

Midcoast Community Council

An elected Municipal Advisory Council to the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors

P.O. Box 248, Moss Beach, CA 94038 www.MidcoastCommunityCouncil.org
Laura Stein . Lisa Ketcham . Bob Kline . Bill Kehoe . Len Erickson . Dan Haggerty

Approved Minutes: Meeting on April 24, 2013, at Cypress Meadows

Call to Order. 7:05 pm

Present: all 6 councilmembers

~40 members of the public

Government: Nicholas Calderón, Parks: Gary Lockman, Scott Lombardi, Sam Herzberg

1. Board of Supervisors' Report – Nicholas Calderón

Return to stand-alone County Parks Dept approved by BoS on 4/23.

2. Public Comment

Leonard: GSD submitted app to LAFCo to form community services district; docs on GSD website.

3. Consent Agenda: approved 6-0

Approval of Minutes for April 10, 2013

Approval of MCC Treasurer Report for 4/24/13

4. Regular Agenda 7:10

Midcoast County Parks Update by County Parks Dept.

Sam Herzberg presentation (see supporting doc)

Response to questions: FMR access ramp project on hold, no funding to study alternatives. Parking area in riparian buffer zone was there when County acquired the park, before the Coastal Act.

Gary Lockman – FMR trail ferns are new plants; 65 larger salvaged ferns are still in nursery - will be replanted. Current tree pruning is for safety - don't have funding to do more right now. Flooding at trail near bridge – was an old culvert not on plans, culvert had collapsed & was replaced. No further problems observed since.

Scott Lombardi: Ross' Cove boat wreck cleanup – County Parks worked with boat owner to organize cleanup crew volunteers. Need access to Air Force for removal of remaining heavy metal machinery. Wreck is on CA Land Commission property. Boat insurance not required.

Gary Lockman: 4/23 BoS approved Parks Strategic Plan & return to stand-alone Parks Dept. - County hiring a contract Parks Director, on BoS agenda May 7. As of May 8, will be Parks Dept. organizationally, reporting directly to County Mgr, though still integrated operationally in Public Works until budget final approval. \$5.1 million in County budget tentatively allocated to Parks. Will start recruitment for 7 new positions before BoS final approval of Measure A funding so new positions will be ready to go in October. Natural Resource Manager will be significantly involved in trees, creeks, habitat on Coastside.

Break to change tape 8:25

Devil's Slide plans: Caltrans plans cover parking lots and restrooms. County will plan area between parking lots – that process just getting underway – hope to complete plans by end August, then move directly to construction. County required to open trail within 1 yr of tunnel opening (March).

Public Comment:

Mary Larenas: Thank you to Sam & Gary. Suggest FMR parking lot have 3 ADA parking spaces.

Parking area encroachment in riparian corridor has been expanding – any way to retreat? Need more stop signs & white lines in neighborhood. Weeding needed along new trail.

Sabrina Brennan: Thanks to all involved in having this meeting & to Supervisor Horsley for really paying attention to Coastside.

Pat Tierney: FMR ramp needs to be designed for large groups (30-50) & ADA compliant. Surfer's Beach 400 ft of danger is attractive nuisance - needs to be dealt with. Mirada Rd. in poor shape - needs attention.

Leonard Woren: Riprap always fails – Mirada Rd. needs plan for graceful retreat.

Dan Haggerty: Concerned about traffic back ups on Hwy 1 due to trail/beach visitors -- bumper to bumper from Gray Whale Cove to Linda Mar last Sunday.

Elizabeth Vespremi: Concerned about traffic & parking for popular new parks. Need access, signage, parking, so traffic can flow.

Bob McLaughlin (geologist, Moss Beach) originally reported dangerous perched boulders above beach north of FMR ramp. Whole beach is strewn with boulders; riprap not permanent solution; all boulders will eventually be down on the beach. Lawsuits down the line.

Lisa Ketcham: Very pleased with prospects of restored Parks Dept. & eager to see effect of new Natural Resource Mgr, hopefully with much more effort devoted to habitat restoration.

--- Would like us to foster overall better community awareness of Parks plans/projects -- MPRC hasn't met since Sept; meetings not televised, not widely publicized -- would prefer periodic updates to MCC.

--- Would like to see Parks Dept cooperation/communication with local volunteers on maintenance activities. County help needed with pampas grass returning on Pillar Point Bluff. Interested to see details of maintenance needs/plans for PPB due to long-time involvement in weeding there.

--- Develop viewpoints where County streets end at the coastal bluff. Start with Seacliff Ct in Montara where view-blocking fence will be removed later this spring. Plenty of room for safe bench location on north side of street next to old cypress. If necessary, community can find funding for bench.

--- FMR CCT new cypress trees: Relocate most of crowded new grove. Plant where they have space to mature to their natural 30-40ft width.

--- Trail surfaces -- Hope we have seen the last of wide paved trails in our open space preserves. Even handicapped want a natural experience. Rather than urban parks, would like our open space trails to be more like those in GGNRA or MidPeninsula Open Space District.

--- FMR beach access ramp. Please give up the idea of major new coastal armoring, extreme grading cuts, and paving. Don't permanently degrade the area in order to make it ADA accessible. Restore the area instead. Work with nature, not against it.

Gael Erickson: County sponsoring annual Streets Alive, Parks Alive: May 5 at Quarry Park, starts 9AM

Laura Stein: Support Lisa's comment on trail surfaces. Would be great to have County Parks updates at MCC on a regular basis.

Adjournment -- 9:15