

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

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

Minutes for Meeting of March 11, 2020

Call to Order (7pm)

All Councilmembers present. 15 members of the public present.

1. Board of Supervisors' Report and Reports from Other Government Representatives.

Carrie Dallman of Supervisor Horsley's office reported on the Corona virus outbreak.

There are 15 cases in San Mateo County and planning is for a sustained response. EOC has been activated (cmo.smcgov.org/eoc) and there is a 211 number for community questions. Current recommendations are to avoid large group meetings and hand-shaking. Remote work, social distancing, hand washing and not touching one's face are recommended, especially for people in higher risk groups. Apparently healthy corona-exposed passengers from the cruise ship are being housed at a San Carlos hotel under federal supervision. No visitors are to be allowed to nursing homes.

Carrie also reported that the Planning Commission approved CDP with mitigated NegDec for the parallel trail. Construction will take about 4 months.

She also explained that the MCC account with County finance had been inappropriately deactivated. We now have our allotment and she apologized for the delay.

Harvey Rarback of Half Moon Bay City Council reported that the biggest concern expressed at their listening sessions was traffic. The Council set priorities for the year: 1) affordable housing, including subsidies for below-market-rate units, 2) ban on all single-use plastics, 3) revitalization of Mac Dutra Park, 4) issues of energy planning/resilience, especially in emergencies.

Dan asked that the City look into timing of traffic lights.

Judy Macias asked for City intervention to have bus shelters installed especially for use by senior residents.

California Highway Patrol Officer Ruiz reported on his work on the Special Enforcement Unit in unincorporated San Mateo County. They are down from 4 officers to 3, but he encouraged residents to contact them with concerns, with details about time and place. He can be reached at 650-369-6261 or aruiz@chp.gov.

Dan expressed concern about vehicles with tinted windows.

2. Public Comment & Announcements

Gregg Dieguez asked that the Council consider digital meetings and asked that extensions be issued for projects requiring review or comment periods.

Claire announced that Pacific Beach Coalition is accepting suggestion for Earth Day Beach Cleanup sites.

Also, the County Shore-to-Shore will be held at CSM on March 31.

And SamTrans has discontinued on-demand service in Pacifica.

3. Consent Agenda

- a. Approve Minutes for February 26. Moved Barbra, Second Michelle, passed 6-0.
Agenda reordering Moved Dave, Second Len, passed 6-0.

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

c. (7:20) Seton Coastside Medical Center

Judy Macias, president of VOTC, who has been familiar with Seton Coastside since the 1970's, presented the background of the situation. Verity Health, the owner of the hospital and two other hospitals, bought the hospitals with promises of upgrading but has not followed through. Sale to another entity was approved by the California Attorney General a year ago. There are two potential buyers but no details available because of non-disclosure agreements. The hospitals are currently in bankruptcy court, which could rule at any time. There is supposed to be 90-day notice for closure of emergency departments, but this has not been honored in previous sales of Verity facilities. There has been intense community interest in saving Seton in Daly City, but less outcry about Seton Coastside. However, Seton Coastside uniquely provides lab, xray, emergency, and rehabilitation services to the Coastside. Its 113 Skilled Nursing patients would be extremely difficult to place elsewhere. There is interest in breaking Seton Coastside out of a larger deal, but this would mean lower reimbursement rates to the County for MediCal patients. Urgent care services may be considered instead of an Emergency Department.

Carrie Dallman announced that the Board of Supervisors has voted for \$20 million over 10 years for the hospitals, secured by property at Seton Coastside.

Council deferred any action but asked that a letter on the topic be presented at the next meeting. Letter to be provided by Claire, Len and possibly by a community member.

Carl May suggested that Seton Coastside be considered as a satellite clinic from central County Health Services.

a. (7:45) Connect the Coastside

Len described "Tentative Meetings Roadmap" (see presentation). He noted that public meetings would be held at both Farallone View and El Granada Schools and described other parts of the process.

There was a discussion between Len and Dave about whether a LCP amendment would be required.

Dan asked that the content of the item be clarified.

The possibility that meetings would be postponed because of the Corona virus was discussed.

b. (8:00) Cypress Point PLN2018-00264

Len stated that he is in the process of clarifying what form an environmental review would take.

c. (8:05) Moss Beach Re-Opening Celebration

Barbra described the activities around re-opening of Moss Beach Playground on April 18. A barbeque will be offered by the County Parks Department. Other features will include snacks, a scavenger hunt, and visits by CERT, CalFire, Friends of Farallone View, the Mothers' Club and scouts.

d. (8:10) MidCoast Survey

Ellie Dallman described the proposed survey of MidCoast residents, workers and visitors to get a sense of concerns and interests, including a possible newsletter, and asked that the MCC consider co-sponsoring the survey. This is being done in coordination with Common Knowledge.

Dave moved and Barbra seconded a motion that MCC co-sponsor this.

Dave asked that the format of the survey be simplified and asked that the time be taken to do a meaningful data analysis.

Dan asked that the survey draft be published on MCC website. Ellie responded that a limited number of people should be involved in writing the survey.

Dan asked how we would know who answered the survey if it is anonymous. Ellie said that groups of people, not individuals, would be identified within the survey.

Dan asked how we would know whether people answered the survey honestly. Dave said that this is to get a general sense of concerns and is not a scientific study.

Dan asked the Council to discuss the idea and application of transparency.

A discussion ensued about how the survey would be distributed. Ideas included social media and mailings with a link to the survey, but this would need to be budgeted for.

Gregg Dieguez, who is a Survey Monkey user, supports the general idea. He wanted supporting materials to be attached to the agenda (Len said he would do this.) and wanted to see the draft survey.

Ann Rothman asked if residents would be distinguished from visitors.

Michelle said this and other demographic distinctions would be made. It would also allow for bilingual participation.

Dave said that no government shares all steps of a process with the public. This is not necessary for transparency.

Barbra supports the survey, but questions the process.

Michelle said that the survey itself will increase transparency by being clear about the results, not by having the public write the survey.

Ellie clarified that her current role is assisting the MidCoast outreach as part of the County Manager Budgeting process.

Barbra asked who wrote the draft survey and was told that it was progressively developed by Susan of Common Knowledge, the County, and Lisa Ketcham. She also had questions about the newsletter and was told that topics would be developed after the survey.

Michelle discussed possible distribution of a newsletter.

Claire suggested that details be deferred until later in the process.

Dan wanted to know "how this works" and doesn't want it implied that CTC is completed.

Michell noted that the survey will help build an email list of interested people.

Dan moved that the motion be tabled but there was no second.

The original motion passed 5-1 with Dan dissenting.

f.(8:45) MCC Applicant Interviews and Recommendation

Len will send application information to the Council and post it on the website later today. There are 5 applicants and two of them (Gregg Dieguez and Ed Love) were present at the meeting.

Len said he would communicate with the applicants about the recommendation process and that they would be free to ask questions of any Council member.

He suggested 4 minute opening statements followed by one question by each Council member to each candidate and that Len would coordinate the content of

the questions. Following this, a weighted vote would narrow the candidates to 2 and that he would abstain from any voting that might create a tie vote. He will communicate voting procedures from to the planned March 25 meeting.

There was a sense, mostly voiced by Claire, that the interviews should be more flexible.

5. Council Activity

6. Future Agendas

The implications of the corona virus crisis on public meetings were discussed. There was a sentiment that contagion risk be reduced, but Dave noted that Brown Act requirements needed to be considered. This would be reviewed prior to the next meeting. Chief focus of 3/25 meeting will be selection of new Council member.

Adjournment (9:15)