: Since the RCD Scoping Project is finished, what is Supervisor Horsley asking them to do with these additional funds.

Lena Silverman: \$350,000 is for the Chipping Program and for the RCD to develop a project in El Granada based on the Scoping Project Recommendations.

Claire Toutant: The RCD Scoping Project will be on the next MCC agenda.

Krystlyn: Can the Chamber of Commerce participate in discussions about the minimum wage so they can press businesses for numbers coming out?

Lena Silverman: Yes.

Barbara Dye (GCSD): Thanked Lena for protecting 4th graders at El Granada Elementary Native Garden near County Multi Modal Trail. Contractor installed orange construction fencing for avoidance. Invites everybody to the opening of the Pump Track at Quarry Park which is part of GCSD. Park at the elementary school and walk up. There will be booths with food, demonstrations, and GCSD will have copies of the current Burnham Park plan but will not be taking public input. They will have community input sessions coming up for example to choose the playground equipment. GCSD is asking people to sign up on their website so that they can be notified of these sessions.

Harvey Rarback Half Moon Bay City Council: I attended Chief Cosgrave's Unpinning (retirement) party. He is an excellent emergency preparedness Expert. He was about to work for the county and expected to see him a lot more on the coast. On July 12th, the HMB Planning Commission reviewed Caltrans proposed Variable Message Signs and recommended denial of the CDC permit which will be decided at the August meeting. I'm on the aging task force for Half Moon Bay, mostly focused on medical. We are working on making transportation options available for all members of the Coastside including the elderly.

Cid Young: I heard a new sheriff substation will be at 270 Capistrano in Harbor Village. Do you know if they are leaving the Moss Beach substation or Half Moon Bay?

Harvey Rarback: They are not planning to leave the substation on Kelly Avenue that we paid to update. I'm not aware of any other plans outside the cities.

Michelle Dragony: It's the Sheriff's Activity League that will be on Capistrano.

2. Public Comment & Announcements (7:15 pm)

Claire Toutant: On July 18th, the elections office will be open for people to file their candidacy for SMC elections. You need to go there in person and bring a check and your statement (if you want to be on the ballot).

Dave Olson: The decking and railing were removed from the existing Medio Creek bridge and the entire bridge will be off-hauled tomorrow.

3. Consent Agenda (17:30)

Motion to Approve

- a. Minutes for April 27th, May 11th and June 8th, 2022, Regular Meetings,
 - b. Recognize Independent Retailers Month,
 - c. Renew Resolution to Continue Remote Meetings in light of continued COVID risk,
 - d. Approve the Treasurer's Report for 2021-2022
- Moved (Dieguez), 2nd (Grant). Approved 7-0.

4. Regular Agenda (7:28 pm)

4.a. Presentation Aging on the Coast (Sandy Winter, Executive Director of Senior Coastsiders) www.seniorcoastsiders.org

Senior Coastsiders provides classes, activities, special events, support, safe Center, minor home repair, emergency preparedness, meals, transportation to the Senior Center in HMB, grocery stores, and healthcare appointments.

Public Clarifying Questions & Comments

Cid Young: Are most services offered by Senior Coastsiders in HMB? So for services I'd have to drive 14 miles to HMB? Does Ready Coast transport able bodied people to the center. It would be nice to have a center in Montara.

Sandy Winter: No, since Covid began most of our programming is on the Zoom app. We have classes and speakers. You can also have meals delivered and we are very interested in providing programming at the upcoming, new community center in El Granada. Ready Coast transports all seniors. Call our manager to schedule a date/time. Ready Coast will come pick you up and bring you to Half Moon Bay and take you back home. We also do grocery shopping trips on Friday to Safeway and New Leaf. Yes, we would like to have a satellite in Montara.

Council Clarifying Questions & Comments

Gregg Dieguez: How do you apply for your services? How do you volunteer?

Sandy Winter: Go to “Happenings” on our website. You can sign up for our newsletter, the Beacon, which has all the classes and events coming up. We also have a full-time Care manager. She provides information, assistance, research and referrals to anyone who has a specific need.

Dan Haggerty: A lot of accidents for the elderly occur on stairs. Is there any resource? Likes Claire’s new hairstyle.

Sandy Winter: There is a Fall Prevention Coalition in San Mateo County. They were recently funded to do Home Assessments where they go into someone’s home to assess the fall risk then come up with remediation.

Len Erickson: Do you have ways to identify people who want to be connected online but have technology issues?

