

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

Claire Toutant, Chair
Len Erickson, Vice Chair
Barbra Mathewson, Treasurer
Dave Olson, Secretary
Dan Haggerty
Michelle Weil
Tamar Powell

Minutes for Meeting of June 12, 2019

Call to Order (7:00)

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

Councilmember Olson acting as Chair

1. Government Officials

Ellie Dallman: park structures for the Moss Beach Park to be ordered. Supervisor Horsley said that on Apr 23, the BoS approved \$50K to the Coastside Land Trust for the Wavecrest section of the coastal trail

At the June Board meeting, approved contract for GIS mapping for parks, etc. Many components, hydrology, fire risks.

Followup on HMB airport cafe RFP from previous meeting: the RFP deadline was extended to June 17, proposal date extended June 24, MCC, several county officials. Walkthrough; no panel members in order to avoid bias with interested parties. Panel will evaluate and rank the proposals.

Rent for cafe has been decreased from monthly rent of \$1.90 sq/ft (previous) to \$1.20 due to amount of repairs required. Utilities cost will be raised to actual cost.

The septic system is maintained by the airport, and is fully functional. Grease prevention in sewers is the responsibility of tenant, but historically the County has not passed on the costs. Septic system maintenance costs have sometimes exceeded yearly rent. Costs will be passed on in the new RFP. There are no plans to have extra charge for septic system repairs to the new tenant, but tenant may need to repair actual grease trap.

Barbra asked about the MCC office in the terminal build. Has a mold problem of some kind, asked Ellie to followup. Ellie will follow up.

Harvey Rarback: Coastal trail items. Trash barrels overflowing at Surfers Beach and other locations. Beach owned by HMB, strip where trashcan is located is maintained by GCSD. The HMB City Manager will try to arrange for more trash cans with GCSD, and split costs. Restrooms at RV Park - needs CDP, still in negotiation. Will have new restroom on the trail as part of that CDP.

Chris Johnson, liaison with Dog Policy Committee. New rules go into effect on June 15th, extending on-leash to Junipero Serra and parts of Coyote Park. He's asked for a report evaluating the pilot. It will be done after 6 months, and will go to the BoS. Committee will have input on report, but will not be voting on the draft. Will be written by Parks Dept, presented in early 2020 to BoS Off leash pilot will not be starting in July, policy will be started in July, will be voted on in early 2020.

2. Public Comment & Announcements (7:25)

Mary Larenas gave her condolences to Len on the loss of Gael. She spoke of Gael's presence and activities on many of the issues important to the coast over the years.

Greg Dieguez reported on roundabouts from his trip to Boston. He's not a fan. Saw many problems.

3. Consent Agenda (7:30)

Len moved, Tamar second; carries 5-0.

4. Regular Agenda

a. (7:25) – Peggy Jensen, SMC Interim Parks Director: Update on Parks Issues

Spoke on the search for a permanent parks director. The process will take 4-5 months for the search process, and actual start of the new director.

There are no current coastal trail plans in the Midcoast area although it remains an area of interest to the department. The parks department focus is on Flood Park, Memorial Park (restrooms and shower buildings, waste water treatment and repaving), Coyote Point (eastern esplanade erosion and ADA access).

The Parks department is interested and willing to work with MCC on a Parks forum in the fall.

Len followed up on the Coastal Trail, in particular the route from Pillar Pt to Devils Slide.

Public Comment:

Marty Kingshill - spoke on MPL history ; wants paperwork on parks transfer to county.

Mary Larenas - FMR visitation and master plan ; wants limitations on visitors. Visitors are not respecting distance from seals. Need more control.

Birgitta Bower - Dogs are OK when off leash in her experience. Upset at new rules. Thinks most dogs and owners are responsible and safe.

Nicole Skerry - Involved in dog rescue. Upset that no meetings held on coast. Wants off-leash areas.

Bob Schmidt - Has well trained dog. Thinks dogs need places to run free. Wants off-leash areas.

Chris Johnson - Happy that outside director search will be done. Started dog policy under Marlene's directorship. Too many directors in last few years. Wants extensive parks experience. Many parks projects are delayed or canceled.

Kit O'Doherty - volunteers for various animal care organizations. Says dogs need to be able to run free. Mentioned "Five Freedoms" for animals.

Margaret Dean - Wants info on process for new ordinance. Wants more parks open to dogs. Coordinate different parks organizations. Mentioned Boulder's off-leash registration/

Vicky Boyd - asked how many dog owners in SMC. Chris said about 40% of households Dogs need to be off-leash. Mentioned Del Valle in east bay. Doesn't understand why changes being done.

Betsy Daly-Caffell - Thinks problems with off-leash have been minor. Needs more parks available to dogs/

Chris Hilton - Question for Peggy on Pillar Pt road gravel. Has found glass in the gravel. Gravel hard on dogs feet.

Ed Larenas - Agrees with Chris on needing professional park director. Asked that some community members be part of selection community, and to be transparent with process. Doesn't like graveled roads either. On leash dogs have attacked his dogs in past.

Kris Liang - appreciates the turnout. Thinks major lack of transparency of process. Example of Friends of Fitzgerald Marine Reserve being a closed group. Wants more parks experience in senior leadership.

Peggy followup comments- Application for new director will be on county website. Invited MCC to have a liaison as part of selection process. A replacement natural resources specialist will be hired to replace Ramona, with the position being posted soon. Parks department doing extensive research on dogs issues, she has been to Boulder, and is familiar with their off-leash dog permit process (2 day class).

Len asked about new dog ordinance. New ordinance is already in effect, dogs not allowed at all in County Parks prior to that ordinance, now allowed in 6 parks.

b. (8:30) Eun-Soo Lim, SMC Disposable Food Service Ware Ordinance

The ordinance is an effort of the Office of Sustainability. It is focused on reducing restaurant and other food preparation operation use of single use utensils, serving materials and containers. It is not focused on recyclable materials, because the market for recycling plastics has been drastically reduced. The goal is to switch to non-plastic compostable materials, and to reduce litter, especially litter making it's way to the bay or ocean. The ordinance does not apply to food service within the 20 cities within the county, although many of them are working on similar ordinances, and the county is coordinating with them via C/CAG.

Polystyrene containers would be prohibited.

Condiments, straws, etc. would only be given to customers who ask for them, not just tossed into the bag with the food. This will reduce waste and cost.

<https://www.smcsustainability.org/waste-reduction/reduce-reuse-recycle/#Disposables> has additional information about the ordinance and it's goals.

For businesses that are unable to find allowable materials, even after the assistance of the county, short term exemptions from the prohibitions will be allowed.

Kimberly Williams spoke in support of the ordinance. She has been volunteering surveying restaurants on this ordinance. So far all the restaurants she has talked to have been supportive. Some are already using compostable materials.

Barbra moved, Dan second to write a letter in support of the ordinance. Passed 5-0.

5. Council Activity (9:05)

Barbra - Attended June 7 CEAP meeting. Presentation on PSPS PG&E system. No July CEAP meeting.

Dan - Ketch Joann sued for ADA access. Locked bathrooms to avoid issues

Tamar - attended May meeting with CUSD principal at Farallone View.

6. Future Agendas (9:10)

Council communications policy (items that are sent to other than the few council)

Hwy 1 committee for more proactive on whole corridor

Composting pick up

Adjournment (9:15)