



## Sonoma Coast Municipal Advisory Council

Scott Farmer, Chair

### Members

#### Bodega/Valley Ford

Che Casul  
Alternate: Misty West  
Gay

#### Timber Cove

Scott Farmer, Chair  
Alternate: Annie  
Cresswell

#### Sea Ranch/Annapolis

Marti Campbell, Vice  
Chair  
Dibby Tyler  
Alternate: Paul Plakos

#### Kashi Band/Pomo Indians

Abreanna Gomes

#### Fort Ross

Wanda Swenson  
Alternate: Chris Fohner

#### Jenner

Cal Ares  
Alternate: Elizabeth  
Gallagher

#### Bodega Bay

Brooks Rooney  
Cathy Beck  
Alternate: Bob Amiral

Clerk: Cindy Culcasi  
Staff: Elise VanDyne  
Staff: Leo Chyi

In accordance with Executive Order N-25-20 and N-29-20 regarding the Brown Act for public meetings during the public health emergency, the November Coast MAC meeting will be held virtually. The meeting will be on Zoom and on Facebook live, links below. After the event, videos are available both on facebook and on the Sonoma County 5<sup>th</sup> District Youtube channel.

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://sonomacounty.zoom.us/j/92944554685?pwd=b3VTTU92WmM3OEZvY2Z4SWZxYTJyZz09>

Passcode: 137279

Or iPhone one-tap :

US: +16699009128,,92944554685# or +13462487799,,92944554685#

Streaming Facebook Live on Supervisor Lynda Hopkins page

<https://www.facebook.com/supervisorlyndahopkins/>

**November 18, 2020**

**5:30 – 7:30 pm**

### Meeting Agenda

#### Pledge of Allegiance

#### Roll Call

##### **A. Approval of Agenda**

**B. Statement(s) of conflict of interest:** if any, from Council members

##### **C. Correspondence**

##### **D. Consent Calendar**

1. Approval of July General meeting minutes

2. Approval of September meeting minutes

##### **E. Public Comment**

Comment from the public regarding matters of general interest not on the agenda, but related to the Sonoma Coast MAC business. Pursuant to the Brown Act, the Sonoma Coast MAC cannot consider issues or take action on any requests during this comment period. Due to time constraints, comments will be limited at the discretion of the Chair.

##### **F. Informational / Presentation Items**

1. Supervisor Lynda Hopkins

2. LCP status updates

3. Tourism Impact: Issues and Strategies

Parking AdHoc report

4. Coast MAC 2021 nominations



**Sonoma Coast Municipal Advisory Council**  
Scott Farmer, Chair

**Regular Calendar Items** (Discussion and/or Action) None

**Council Member and Staff Reports**

1. Chair
2. Nomination AdHoc report
3. District 5 Liaison Report
4. Emergency Preparedness AdHoc committee report
- 5.
6. Pole Mountain Update
7. Council Member Comments

**G. Call for Agenda Items**

**H. Adjournment**

## Sonoma Coast Municipal Advisory Council

Scott Farmer, Chair

July 15, 2020 MAC Meeting, 5:30 pm – 7:30pm

### Members

#### Bodega/Valley Ford

Che Casul

Alternate: Misty West  
Gay

#### Timber Cove

Scott Farmer, Chair

Alternate: Annie  
Cresswell

In accordance with Executive Order N-25-20 and N-29-20 regarding the Brown Act for public meetings during the public health emergency, the July Coast MAC meeting will be held virtually. The meeting will be on Zoom and on Facebook live, links below:

- Zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/96729479480> Meeting ID: 967 2947 9480

One tap mobile +16699009128,,96729479480# US

- Or available via Facebook live on Supervisor Hopkins Facebook page here: <https://www.facebook.com/supervisorlyndahopkins/>

#### Sea Ranch/Annapolis

Marti Campbell,

Vice-Chair

Dibby Tyler

Alternate: Paul Plakos

### Meeting Agenda

#### Pledge of Allegiance

#### Roll Call

#### Kashia Band/Pomo

Indians Abreanna Gomes

#### Fort Ross

Wanda Swenson

Alternate: Chris Fohner

#### Jenner

Cal Ares

Alternate: Elizabeth

Gallagher

#### Bodega Bay

Brooks

Rooney Cathy

Beck

Alternate: Bob Amiral

Clerk: Cindy Culcasi

Staff: Elise VanDyne

#### A. Approval of Agenda

#### B. Statement(s) of conflict of interest: if any, from Council members

#### C. Correspondence

#### D. Consent Calendar

Approval of March minutes

#### E. Public Comment

Comment from the public regarding matters of general interest not on the agenda but related to the Sonoma Coast MAC business. Pursuant to the Brown Act, the Sonoma Coast MAC cannot consider issues or take action on any requests during this comment period. Due to time constraints, comments will be limited at the discretion of the Chair.

