

# 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](http://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 September 11, 2019***

### **Call to Order (7:00)**

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

### **1. Board of Supervisors' Report**

Ellie discussed fire safety work at Quarry Park, 27 acres completed SMC presenting Welcoming Week free film screening, Sept 18 at HMB Library 15th annual Disaster Preparedness Day 21 Sept at SMC Event Center OES hosting a Fixit clinic in Pacifica on Oct 5 at the Pacifica Sanchez library Volunteers welcome.

CHP Officer Martini mentioned crosswalk in Moss Beach, thought it was unofficial, and had heard that from Caltrans. Will cover more on agenda item.

Chris Johnson, SMC Pilot Dog Group. Pilot program in Junipero Serra and Coyote Point approved two months ago. It is going well, no problems. Reviewing 11 additional sites, committee has ranked, top 3 were Quarry Park, Pillar Point Bluff, Mirada Surf. 120x60 fenced area at Quarry Park proposed by staff, committee wasn't OK with it. Committee Counter-proposal was to make all current dog with leash trails in Quarry Park off-leash. Pillar Point proposal was Jean Lauer trail. Discussion about entire bluff-top initial vote 7-3 so still being discussed, trying to determine how to keep dogs off the beach. Len asked about meadow area; committee didn't get time to discuss that area.

Chris Porter, Pacifica project "Unhoused in Pacifica". Effort to find location for unhoused people living in RVs to park their vehicles, and also other shelter space.

Barbara Dye, VP GCSD. They have just sent a parks survey to all residents in the the GCSD parks service area. Will have an event on Oct 24th at El Granada Elementary School.

### **2. Public Comment & Announcements (7:05)**

Grant Wood, El Granada and his neighbors are concerned that no fire safety work in Quarry Park is being done below upper El Granada Blvd. They have sent a letter to County Parks and CalFire. Will send a copy to Supervisor Horsley and MCC.

Barbra mentioned that PO Box renewal is due. Tunitas Creek will be getting lighted tsunami alert signs

Dave mentioned Groundwater Protection Program permit for property burned below Moss Beach Distillery

### **3. Consent Agenda (7:25)**

- a. Approve Minutes for regular meeting August 28, 2019
- Move Barbra, second Tamar. Passes 7-0

### **4. Regular Agenda – The Council may take action on the following items:**

**a. (7:30) Consider Letter to Granada Community Service District and Montara Water and Sanitation District regarding pickup of compostable organic material**

Two presentations, Gordon Tong from OES, and one from Michelle. Gordon mentioned California bills related to composting, and reduced cost composting bins.

Michelle asked if compostable service-ware could be backyard composted or not.

Some can (fiber), some can't (corn, potato because they require higher temperatures).

Dave moved approval of letter, second Michelle.

Barbra clarified that MCC wanted to determine community sentiment before contacting MWSD and GCSD.

Dan asked why every week vs every two weeks if food compost. Barbra answered it's due to state law.

*Public comment:*

Justine Cable is pleased to see survey, new Montara resident, disappointed no local food composting pickup.

Adrian Cable, recently moved from SF, also wants composting

Kathryn Slater-Carter - representing MWSD. Happy to work with community. Not confident of statistics on California vs other states. Midcoast reduction of waste may not extend Ox Mountain by much. Not sure composting reduces greenhouse gases vs landfill.

Barbara Dye, GCSD is following this issue and is willing to add compost, but would increase fees by 45% at Pacifica level, 66% at HMB level. They are having to deal with the problems in recycling (low sales price requires paying for picking up recycling).

Bill Kehoe Costs are hard to compare and determine, similarly hard to determine percentage of population willing to compost. Composts in his backyard. Concerned about increased fees as a retired person.

Jordan supports composting. Has used commercial compost in her yard. They currently take their compostable waste to parents home in Millbrae. One of past issues is that people didn't want the big compost bins, but everybody got them in any case.

Cid Young took county Master Composter class, and did outreach afterwards. Thinks there is no excuse for people not composting on their own. There are local composting classes. Suggests those who can't do it work with neighbors who do. She has goats, and takes some food waste from neighbors for the goats.

Chris Porter, Recology of the Coast general manager. Recology happy to do composting, last time 1000 surveys returned in MWSD, 46% due their own composting. Ox Mountain time to closure fluctuates. Last number she heard was 25 years. Recology can offer weekly food compost pickup. Compost cost to Recology is 2 1/2 the cost of an equivalent amount of garbage to the dump. It has to be every household. Might require new bins, instead of 96 gal bins.

*Back to council:*

Len waste disposal a larger issue than it was a few years ago.

Claire wants to see this discussed again at MWSD and GCSD.

Michelle thinks that opinions may have changed since last district surveys, and supports letter

Tamar had problems finding data on composting cost, and wants to start dialog.

Dan asked about food waste like tomatoes vs green yard waste. Gordon said the distinction is that yard waste is "woody", and doesn't attract insects, and other pests.

