



North Sonoma Valley Municipal Advisory Council

Notice of Meeting and Agenda

September 15, 2021



PLEASE NOTE: This meeting will be conducted entirely by teleconference pursuant to the provisions of the Governor’s Executive Orders N-29-20 and N-35-20, suspending certain requirements of the Ralph M. Brown Act. Members of the public will be recognized at the appropriate time via Zoom’s Raise Hand tool.

Join Zoom Conference Meeting:

<https://sonomacounty.zoom.us/j/98669419103?pwd=RG9VYWpIZVJOb1JRTFBiSUprNGpjdz09>

Meeting ID: 986 6941 9103

Passcode: 934295

Join by Phone: 1 (669) 900-9128

5:30 p.m.

Contact: Hannah Whitman, Board Aide for Supervisor Susan Gorin – hannah.whitman@sonoma-county.org

1. Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance, Roll Call

Absent: Eagles, Nardo-Morgan

Present: Dawson, Newhouser, Dickey, Handron, Cooper, Doss [joined 6:30pm]

2. Approval of August 18, 2021 minutes

Resolution

- Approve final draft of Procedures for MAC Letters

Dawson: sent correction to Hannah via email, correcting names of people who sent letters about intersection

Motion to approve: Cooper

Second: Newhouser

Vote: 5-0

3. Public Comment

Receive

(Limited to items not appearing on the agenda)

No public comment received

4. Supervisor Gorin Update

Receive

Gorin: appreciate MAC for their volunteer efforts and contribution to community. Update from yesterday’s Board of Supervisors meeting, 11 hours, may be worth looking at report for American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) item on board agenda. 96 million dollars, needs are great both county and community. Funding for COVID response and programs came off top. Ask departments for their thoughts on what should be considered from county perspective. Not everything on wish list eligible for this funding. Requests from Regional Parks, Sonoma Water, need to move morgue and public health lab, and more. Employees requesting premium pay for work through COVID-19. Other item from Economic Development Board, stipend like program for low income residents similar to what has been proposed in Stockton. These on a list, referred to community discussion. Oscar Chavez and Alegria de la Cruz working with Equity Advisory Committee to talk about what would look like in community, how to establish criteria, all this will be discussed at community meetings in October. Meeting will probably be virtual, in the First District, we will let you know. Dense information, but fascinating, the various projects we could use funding for. Appointed people to Airport Land Use Commission, review projects around airport, increased friction in community around number of flights going through Charles Schulz Airport. Interesting discussion on micro kitchens authorized by state, counties and cities can opt into this, people can use home kitchens to serve meals in their homes, or encourage people to pick them up. Way for people in BIPOC, low income community, to have income without the costs of opening brick and mortar establishment. City of Sonoma not interested in opting in. Concern about impacts in Springs area,

already have impacts from vacation rentals, will there be impacts of impromptu kitchens popping up? Advocating “go slow” approach, bring back as pilot project early next year. Some counties have started this slowly. When this comes back to board, could bring discussion before MAC about what you think. Two items that are Glen Ellen/Springs issues, first Verano Hotel and MidPen Housing project on Verano Ave at former Paul’s Resort across Maxwell Farms. Affordable housing developer in contract with hotel, complicated, want to make sure affordable housing component actually constructed. Approved. Controversial discussion about Glen Ellen dispensary. My mind not made up until very end. Listened carefully, read through all letters, some neighbors hired attorney, went through all specifics. Dispensary had mixed reception at SVCAC, went through BZA on 5-0 vote. Concerns expressed by neighbors: traffic impacts, parking, location of bus stop where children got on and off bus. The bus stop was the most concerning to me. Don’t think students will be attracted to go in dispensary, would have to be buzzed in, show identification, and security. Customers not allowed to consume on site. Pretty standard in all dispensaries. Have toured some, impacts on neighbors from potential users less than feared. In the end I supported it, board supported it. Last thing that concerned community were setbacks. All dispensaries that have been approved have not met setbacks. Staff looked into impacts. I had concerns, but confirmed they are not allowed to advertise, have to have security plan. Asked that it comes back before the Board of Supervisors two years after it begins operation for review. Could revoke permit if there are issues. Pending dispensary applications in Kenwood and on Fremont. Maximum of 9 dispensaries in unincorporated, this was number 7, so there will not be many more. SCD, not much to report, but flying proposals back and forth from members of PAT, not their role exactly, but rather to provide feedback to planning team. Alternative release pushed back a little bit, to November, then moving forward to community meetings.

Dawson: what is the ultimate timeline?

Gorin: state legislators want the final draft like yesterday, they have to release RFP to developers once they receive final administrative draft. State emphatically that they have no more funding in the budget to maintain, provide security, keep campus open that if we don’t hop to, they will have to fence off the campus.

Dickey: curious about 96 million allocated to Sonoma County. Do funds have to be allocated to infrastructure development? Part of what you were talking about sounds like human infrastructure, and not infrastructure like broadband expansion or traffic. Are there limitations on the dollars?