#### F. Information / Presentation (discussion only)

- Deputy Jeremy Lyle and Misti Wood of Sonoma County Sheriff on Coastal Crime Issues
- Pole Mountain project, Marshall Turbeville.
- Cal Fire, update, Q&A, Marshall Turbeville

#### G. Regular Calendar Items (Discussion and/or Action)

- Land Use/Events Permit process
- TIF Priorities and Process

#### H. Council Member and Staff Reports

- Chair – AdHoc updates
- Emergency Preparedness AdHoc Chair report.
- Bodega Bay members report on letter sent in January.
- Staff Reports

**I. Call for Agenda Items**

**J. Adjournment**

Sonoma Coast Municipal Advisory Council

Scott Farmer Chair

May 20, 2020 5:30-7:30

Online Zoom/Facebook Meeting

**Meeting called to order** – Mac Clerk Nance Jones

**Pledge of Allegiance-** All

**Roll Call-** Present: Che Casul, Cal Ares, Cathy Beck, Marti Campbell, Scott Farmer, Wanda Swenson, Brooks Rooney, Dibby Tyler

**Absent-** Abreanna Gomes

**Statement of Conflict of Interest-** none

**Correspondence-** none

**Chair Statement-**It has been 4 months since our last meeting. We have been separated from one another, yet somehow, I think we are closer than before. Thoughtful and careful people have charted our path. For them I am grateful. I feel safer for their efforts. Yet we have far to go. We intend to have all boats rise with the new tide. Let's start the meeting.

**Approval of Agenda** – Marti Campbell moved to approve agenda. Motion seconded by Dibby Tyler. Motion carried 9-0-0

**Consent Calendar:**

**Approval of 1-15-2020 Minutes-** Based on corrections made Brooks Rooney made a motion to approve minutes and the motion was seconded by Cathy Beck. Motion carried 9-0-0-

**Public Comment:**

**Vesta Copestakes-**Wanted to know if the coastal plans will be following other plans and removing all spraying with herbicides.

**Nate Buck-** appreciates opening of boat ramp wants to remind everyone that fishing is more than recreation, that for many people it supplements the food they put on the table so consider this during future openings.

**Regular Calendar Items:**

Supervisor Lynda Hopkins gave an update on the new openings of the SIP. New areas are open and some of them are:

Mowing and landscaping, childcare for non-essential workers, dog walking and grooming, car washes and residential and janitorial services. The county has now met the criteria for 2b so

will begin to look at outdoor dining and outdoor movies, religious services and modified summer camps.

There are resources for small businesses through SOCO Launch. Looking how to make outdoor dining and retail work for businesses.

**Bert Whitaker- Director of Regional Parks-**

He acknowledged that the coastal areas will be challenged with many visitors. Inland park facilities are partially re-opened, most have opened parking lots and the inland lots are very full

Coastal parks have soft closures. The parking lots are closed, and you may either bike or walk to park. The beaches and trails are closed from 11-5 pm.

Boat ramp at Westside open and people can launch their own boats to fish for food.

Bert talked about the apprehension of influx of tourists along the Russian river corridor and the coast. Also concerned about the significant trash pickup.

They continue to be in support of a phased approach to opening but realize that many tourists from outside the area will try to go to coastal beaches.

**Mike Lair- State Parks Regional Director-**

He and Bert are working together in sync and following health orders. He noted that most of the local folks are following the orders but many visitors from out of the area are not.

**California Highway Patrol Captain Aristotle Wolf-**

He announced that they are not enforcing the health orders per se. They cannot legally stop people and ask them where they are from, but they are enforcing vehicle and parking violations and will be ticketing those. They will move people along when they can. They cannot cite cars unless they are in violation. There will be two extra officers out at the coast this weekend as they are aware it is a holiday weekend and the weather are supposed to be nice. While they are supportive of the health orders their main function is violation of laws and crime.

**Board Comment-**

Brooks Rooney- Do Law enforcement have enough PPE? Lynda Hopkins responded that the county had more than enough PPE of all types to support many areas including law enforcement

Cathy Beck- We need patience and hope that people will mind their manners. She appreciates all the police and parks staff are doing.

Scott Farmer When will Salt Point State Park get a resident badge? Mike Lair responded that there is a candidate in the academy now and in July they will stay in one of the park residences there.

Brooks Rooney- A suggestion for future planning. Has anyone considered the feasibility of only allowing parking on one side of the coastal roads? Elise asked for Brooks to send info to her as she is working now with Caltrans to address other issues and will make this suggestion.

Brooks to Lynda Hopkins- Second home families spending the weekend in Bodega Bay. Can Dr. Mase make it legal for folks to come in. Currently Elise noted that a family cannot move between two houses unless the need to check essentials or perform maintenance.

Cathy Beck – supports a long-term solution of no parking on either side of Hwy1

Wanda Swenson- Could we expect all the parking lots to be closed until there is a vaccine?  
Lynda responded that there will be a phased in approach as appropriate going forward.

#### **Public Comment-**

Liz Martin- is very concerned about this weekend. Park parking lots are closed but there are other parking lots with to go food where people are staying and eating outside. Aristotle reported that they only continue to work out there addressing traffic and ordinance laws.

Cea Higgins- people are parking all over but not ticketed due to legal space. What is to discourage them from coming as only locals are following the ordinance. Aristotle responded that in many instances a ticket may not even deter some people and that this is really a social contract. Mike Lair responded that the Park rangers have more flexibility based on their CCR's to cite cars but that is about all.

Donna Martinez- Short term rentals when will they open? Lynda responded that there is no timeline yet and not in the short-term realm

Frank Bell- Public Policy notifications are hard to read as they are so small. Also, the parking lots have been busy but people demonstrating acceptable behavior thus far.

Vesta Copestakes- Can there be clarity around the restrooms? Bert responded that it is up to park operators, but no regional park restrooms are open at this time and Mike Lair said same for state parks. Mike also responded again that the rangers have a little more flexibility in citing visitors but there are miles of coast, so it is very challenging.