Sandy Winter: We have volunteer computer tutors at the Center who provide assistance four days a week in half hour increments to use a phone or laptop or computer. We have the Meals on Wheels program so sometimes the person delivering the meal can go into the home and help someone on the computer. Older adults do pretty well with technology. We could talk to family members if there is an issue in the home or send someone from the Center.

4.b. Introduction to Firewise Communities by David Shew (Insurance consultant) from the Wildfire Defense Works Program. (8:08 pm) www.nfpa.org

A volunteer recognition program provides a collaborative framework to help neighbors in a geographic area get organized, find direction, and take action to increase the ignition resistance of their homes and community and to reduce wildfire risks at the local level. Any community that meets a set of voluntary criteria on an annual basis and retains an “In Good Standing Status” may identify itself as being a Firewise® Site.

Goal of the program is to satisfy insurance companies that a home is prepared for fire.

Public and Council Clarifying Questions or Comments <[Link](#)>

Len Erickson: What is the role of the individual versus the community. Answer: Individual efforts aren’t effective. It’s important to have total community involvement and local fire officials can help identify those areas. Calfire is aligned with supporting this process.

Cid Young: How are severity zones established? What is the appropriate width of a fuel break.
Answers: There are multiple factors, topography, vegetation patterns. What if individuals don't want to be involved – Define the full neighborhood. Those who are reluctant to join in may come on when the process is underway. How far can embers be blown? Wind can drive embers for miles.

Gregg Dieguez (MCC): What are best practices for establishing a defensible community?
Answer: Oakmont Retirement Community in Santa Rosa that has faced several threats and evacuations and has been a Firewise Community since 2018. Does being a firewise community have advantages for insurance coverage? Answer: Yes. Many other questions were asked and David said he will send further information.

Dan Haggerty (MCC): How do you treat fire vents? Steel wool?
Answers: Roof vents provide airflow so steel wool is not the best. Bush fire mesh: A stainless steel mesh is best for embers.

Michelle Weils (MCC): What is the budget for a community to set this up?
Answer: You renew every year. The program requires 1 hour of work per structure per year.

4.c. History of El Granada by Barbara Dye (GCSD). Ocean Shore Railroad, Shoreline Investment Company, real estate development planned by Harvey Bennett (existing maps/photographs) and Daniel Burnham.

Public Clarifying Questions & Comments

Cid Young: Farallon city and Farallon Heights are still Montara. Marine view Terrace and Riviera ocean tracks are on the west side. Carlos Street used to be Highway 1 and current Highway 1 is where the railroad tracks were. They used to give away small lots in Bingo Games.

Council Clarifying Questions & Comments

Dan Haggerty: Dan Haggerty: We are rich with history in this area. The El Granada railroad station was never moved, Monster Sushi.

4d. Summer MCC Newsletter (9:33 pm)

Articles (draft due July 30, 2022):

Transportation - Gregg
Wildfire - Len
Aging - Claire
Pump Track - Len
Lead at Airport - Michelle
Editor - Gregg
Technical editor - Michelle

Motion to Co-sponsor Midpen's 50th Anniversary Celebration (9:44 pm) Motion (Olson), 2nd (Dieguez) Approved (7 to 0)

Event will be at the Johnston house in Half Moon Bay on Saturday, September 10th, from 12 to 5pm. Booth for MCC. We should get the word out that we are in need of new MCC members. Dan will donate his canopy for the event. Claire, Dave, and Jill volunteer to man booth. Michelle offers to prepare marketing materials.

Len: ~~Midpen cannot do any project work in the mid coast~~ (Midpen corrected this point. It has authority to establish preserves in the Midcoast, but no plans to do so in the foreseeable future, national, and local parks in the mid coast.

Motion to appoint two Assistant Secretary's - Dan Haggerty as MCC Meeting Secretary (call role/votes) and Jill Grant to do the Minutes. Motion (Olson), 2nd (Grant) Approved (7 to 0)

Len Erickson: In favor of the idea to separate secretarial roles.

Dave Olson: Asks Jill and Dan if they are willing to take on the roles.

5. Council Activity (9:51 pm) – Correspondence and meetings attended

Gregg Dieguez: SAM overflow incident recently. Pushing for fiscal stability. This could be an agenda item.

Dave Olson: Attended Open Space 6pm meetings on multi modal access to Purissima Creek.

Len Erickson: Caltrans still discussing installing additional stop signs in Montara at Farallone View.

6. Future Agendas

Seamless Transportation (next meeting), Scoping Project report, follow-up on school traffic safety, water conservation, Caltrans SR1 Repair Guidelines, SMC Alert.

Adjournment (10:03 pm)

Moved (Weils) 2nd (Haggerty). Approved 7-0