Gorin: I would encourage you to look at the attachment on the agenda. Goes through criteria, broader than you think. Can be used for infrastructure. Is a proposal on broadband, but with very little detail. Board concern of investing too heavily in infrastructure and not on human services. I feel strongly about broadband and infrastructure development. Understand community is hurting as well. We do not have enough funding to cover half of what proposed. Have to make hard choices.

Dawson: could you provide more detail on stipend proposal?

Gorin: Universal Basic Income Pilot Project. Proposed by Human Services, not Economic Development Board. Talks about poverty in Sonoma County. 11% children living below poverty line. Talking about existing programs, CalFresh, Sonoma Works, earned income tax. Wraparound supports, including monthly cash payment, childcare, funding for transportation and car repairs, etc. State estimates 60% of eligible families enroll, so in Sonoma County another eligible 800 families. Look at City of Stockton, also City of Oakland to see what other communities are doing. On next week’s agenda, pay attention to Living Wage Ordinance item coming before board.

Newhouser: not a lot of energy around dispensary issue. One thing I would object to if there was a smell.

Gorin: not cultivation. I have visited dispensaries, and unless they are growing plants, no smell.

Newhouser: great. Also have question about 96 million. Guidelines or ratio on allocation, from fed, of funds to different needs? So many needs right now, but can’t help but think that we should put some of it toward longer term goals. We could devote good chunk toward infrastructure to adapt for climate change, address impacts of

human influence on climate change.

Gorin: think on that, and when community meetings come around, share those thoughts. Announced today that county hired Barbara Lee as climate lead, Anna Yip hired some months ago as analyst. Getting ready to do this work with Regional Climate Protection Authority, I assigned Lynda Hopkins as Chair of Climate Ad Hoc, has first meeting today. Hope we will be making some progress there.

Newhouser: when is public meeting for ARPA funding?

Gorin: date not announced yet. Will be one in each district. While talking about public meetings, I was unhappy with how article in Sonoma IT on homelessness came off. Planning Virtual Town Hall on homeless with BJ Bischoff, with city, county, homeless organizations, ecology center on management of Montini and cleanups. October 27th 5:00 to 6:30, will send out announcements.

Cooper: comment on dispensary. Guy who built my house also built dispensaries in Cotati, Santa Rosa Ave. If you go into them, seem like pharmacy. Very clean, not people hanging around.

Gorin: thank you Jed. I know many travel from Sonoma Valley to these. I have some faith in professionalism of industry.

Dawson: any public comment?

No public comment received.

5. Election of Chair/Vice Chair

Resolution

- Annual election to select Chair and Vice Chair

Dawson: start by electing chair. Any nominations?

Dickey: nominate Arthur Dawson.

Newhouser: second.

Vote: 5-0

Dawson: Daymon stepping down, after serving one year

Newhouser: nominate Jed.

Cooper: I'm just an alternate, nominate Mark.

Gorin: new appointee joining, Susan Oldroyd, to alternate position

Whitman: actually two alternate positions, vacant position was also an alternate

Cooper: others would be more qualified, but happy to do anything

Dawson: Vice Chair role is not hard, requires agenda setting meeting

Whitman: alternate cannot be Vice Chair, new councilmember and Councilmember Cooper both alternates

Dickey: Vice Chair Doss stepping down from MAC, or just from Vice Chair?

Dawson: just as Vice Chair

Cooper: what about one of the ladies?

Handron: can I nominate Kate, though not here?

Dawson: cannot. I would second nomination of Vicki.

Handron: thank you.

Newhouser: support Vicki in accepting nomination, or feeling comfortable to decline. Take vote, or table until next meeting until more people present.

Handron: happy to accept.

Vote: 5-0

Dawson: any public comment?

No public comment received.

- ~~6. **Kenwood Fire District (postponed September 9, 2021)** Receive
Kenwood Fire District Chief Daren Bellach~~
- ~~• Update on fire district and fire season~~

6. **Sonoma Valley Community Health Center (added September 9, 2021)** Receive
- Sonoma Valley Community Health Center National Health Center Week partner appreciation

Dawson: We have Maricarmen Reyes and Alvaro Gonzalez joining us. Thank you for coming, went to pop up clinic at Abbott's Passage a few months ago.

Reyes: thank you for collaborating with us, that's why we're here tonight, National Health Center Week. One of the things we do is partner recognition, we have plaque for you, give this to North Sonoma Valley MAC for supporting the Sonoma Valley Community Health Center, could not do vaccine outreach without your support.

Gonzalez: we are part of the community and need the community, thank you for your support, we are here for you. In addition to Abbott's Passage event, will be at Glen Ellen Fair.

Reyes: thank you for your support.

Dawson: our door is always open, any ideas or needs you have, please get in touch.

Gorin: we are so grateful to have Health Center as one of our partners.

7. **Funding Request – Outreach Ad Hoc (added September 9, 2021)** Resolution
- Review funding request for Table Fee for Glen Ellen Fair

Dawson: requesting \$60 for booth fee for Glen Ellen Fair. Funding request form was sent out. Right now, just myself and Kate Eagles volunteer at booth, if anyone else if willing, that would be great.