Bob Miller- He has been in business in Bodega Bay for 25 years and has been shut down for the last several months and has been happy to do. He notices that at Salmon Creek when people are there and asked to leave by ranger, they do but the minute rangers are gone visitors come right back in. There are not enough officers to police all of this. Surfers would be happy to help volunteer with keeping visitors out. Bob also commented on Coleman Valley Road becoming a public restroom and that the restrooms need to be opened.

Mike Nicholls- commented that in Santa Cruz they are running plates and notifying people.

Kate- doesn't feel like she hears much being said for coastal members safety with all the people coming to the coast. Lynda Hopkins commented that this statement is inaccurate as they are absolutely taking everyone's safety into consideration but opening slowly and thoughtfully. They are constantly thinking of the health of the community.

George Flores- Can residents put notices on cars addressing health ordinances and also for fire safety?

No answer at this point

Donna Martinez- Is there a time limit on how long you can stay at second home to do maintenance? Air

B&B's are operating. Does the closure also include hotels as many are open? Lynda responded that hotels can be open for essential workers and homeless. She is trying to get approval for code enforcement staff to go out and cite violations.

Vesta Copestakes- commented that hotel income is increasing how is that. Lynda Hopkins has not seen the article citing this so cannot comment at this time

Anonymous- commented need help with road vegetation mowing. Elise informed that people should put in a SOCO alert and it will be reviewed and prioritized by TPW.

Anonymous- The health notices are too small

Debbie- If get pulled over for speeding and you find out they are in violation of health order will they get cited. Aristotle responded that they will not cite but educate.

Merlin Kolb- Thanks for all your hard work, He is a charter boat captain and many arenas are opening like Berkeley and SFO but not Bodega Bay. They have put together good plans and need them approved. He urges Lynda to open sport fishing.

Eric Koenigshofer- Asked that the inappropriate tourism advertising be removed. Lynda will pass on immediately.

Kate- commented grass next to highway and flowers are brown and she thought that CALTRANS agreed not to use herbicide.

#### **Communication Plan-**

Scott Farmer did an overview of the draft communication plan that had been approved by the LRR MAC.

#### **Board Comment-**

Brooks Rooney- thinks the plan sounds good and favors adopting as it can be revised as needed.

Cathy Beck- requested that on 5c MAC be capitalized

Dibby Tyler- under B advisory topics is capped. Recommends not capitalizing it.

A motion was made by Che Casul to adopt the new communication Plan with the two corrections and it was seconded by Marti Campbell Motion carried 9-0-0



### **Land Use/Events permit Process-**

Scott Farmer did an overview of the new AdHoc committee for Land Use. He has identified the need for a new AdHoc committee and is looking for volunteers along with himself. Scott Farmer-Chair

Wanda Swenson

Cathy Beck

Che Casul

Scott will set up the first meeting of the group

### **TIF Priorities-**

Scott informed the board that the correct version of the TIF policy was not posted and the TIF AdHoc can correct. The TIF funds at this time though are largely exhausted so this will be tabled to next meeting.

There was a motion to table until next meeting was made by Cathy Beck and seconded by Marti Campbell. Motion carried 9-0-1 Che abstained from voting due to conflict of interest.

### **New Agenda Setting Process-**

Scott read through a document outlining the new agenda setting process. As chair he believes it will make the agenda setting process more open and transparent to the board and the community. The agenda setting AdHoc will be disbanded this meeting and the new process will begin now. Agenda items will be asked for at end of each meeting Board members and community members will be asked to submit at end of meeting or to email items to Elise VanDyne. Elise will keep track of submitted items and work with Chair for each meeting to set agenda items.

Here is draft agenda setting process as read by Scott Farmer:

Prior to the end of each MAC public meeting, MAC Representatives will have an opportunity to offer agenda topics for future consideration. The public will also have the opportunity to offer agenda topics for future consideration. District 5 staff will record and manage these. When an agenda is being formed, District 5 staff, the Chair and Vice Chair will review offered topics and current events affecting the coast and set the agenda. When we return to hosted public meetings, the hosting representative(s) will be consulted. If a representative or member of the public wishes to offer topics between meetings, they may do so by presenting it directly to District 5 staff and it will be included for consideration.

The intent is to gather a broad set of topics that represent the needs and concerns of our community and move items to an agenda in a meaningful way.

### **Board Comment-**

Marti Campbell- asked for Scott to send out his draft copy to all. Nance to include in minutes below.

Cathy Beck- appreciates new system

Marti Campbell- suggested we go ahead and adopt through a vote and she would feel good approving.

Dibby Tyler- if we are going to approve needs to hear verbally one more time.

**Public Comment-**

Geff Smith-recommended you wait until you can review document at next meeting.

Motion to approve new agenda setting process made by Marti Campbell. Seconded by Brooks Rooney.

Motion carried 8-1-0. Che voted nay.

**Council Members Report-**

Che identified that their funding is transferring from WCCS to SAY and he does not see this organization serving the coastal youth.

Brooks Rooney- Ken Tan( Regional Parks Planning Department) held a meeting in Bodega Bay to update residents on the second phase of the Bodega Bay bike and pedestrian trail Cathy Beck and Brooks Rooney wrote a letter in support of the project signing it as Coastal MAC members. A copy will be sent to Elise for inclusion as correspondence for next meeting.

