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 <u>http://www.MidcoastCommunityCouncil.org</u> Michelle Weil, Chair Claire Toutant, Vice Chair Len Erickson, Secretary Dave Olson, Treasurer Gregg Dieguez Jill Grant Dan Haggerty

Minutes for Meeting of March 24, 2021

Call to Order (7pm)

All Council Members present. Twenty-four others present. This meeting was conducted virtually in compliance of State and County COVID-related orders.

1. Board of Supervisors' Report

Lena Silberman gave updates on Covid-19 status of County overall, vaccinations and upcoming vaccination events. A new program has started to support landlords not receiving rent payments. The Coastal Commission approved the LCP amendment for the Cypress Point affordable housing development rezoning. She announced the Caltrans meeting on emergency signs for April 8.

2. (7:25) Public Comment & Announcement

Anne Martin spoke on behalf of her neighbors concerns about a tree removal permit that the MCC review committee had reported "No comments". They have concerns about past violations and erosion. The MCC review committee agreed to make comments reflecting those concerns. Brad Lucas spoke in agreement

Ann Rothman spoke on Cypress Point local residents and workers preference requesting a citizens committee. Dave Olson mentioned that because MidPen is the property manager, he thought that would raise discrimination issues.

Carlyle Ann Young spoke on the same issue as Anne Martin, she agrees with neighbors.

Paul Blanton spoke on the same issue as Anne, he shares the same concerns. A document was shared showing the area of concern and some photos.

Michelle announced that the Winter 2021 MCC Newsletter was emailed.

3. (7:39) Consent Agenda

a. Approval of minutes for March 10th

Pulled from consent for discussion at end of regular agenda

4. Regular Agenda

- **a.** (7:40) **First Rain 2020 Results** by Noah Katz, San Mateo RCD. Noah summarized the reasons for the water analysis, and highlights of the results (the presentation is on the MCC site). It's via google earth for interactive use.
- There was discussion (starting at 8pm) about some of the areas, and possible causes, as well as requests to add additional areas in the future. Mention was made of the Surfrider water sampling program, as well as the county sampling program. The First Rain report is a once/year analysis, rather than the weekly or semi-weekly analysis by other organizations.
- There were questions about why the collection sites are chosen as they are. It's partly to maintain historical trends, and largely based on accessibility to the site, including during heavy rains, and at night.

There were also questions and discussion about enforcement against sources of pollution, particularly organic.

b. (8:25) Connect the Coastside Letter

- Len presented the letter, and discussed the points in it, and why those points had been chosen for comment.
- There was discussion of an alternative letter, or significant changes to this letter. The result of the discussion was that we really had to get it out by March 30th, so only small changes were feasible prior to voting.
- Members of the community spoke about their concerns about Connect the Coastside, and things that they would like to have added. The public will have a chance to comment further both at the Board of Supervisors, and at the Coastal Commission hearings on Connect the Coastside. Also that the current version may not be the version voted on by the Board for submission to the Coastal Commission; there is back and forth discussion going on between County and Coastal Commission staff.
- Particular items of concern during the discussion were pedestrian crossings, the Delay Index measurements and justifications, as well as details of some of the possible projects listed in the document.
- At 9:01 Dave moved to approve the letter as is. 2nd by Claire.
- At 9:04pm Dan proposed an amendment to remove the phrase "high quality" from the first sentence of the letter. 2nd by Jill. Amendment withdrawn by Dan after discussion.
- At 9:06 Claire moved to amend the Safe Crossings section to read "The MCC and the County will continue to work with Caltrans to improve the safety of the crosswalk at Virginia in Moss Beach. Development of safe crossings of the Highway is a top priority for locations throughout the MidCoast.". 2nd by Dave. Amendment approved 7-0.
- Dan then made an amendment to add "pedestrian underpass potential should be considered". 2nd by Jill. Amendment fails 5-2, with Jill and Dan in favor
- Dan then made an amendment to modify the monitoring plan sentence to add "Establish effective and appropriate"... 2nd Dave. Passes 7-0.
- At 9:13 Dan made a motion to strike the entire first sentence of the letter. Died for lack of a 2nd.
- Dave called the question on further debate, then withdrew it after it was pointed out that Jill had not yet spoken.
- Jill asked whether if the CtC was approved, would it allocate funding to any projects, or cause any direct changes. Answers from various councilmembers was that no, that would not be a direct result; it would provide a framework for future funding efforts.

The letter was approved as amended 6-1, Dan dissenting

c. (9:20) Fire Preparedness Meeting Preparation

- Gregg summarized the set of issues that he and others on the council and in the community see, and their desire for timely action on the part of the County and other agencies.
- Dan spoke specifically to wanting both a short term and 5 year detailed list of action items from the County, Caltrans, and other agencies. He walked through Quarry

Park, and isn't seeing any resprouting yet from the eucalyptus that was cut last year.

- Jill spoke to the topic list that the 3 of them had developed as guidance for the April 12 meeting. Dave said that because the list had been posted so late, that he hadn't seen it until the day of the meeting, and requested materials available earlier.
- Community members spoke favorably on those points, and about wanting to see the tree ordinance completed, including easier ways to cut down trees that increase fire danger. Multiple people on the council and from the public specifically requested that trees close to evacuation routes be trimmed or cut down, as well as feeling that the county was not spending enough money on the Midcoast, compared to other parts of the County, relative to the danger and number of homes at risk. There were comments about needing to have an ongoing effort, not just a one time effort.
- Claire mentioned that there are bills before the state Legislature to provide money for fire preparedness to reduce risk, develop plans to fight fires, etc.

d. (9:58) Discussion of March 10th, 2021 minutes (from Consent Agenda)

- Dave said that he requested that this be moved from consent, because he felt that the new proposed minutes were too brief, that they did not capture any real sense of what had been discussed. The previous drafts had been too long to understand, or to easily check for errors. Several others on the council and from the community agreed. Dan prefers the very brief format.
- Len wanted to decrease the effort to create minutes but handle the discussion aspect by including the automated live caption file with minimal editing. He said that he had discussed the idea with the County Counsel's office. Dave felt that there were too many errors for that to be a good idea, even if it was legal. There was also discussion of adding links to either the minutes or the website.
- After much discussion, the end consensus was that Dave will transition to Secretary, and Len to Treasurer. Dave will write the minutes for this meeting in time for the first April meeting, and then do the other January and February minutes. Dave will act as Secretary for now, but the vote to change the roles will be in May.
- Michelle would like to take the place of one of the members of the ad hoc committee, so she can make the April 12 meeting as effective as possible.

5. (10:25) Council Activity

Len reported on traffic monitoring discussions with Caltrans. Gregg reported on the ongoing legal disputes between the sewer districts, City of HMB, and SAM, and the resulting costs to customers. Dave reported on the Board of Supervisors meeting, and that it had been reported the County vaccination allotment was likely to be slightly reduced. MidPen was tapped to be part-owner of one of the motels that the County purchased for low income housing. Finally, a \$50K grant to the HMB History Association Museum sponsored by Supervisors Horsley from Measure K funds was approved.

6. (10:28) Future Agendas

April 12 - Fire Preparedness

April 28 - SAM dispute issue (Gregg)

Adjournment (10:33)