[Doss joined 6:30pm]

Newhouser: is that enough dollars?

Dawson: maybe should have asked for more, but that's what we've requested. Stuff to give away? Will county have booth?

Gorin: our office can provide goodies you can give away.

Motion to approve: Dickey

Second: Newhouser

Vote: 6-0

8. **Reports and Announcements from Councilmembers and Ad Hocs (3 minutes or less)** Receive
- SVCAC

Dickey: report out from last two SVCAC meetings. Proposal from Glen Ellen Inn for abandoning restaurant, letting whole facility become hospitality facility. Passed. Last meeting, warehouse at corner of 8th St and HWY 121. Voted against of rezoning of facility to become transit center for use by Amazon or other.

Concerns public safety, traffic, location, floods certain times of year. Was not zoned for that use. Anticipate applicant will continue through BZA. Applicant has had hard time leasing facility.

Dawson: Glen Ellen Inn will become lodging?

Dickey: Yes.

- Glen Ellen Forum
- Communications Ad Hoc

Dawson: myself and Councilmember Handron. Will be at Glen Ellen Fair. Councilmember Handron, second vaccine clinic pop up?

Handron: nothing set, but in conversation

- Preparedness Ad Hoc

Doss: Councilmember Handron did great presentation about MAC at Valley of the Moon Rotary.

Newhouser: submitted proposals months ago with Fire Safe Sonoma (lead), Sonoma Ecology Center supporting, with Glen Ellen Forum as potential partner. Funding did not come through. Additionally, did not receive funding from CalFire. Were hoping to get funding to do analysis towards becoming fire safe community. Currently working to get feedback/input from funders as to why proposal were not funded. Perhaps funding went to hire priority fire prone areas, or towards veg management as opposed to organizing efforts. Refining proposal for next round.

Doss: have been working with Map Your Neighborhood out of Oakmont, also COPE out of Oakmont. Believe it or not, there is resistance in some, lack of willingness to get prepared. Trying to organize event in Kenwood.

- Traffic and Safety Ad Hoc

Cooper: nothing to present

Doss: Kenwood Fire approved LED sign, will help improve messaging on Highway 12. Funded primarily by county, will be somewhere near fire department on Highway 12. Alert of detours, evacuation, etc.

- Eldridge/SDC Ad Hoc

Dickey: working with Councilmembers Nardo-Morgan and Eagles. Want to have consultants talk to the MAC.

Gorin: maybe have conversation with our office on information you'd like to receive. Might be confusing to get conflicting information outside planning process. We can talk about how to meet MAC's need and not have public confusion.

- Others as Appropriate

Dawson: Councilmember Nardo-Morgan sent in update on drought awareness sign. Talked at Glen Ellen Forum about signs, also handed out at Jack London music night. Signs popping up all over district. Available at Swede's Feeds, Glen Ellen Village Market, library, and Jack London Village. Will also have them at Glen Ellen Fair.

Public Comment:

Katie: Thank you for the work you're doing. Great reporting from Jay Gammel, neighbors do keep up with what you're doing. Even if not many attendees, very much appreciate your work. Matt Dickey, thank you for your service on SVCAC. Supervisor Gorin, thank you for voting in favor of dispensary, think there is gross misunderstanding of what dispensaries are. If you have concerns, go check one out and you may be surprised. Thank you Vicki for your inclusiveness. Appreciate your efforts.

9. Consideration of items for future agenda

Receive

- Bike paths/lanes
- Activate Sonoma Developmental Center Ad Hoc

Dawson: would be personally interested in talking about bike paths. Also could have someone from Regional Parks as well.

Cooper: report from 2016, Caltrans, thorough. Path from Sonoma to Howarth Park. Maybe Supervisor Gorin knows?

Gorin: I'm working on bike lanes and paths throughout the county, there are lots of projects. You are talking about multiuse path on Highway 12. Regional Parks working with individual property owners on that. It will take time. Also bike lanes on Arnold Dr from SDC going south.

Newhouser: Warm Springs Rd. dangerous for pedestrians and bicyclists. Are any plans address Warm Springs Rd?

Gorin: No.

Newhouser: property owners building fences in right of way, concerns, would prevent us from putting in bike lanes in the future

Gorin: let's chat about that offline

Newhouser: with MAC newfound powers to write letters of support, have discussion on topics we'd want to write letters on as future topic for agenda.

10. Adjourn

Resolution

Motion to adjourn: Dickey

Second: Cooper

Vote: 6-0

Approved: 7:04pm

Materials related to an item on this Agenda submitted to the North Valley Municipal Advisory Council after distribution of the agenda packet are available for public inspection in the Board of Supervisors' Office located at 575 Administration Drive, Room 100-A, Santa Rosa, CA, during normal business hours.

Note: Consideration of agenda items will proceed as follows:

1. Presentation
 2. Questions by Councilmembers
 3. Questions and comments from the public
 4. Response by presenter, if required
 5. Comments by Councilmembers
 6. Resolution, if indicated
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