Scott Farmer- thanked Cal Trans for removing trees in right of way. He wanted to dispel a rumor that the Salt Point Park cell tower will not be able to be used by locals. It will be available for use August 2020. Scott also reported with tourism down the number of first responder calls has decreased by 50% since parks are closed.

**Sunseting of AdHocs-**

Scott Farmer will sunset the following AdHocs for 2020 and form the new Land Use/ Events Permit Process and Emergency Preparedness AdHocs

Land Use/ Events Permit Process- addressed in earlier pages of the minutes.

Emergency Preparedness Scott asked for volunteers-

Paul Plakos- Alternate

Cathy Beck

Scott Farmer

Wanda Swenson

Chair to be decided at first AdHoc meeting and Scott Farmer will take responsibility to set up first meeting.

**Staff Report by Elise VanDyne-**

- 1) LCP - updated schedule in a few days. Going to planning commission in September with revised draft - bringing in all the comments received. BOS review by end of the year. Revised Draft available before any of these
  
- 2) TIF Funds awarded for 2019-2020
  - Bodega Bay Area Chamber of Commerce, \$5,000 for small business support
  - Russian River Chamber of Commerce, \$7,500 to help small business set up online
  - TLC Child and Family Services, \$15,000 basics support
  - River to Coast Children's Services, \$20,000 basics support
  - Russian River Alliance (two grants), \$10,000 food delivery
  - The Center for Social and Environmental Stewardship, \$10,000 Youth program
  - Sonoma County Farm Trails, \$20,000 Food programs
  - Sebastopol Center for the Arts, \$15,000 Artist Support
  - Friends of Rio Nido, \$5,000 Small business support
  - Main Stage West, \$5,000 online production support
  - Lazy Bear Fund, Inc., \$20,000 food provision from local restaurants
  - Pets are Loving Support, \$5,000 pet supplies and delivery to patients
  - West County Community Services (two grants), \$45,000 showers for homeless and food programs
  - Russian Riverkeeper on behalf of Clean River Alliance, \$5,000 Food delivery
  - Latino Service Providers, \$25,000 basic support
  - North Bay Organizing Project on behalf of UndocuFund, \$25,000 undocumented workers basic support

There were also a variety of proposals that we were able to send to other funding sources within the county. Some are being contracted to provide food and services through Emergency Operations Center, for example. As a result, we have been able to

stretch our limited dollars as far as possible. One of these was Coastal Seniors for food provision along the North Coast.

3) Update on the Fire Town Hall

- a) Vegetation - this is the time to report vegetation management time for county roads and to work your own home vegetation management.
  
- b) Alerts and evacuation - better alert system with camera system. Disaster Operation Center in contract with broadcast networks to get the news out. County Sheriff and fire working on a county- wide evacuation plan.

c) Shelter after evacuation - what kind of locations and new regulations are needed under an evacuation during the Shelter in Place. Full video of the Town Hall is on Lynda Hopkins Facebook page.

### **Agenda Planning for next Meeting**

#### **Board-**

Cal Ares – suggested that the agenda should include an update each meeting from Fire Marshalls

Cathy Beck- suggested that the group begin to look at what sustainable tourism would look like

Brooks Rooney- identified that there is an overburdened coast and suggest review of new housing regs around ADU's and also look at what affordable housing is out there or planned

Dibby Tyler- suggested a visioning session for what the coast will look like post covid-

#### **19 Public-**

Geff Smith requested that a local fire representative be at each meeting now through fall. They can assess local properties now for fire. Just need to request local representative.

#### **Adjournment-**

A motion was made by Che to adjourn meeting at 7:53 and seconded by Dibby Tyler.

Motion carried 9-0- 0

**Sonoma Coast Municipal Advisory Council**  
**Scott Farmer, Chair**  
**September 16, 2020, 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.**  
**Online Zoom/Facebook Meeting**

**Meeting Called to Order**

Cindy Culcasi

**Pledge of Allegiance**

All

**Roll Call – Present**

Scott Farmer - Chair  
Che Casul  
Dibby Tyler  
Wanda Swenson  
Brooks Rooney  
Marti Campbell  
Cathy Beck  
Abreanna Gomes

**Absent**

Cal Ares

**Approval of Agenda**

Kathy Beck moved to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Che Casul. The motion carried 8-0 with one absent.

**Statements of Conflict of Interest:** if any, from Council members

None

**Correspondence**

None

**Consent Calendar**

1. Approval of July 15 General Meeting Minutes – The meeting minutes were not posted 72 hours, prior to the meeting as is required, but are posted now. Approval is deferred to the November Meeting
2. Approval of July 30 Special Meeting Minutes - Motion made by Dibby Tyler to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Wanda Swenson. The motion carried 8-0 with one absent.
3. Approval of Updated Bylaws - Motion made by Brooks Rooney. The motion was seconded by Cathy Beck. The motion carried 8-0 with one absent

## Public Comment

Richard James - Mr. James spoke to two issues:

1. The Port of Bodega Parking Lot where fishermen access the bay and ocean to catch fish and crabs is regularly covered with crab broke trimmings, trash, and thousands of cigarette butts. Last Saturday, Mr. James spent 2 hours picking up 811 butts and various other items of trash. There was no easily accessible trash can or butt receptacle and the dumpster is locked. The receptacle for fishing line is usually stuffed with cans, bottles, and other trash items. He has seen deck hands from charter boats dump bags of trash into the dumpster from their trucks when it is unlocked. Instead of assigning these duties to Noah Wagner and his staff to clean up (as was suggested to Mr. James 2 years ago by Lynda Hopkins and her staff) he would like law enforcement to issue warnings for a brief time and then issue citations.
2. Mr. James spoke to the oil and gas sheen on the waters in slips A through E at Spud Point. Additionally, the irresponsible way that fishermen and those living on boats dispose of hazardous waste and make no effort to use recycle receptacles for cans and bottles. Slip owners regularly dump refrigerators, microwaves, electronic equipment and other metal items that contain oil or other toxic substances into the bay. Noel Wagner has told Mr. James that he and his staff regularly tell people not to dump items, but to inform him when they have items that need special care, and he will dispose of them. Noah's staff pulls items dumped into the bay and stores them and then makes a call so they can be picked up at a cost. Oysters are grown at the end of slips D and E. The water by these slips is the last place upscale snacks should be reared and stored. Mr. James has heard anecdotally that some boats drop their heads directly into the main waters.

Cea Higgins - As part of Coast Walk's responsibility, Coastal Cleanup Day is scheduled every year. Last year 30,000 pounds of garbage was removed from the Sonoma coast and inland waterways. This year, a large event like the past can't be held, but individual, family, and small group clean up can be done. A clean up kit will be provided for everyone who registers. Go to: <https://coastwalk.org/2020-coastal-cleanup/> to sign up for the coastal cleanup crew. This is a yearlong commitment once you get a kit. Please share this information with everyone to let them know it is going on. Coast Walk is looking for any type of support, including financial. Ms. Higgins said this year there is more debris than usual and we are being inundated with marine debris. She isn't sure if it is due to COVID or what the reason is, but our parking lots, roadways, and beaches are inundated with garbage. Providing a contribution to Coast Walk would be greatly appreciated. Thank you.

Jennifer Merchant - Ms. Merchant introduced herself. She is the new Community Manager at the Sea Ranch Association. Ms. Merchant expressed her appreciation to the almost immediate response and welcome she received from Elise VanDyne of Supervisor Hopkin's staff. She wanted to introduce herself. Ms. Merchant recently moved from the North Lake Tahoe area where she worked for Placer County for about 15 ½ years. She was their Deputy County Executive Officer and has experience working with county governments and engaging communities. She is thrilled to be representing Sea Ranch and will be attending the MAC Meetings as time permits.

## **Informational/Presentation Items**

### **Supervisor Lynda Hopkins**

Supervisor Hopkins gave a huge thank you to our volunteer fire fighters and local fire districts who came together and saved many homes. Firefighters saved over 500 homes within the Meyers and Walbridge Fires footprints areas. We lost over 100 homes, but a heroic effort was made despite limited resources. Our Emergency Watershed Response Task Force (provided by the state) is in the field and they are identifying high priority both watershed concerns as well as public infrastructure concerns. They are looking at the areas such as where the Meyers Fire burned down to the coast and impacted Hwy1. The Task Force will be looking at mitigation plans to try to prevent erosion. They will be deploying resources, including to private property owners who don't have the resources to mitigate issues on their own. The Task Force will use various methods to help control erosion during the rainy season.

Community Investment Funds applications are open. Supervisor Hopkins hoped that Cea Higgins was still listening and submits an application for funds for the Coast Walk cleanup kits. That is a project they would love to support. If Ms. Higgins has trouble finding the link, Supervisor Hopkins staff would be happy to look it up for her and share via chat during the meeting.

Supervisor Hopkins gave an update on the burned down house in Bodega Bay. This was discussed during the closed session of the Board of Supervisors, so she shared the facts (per County Council) that she was able to discuss during the MAC Meeting. The Board of Supervisors has allowed Council and Staff to enter into settlement negotiations with the claimant property owners to see if the matter can be resolved without litigation. The goal is to complete the demolition of the building as quickly as possible. The Board is trying to keep this out of court and settle with the property owners quickly since this has been an issue for a long time.

Supervisor Hopkins wanted to acknowledge the substantial impact on the coast that occurred over Labor Day weekend. There will be a Bodega Bay internally facing Focus Group tomorrow in partnership with the Bodega Bay Fire Protection District. The Bodega Bay MAC Representatives have also been invited. It would be great to revisit for a future conversation as it relates to the infrastructure on the coast and tourism. Both the Lower Russian River and Southern Sonoma County Coast were substantially impacted by gridlock over the Labor Day weekend while the Walbridge Fire was still uncontained and there were high temperatures in Southern California and the Central Valley. This resulted in a confluent number of factors.

Sonoma County still remains in the worst tier as it relates to reopening. Other counties are reopening since they have moved to a higher tier, but Sonoma County is not there yet. What is happening to cause this and what can we do to be more proactive? Supervisor Hopkins will be talking to Dr. Mace to discuss how to address the issue. Is this something about contact tracing that the Board of Supervisors did? Should there be a division for COVID-19 services within Health Services? What are some of our most challenging areas where we are seeing the most outbreaks and how do we work to proactively address them?

### **Public Questions:**

A participant asked about the new measures to help the fire victims. It doesn't seem to apply to the Meyers Fire victims. The county was going to come out to clean hazardous waste and now that has changed. How is the County handling working with all the agencies to handle the fire follow up to keep things moving forward? Supervisor Hopkins responded - One of the challenges of the measures that were passed yesterday is that they can't apply in the coastal zone because any measures on the coast have to go through the Coastal Commission. The Supervisor is in touch with the Director of Permit Sonoma and they are working with many of the coastal counties to work towards consistency with any new measures and using a group ask approach of the Coastal Commission. These will be very similar to the regulations that were passed in the inland areas.