Chris Porter replied that for Recology, the issue is that they can have a load of green waste rejected if it has other than green waste. She offered to answer MCC questions.

Dave mentioned that Recology has sent out fliers on what can go in green waste.

Motion passes 7-0

**b. (8:20) Update and review of issues involving Highway One, including crosswalk, Connect the Coastside TAC, Highway Maintenance**

Informational presentation by Len on Moss Beach Crosswalk, and summary of Connect the Coastside status, and update on cracks in Hwy 1 north of Montara Beach.

Crosswalk now has portable electronic signs from Caltrans. Caltrans is starting sign installation (one so far), agree that coordination should have been better. No lighted signs are planned. Caltrans received a request from Assemblyman Mullin's office about 4 months ago based on a constituent request. His office received no further communication as far as they know, but one staff person involved is no longer there. Caltrans operational staff will review after signs are installed. Caltrans acknowledges that they have concerns about the crosswalk. No confirmation of any recent accidents so far.

CHP is in discussion with Caltrans, primarily on safety issues. Officer Martini will keep following up on the issue. They want to be sure that drivers yield safely to pedestrians.

Michelle and Tamar are concerned that the unlighted signs are not sufficient warning to motorists.

Dan thinks we should have more community discussion on the crossings in this area.

Len said Safe Crossings project covered in detail, that County is unlikely to work on a crossing in Moss Beach in the near future. Len also said that Connect the Coastside can deal with safe crossings. Dave disagreed quite strongly, that the LCP requirement and the engineering funding is not focused on crossings.

Len said that all agencies and legislators involved have agreed to have better community communications in the future.

Dolores Silva spoke about safety issues of drivers entering Hwy 1 when pedestrians are in the crosswalk.

Chris Johnson asked whether Assemblyman Mullin's office was involved in the crosswalk being installed. Claire answered that his office has said they passed on a constituent request. Chris is not convinced. Wants to know if Caltrans will expedite other such requests, and installed a non-standard crosswalk. Raised issues about political pressure on Caltrans to get things done. Len's only concern about the crossing at this point is to have the crossing inspected for safety. He personally thinks it is unsafe as it stands, and wants quick action.

Cid Young attended Safe Crossings workshop. Caltrans was attending. Upset about the unsafe crosswalk that has been painted, and the circumventing of community concerns.

Dave raised issue that this is a good time to restart the discussion about reducing the speed limit to Moss Beach in 45 mph, which Caltrans said could be done, but wasn't justified at that time. Claire said she has expressed that desire in all discussions over the past few weeks.

Bill Kehoe would like speed limit reduced also. Question about why Virginia Ave, rather than California Ave.

Connect the Coastside (CTMP)

Next TAC meeting after 3 year gap will be on Sept 16, 2019. Some Caltrans personnel will be attending, as well as 3 MCC members. Will have public reviews, then Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors following that, then go to the Coastal Commission.

Dave mentioned that it is agendized as the final draft.

Highway 1 crack repair north of Montara Beach is funded, and design in progress.

Dan asked why they haven't sealed the cracks.

Dave asked if there is any preliminary information on length of time to repair, and whether lanes will be closed. Len said not yet.

**c. (8:45) Consider Letter to California Attorney General regarding sale of Seton Coastside Hospital**

Brief presentation by Claire.

Barbra moved approval of letter, second Michelle

Claire clarified that there are legal definitions of care standards, which is why it's Standby Emergency Care.

Michelle asked if there were any emergency or urgent care clinics in Pacifica. No, nearest one to north is Seton Daly City.

*Public comment*

Chris Johnson is glad to see letter being sent, but nervous about having only urgent care, rather than emergency care. Thinks Urgent Care isn't enough. He thinks that because the County puts millions of dollars into Seton every year that the county should buy at least Seton Coastside.

Dave mentioned that the Sequoia Hospital district doesn't actually have anything to do with any hospital any longer.

Claire offered amendment to letter to remove urgent care and just mention 24 hour emergency care.

Dave moved approve amendment, second Barbra. Amendment passes 7-0

Motion passes 7-0.

**d. (9:00) Consider Letter of Support for Coastal Conservancy's Grant Application for Wildlife Conservation Public Access project at Montara State Beach**

Brief presentation by Claire.

Michelle was surprised by the closed stairway, strongly supports replacing it.

Michelle moved approval of letter, second Dave. Passes 7-0.

## **5. Council Activity – Correspondence received & meetings attended**

Len talked to Coastal Commission staff about Pillar Point bluff.

Also talked to HMB city council about Montara Mt issues.

Michelle went to a CUSD meeting about new proposed tax measure. Board meeting will discuss tomorrow (Sep 12). Len added more info.

## **6. Future Agendas**

9/25 – Chamber of Commerce Business Update

Possible future agenda item on CUSD tax measure, perhaps have Superintendent attend an MCC meeting.

Internet at MCC office; AT&T available

Followup meeting on Moss Beach Hwy 1 issues

**Adjournment (9:15)**