#### Main Points of recently passed ordinances

- An RV can be parked on a property when their home is being rebuilt.
- A vacation rental ban for new rentals within the burn zone.
- A streamlining of processes
- For rebuilds along the coast, a new coastal permit is not required. It will be handled by the County
- They are trying to reach across counties to address the bureaucracy and get statewide movement on this issue

A participant who lives near Nistrath Road and Fort Ross Road asked about a section near her home that needs a tremendous amount of brush clearing. The area is from Nistrath to Cazadero proper and it the one of the few escape routes from the area. Other neighbors have called County roads to complain. There is one area that washed out a couple of years ago and a temporary bridge was built which is very narrow and a large trailer would not be able to get through it if needed. Is there any funding or will brush clearing be done on this section on the road? Supervisor Hopkins responded - She will follow up with the Transportation Director of Public Works, Johannes J. Hoevertsz. She requested some photos from the resident which will help raise the sense of awareness of the issue when she follows up. The photos can be emailed to District 5 or directly to Supervisor Hopkins.

Leo Chyi (Staff, Supervisor Hopkins) also responded and said Johannes was aware of the issue and had reached out to Elise VanDyne (Field Rep - Staff, Supervisor Hopkins). Johannes is coordinating with the Fort Ross Fire Department since they had been stating the same concerns. We'll keep an eye on it to make sure it happens.

### **David Robinson – Manager of Regional Parks**

David Robinson spoke of the exponential increase in the numbers of people visiting the coast. The increase is unprecedented. There has been a 40% increase of visitors between June 2019 to June 2020. 40% of the campgrounds sold out the first week of July. Labor Day Weekend set records at Doran Beach with people arriving early in the morning to visit the beach on that Sunday. The Doran Beach parking lot was full by 9:00 am on the Sunday of Labor Day Weekend and that shows that people were leaving their homes very early in the morning to visit the beach. During that morning, the parking lot turned over 1 ½ times with an estimation of 4,000 to 5,000 visiting the beach. We saw the impacts all along the coast. We've known this is a regional destination, but not to the extent we see now. Statistics are



being gathered for about the past 4 months. About 40% of the people visiting Doran Beach are from the Sacramento area. Data gathered from the Russian River show that 30% to 40% of the people visiting are from the East Bay. In a normal year, there would still be issues, but this year we have the pandemic. Some visitors are responsible about gathering in groups, and others are not following the guidelines.

The Regional Parks now have a Twitter account (Sonoma County Parks). Please follow us/like us. If you are thinking of coming to the coast and you see a Tweet that we are full, don't come. Go visit a different park. We are hiring and increasing staff. Facebook messages are being boosted to improve outreach to potential visitors to alert them when the parks are full. Parks have mask dispensers, signage (i.e. maintain 6 feet apart) contractors to clean the restrooms 1 to 2 times a day, and maps showing the northern beaches (i.e. Stillwater). The Regional Parks are trying novel approaches to address the various issues such as shuttles in the Russian River areas and on the coast.

#### Questions by Council Members:

- Cathy Beck - The State Parks should be involved. Ms. Beck called Mike McGuire's office (as a citizen) to complain about the fact that the State Parks are getting overwhelmed. She also talked to the people who collect trash at the State Parks, and they said they are collecting three times more trash than in the past.
  - David Robinson - We work with State Parks also. He believes a conversation is happening tomorrow with the State Parks in attendance, and Supervisor Hopkins.

#### Questions by the Public

- Norma Jealouson/Bodega Bay - Ms. Jealouson spoke to the extreme level of trash on the beaches. Scotty Creek is heavily used all the time and there are no rest rooms which results in issues on the beach. She would like the Regional Parks to investigate this in regard to overuse. Pinnacle Gulch and Shorttail Gulch are a mess also. The overuse occurred after the pandemic hit.
- Robin R - Robin appreciates that Supervisor Hopkins is looking into the trash problem. There is a problem with fireworks being shot off (mostly at the State Beaches). There needs to be better coordination between State Parks and County Parks. Residents have a fear of fire in the area due to the fireworks. Due to the parks being full, people are camping all over the place. There are RVs parked along the road and in parking lots. Robin asked if David Robinson is factoring in that when the pandemic ends, there will be less people visiting the coast?
  - David Robinson - Mr. Robinson is hopeful that when the coast isn't the only place to go that people will enjoy going to a movie or a mall. On the other side of that, he is happy that many people are trying parks for the first time and support them. He said this is a great opportunity to educate people about the trash and the consequences of their actions, so we have environmental leaders and people will become champions of the environment.
- Carol Salonica - Ms. Salonica was speaking from Jenner. Jenner is especially impacted by the State Park problem. The town parking lot is owned by the State Parks. For a while, the parking lot was closed, but it is open now. The Visitor Center is still closed. People are parking on the side of the road, on the side of Goat Rock Road, and any other places they can park. She hasn't seen people unmasked, however her biggest concern is that they are not used to being

outdoors. They throw cigarette butts and all kinds of garbage around and trash cans are overflowing. There is garbage all along Hwy1 from the Russian River to the town of Jenner. Ms. Salonica stated most residents don't go out on weekends since there are so many tourists in town. She thinks we need to stop inviting tourists. She is happy many are enjoying the State Parks but wants to understand how education can take place regarding trash and traffic.

- John Woodward - Mr. Woodward is in the process of moving from Southern California to the Northern Coast. He was surprised about all the issues since he thought he was getting away from this. He appreciates what the County and State Parks are doing by trying to educate people, but how much of this is a result of overselling people to visit the coast. How do we fix this? Mr. Woodward wanted to share his concerns.

### **Meredith Wharf Rebuilding Plan – Michelle Ling and Mike Volatile**

For reference, the presentation begins 37:41 minutes into the MAC Zoom Meeting located on YouTube. The presentation contains numerous details and is an excellent reference for both pictures and details. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5UHqYQqEWx8g>

Mike Volatile gave an overview of the plan. Quite a bit of planning went into the project. They discovered that the wharf is built on landfill. A heavy slab was poured over 2/3 of the footprint of the building. The slab makes it possible to drive heavy equipment on the wharf. This allows the work to be done on the landside of the pier vs. the water side which will save a lot of time and money.

Plan details:

- The building will be picked apart from the land side park lot and the demolition process will move outward towards the water. The building pieces will be hauled away to landfill.
- There are a number of concerns:
  - Traffic - Hwy1 is a busy road.
  - There are two popular retail outlets nearby. A lot of people come and go from both stores.
  - Demolition hours: Start 7:00 am Monday thru Friday (no holidays or weekends); The contractor will have 2 fulltime employees directing traffic, both construction traffic and traffic stopping at the stores.
  - There is no organized parking on this site. People shopping at the Taffy Store just pull in and pull out. There aren't a lot of long-term visits. The County wants to keep the area safe, while not impacting the stores and getting the demolition work done.
  - The contractor will park offsite to help with congestion. There will be a fence barricading the wharf from the public.
  - Air monitors will be used to take samples and measure the airborne particulate in and around the construction area. This will ensure that the contractor is aware of the dust, etc. and that no fugitive emissions are released. The monitoring will be done downwind. With this monitoring, there is a real time check of the air quality. The monitoring will be provided by a third-party engineering company.
  - The contractor will put netting and a floating boom around the entire perimeter of the wharf. They will also use a small skiff to monitor around the wharf for any debris that

- wasn't captured by the netting. Any debris will be removed from the water immediately. There will be two workers who will pick up a debris on an ongoing basis.
- The physical work begins on October 5, 2020. The control measures (netting, etc.) will be installed in September. The building is dangerous and continues to deteriorate.
  - A crew will remove all hazardous material prior to the demolition. When construction begins, the crew will be on site to remove any additional hazardous material that might be found.
  - The building will be down by the end of October.

Michelle Ling covered some additional details:

- There are concerns by the surrounding businesses that demolition will impact the businesses.
- Some are concerned about the environment and the building.
- Some believe the building to be a terrible eyesore
- Others are interested in the age of the building and its history. Why is it being demolished and what is going to happen?
- Community Outreach:
  - This was a good time to recognize the pier and the rich history of this area.
  - What do the people want? Community input.
  - There are still people around who worked on the pier. We are interested in safety and planning, but also in the history of the pier.
  - Many points of contact:
    - Virtual Town Halls
    - Webpage
    - Large signage placed strategically
    - Flyers distributed by the visitor's center, local businesses, etc.
    - Partnership with Supervisor's Office, business owners, historical society, chamber of commerce, visitor's center
    - Creative Sonoma
- Mike Volatile added that their main objective is to get the site safe. The site is an attractive nuisance, and some want to try and climb on it. Some of the pier will be left behind when the project is completed. We didn't have the funds to demolish the entire pier or return it to its prior state.
- Questions:
  - What hazardous materials are you finding? Household wastes, oils, solvents, etc. Some parts of the building contain lead. The hazmat contractor is scraping the lead paint off.
  - What is Creative Sonoma? - Creative Sonoma is a County agency that engages art projects. They have been a great partner in helping Ms. Ling decide what to put at the site that will help educate people about the site, the pier, the history of it and future. The demolition project is the current project and any future changes will be a new project. If the pier ends up as a fishing pier, parking lot, or whatever, that will be a new project. What will be left after the current project is the part of the pier and the concrete pilings. Most of the demolition is above water so as not to harm the existing habitat.
  - What is the total cost of the project? - The cost is \$1.1 million.

### **Council Member Questions –**

- Cathy Beck - Ms. Beck suggested that construction be stopped at noon on Fridays. Traffic gets heavier on Friday afternoons. She also mentioned that she was a commercial fisherman who came from Monterey Bay in 1976. Her first catch in Bodega was sold to the fish company at Meredith Wharf. - Michelle Ling thought the story was great. She said she is working with Creative Sonoma and the Historical Society to make sure all the history is captured.

### **Public Questions – None**

### **Regular Calendar Items**

#### **Land Use Permit Process and Update Status of Timber Cove Country Inn Application – Scott Farmer**

### **Council Member Comments on Process in General**

No comments

### **Update Status of Timber Cove Country Inn Application**

Scott Farmer contacted Marina Herrera (Permit Sonoma) to check on the status of the project. Ms. Herrera replied that the application is in an incomplete status and she is waiting for more information.

### **Council Member Comments on Timber Cove Inn Application**

Dibby Tyler - Ms. Tyler read the report and stated that there should be some sense of importance on the items listed that need to be provided. She came away from the special meeting that the Inn really needed to address the water problem. The entire report bothered Ms. Tyler since it didn't seem to emphasize what was critical.

Wanda Swenson – Ms. Swenson agreed with Ms. Tyler and the report struck her the same way. Water is the primary issue.

### **Public Comment**

No comments

### **Three Year Term – Scott Farmer**

Four individual council members were given three-year terms. The initial terms were off set so everyone's term didn't come up at the same time. New Council Members will be elected in November. There is a process to become a member of the Council. Chair Farmer shared the application with the Council.

Council Member Brooks Rooney asked if all the other districts use the same application. Chair Farmer confirmed the same application is used. Ms. Rooney also asked if each area could share the information individually with their own area. Supervisor Hopkins responded that that is appropriate and would be welcomed. If anyone has ideas, please let Supervisor Hopkins and her staff know, and they are happy to partner to discuss. We want to get the word out to the community on community bulletin boards, the web, post offices, etc.

Wanda Swenson - Ms. Swenson wanted to thank Supervisor Hopkins for making an exception for the Fort Ross area due to its size. She is allowing recruitment, followed by approval (by Supervisor Hopkins). Fort Ross is not participating in this election process, it is a nomination process rather than a recruitment process. Chair Farmer added that this is more of a nomination process than electing members.

Robin Retero - Ms. Retero was very involved in the Bodega Bay election for the initial Coast MAC representatives. She believes it is important there is a public forum to present the candidates to the community. She thought it was important that the County present some sort of a Zoom event to introduce the candidates. Additionally, there needs to be a process to mail the ballots to the community since the process was handled poorly last time. She understands there is a cost to this but posting the ballots on a website is not efficient. She strongly supports mailing the ballots to all registered voters. Supervisor Hopkins responded - She thanked Ms. Retero for her work and remembers well her hard work during the last election. She will take the feedback back with her. She will assist with the scheduling of candidate forums, run the technical side of the meeting (i.e. Zoom) hire an independent facilitator to ensure there is no bias. The candidate forums are the week of November 10 and the vote is the week of November 17.

Scott Farmer encouraged people to put themselves forward to run. He said serving was very enlightening and it is a great group of people.

### **Council Member Reports**

#### **Scott Farmer**

- Meyers Fire – The Value of Mutual Aid - Chair Farmer wanted to thank all the communities and everyone who helped fight the fire and many people did. The value of mutual aid can't be measured.
- Please complete the Census
- Internet - We are trying to get Starlink internet to consider our area for beta testing. Go to [Starlink.com](https://www.starlink.com) and sign up with your email and physical address.
- In January, the MAC will be considering a new Chair and Vice Chair. He would like everyone to think about applying. It is very engaging and a lot of work, but the more Council Members that do it would help make us a stronger group. Please think about applying.
- Please make sure you vote in November.

#### **Brooks Rooney**

- What is the time schedule for the Local Coastal Plan (LCP)? Supervisor Hopkins will look into the status. There have been some delays due to the fires.

#### **Marti Campbell**

- Ms. Campbell believes the LCP goes to the Planning Department next in the mid to late September timeframe. She would like an LCP update at every meeting and suggested we host a meeting for comments. Ms. Campbell believes that after the Planning Department, there would be additional public comments prior to going to the Board of Supervisors. Supervisor Hopkins confirmed Ms. Campbells comments. She added that she had suggested there will be

a preliminary meeting prior to going to the Planning Commission to provide a high-level overview. Supervisor Hopkins suggested that Cecily Condon could be a standing presenter at the MAC Meetings on a regular basis to provide updates. She will circle back and check on the status.

Wanda Swenson

The Pole Mountain Lookout Board is very grateful for the support of the Emergency Preparedness AdHoc Committee, the Coast MAC, and Supervisor Hopkins office who helped the foundation obtain a \$20,000 grant from the flood mitigation grant. Through the July Coast MAC Meeting, social media, and Mr. Copeland's Gazette article, the Foundation received many generous donations. They continue to receive grant money for the completion of the new lookout and appreciate any updates on the PG&E settlement or any other grant opportunities.

#### **Emergency Preparedness AdHoc Committee Report – Paul Plakos**

The committee met recently to look at previously identified urgent concerns:

- Fuel reduction in our areas - All coastal areas are focused on defensible space on private property. A lot of the direction and focus is coming from the local fire departments, associations, and action groups such as the Coastal Rich Community Forest. We would like the County to focus on public road clearance for efficient drainage which just means maintaining the sides of the roads. There is a process for public roadways (as discussed earlier in this meeting - Nistrath Road) where photos can be sent to Supervisor Hopkin's office for review.
- Looking to gain a better understanding of the County Roads Department as it relates to road clearance and drainage and the County strategy for fuel management.
- Cell tower coverage - Work is underway to improve cell phone coverage in the central coast, especially in the Timber Cove area. There has been a long-standing project to put in another cell tower. The AdHoc Committee is going to set this aside since it seems to be moving in the right direction.
- Pole Mountain Outlook seems to have its own momentum. The AdHoc Committee will put this aside since Pole Mountain just received a \$20,000 grant.
- Regional Parking and Traffic - As painful as Labor Day Weekend was on Bodega Bay, it shined a light on the traffic issue. Supervisor Hopkins will be having conversations on this topic.
- Evacuation Communication - The recent evacuation warnings were much more specific than past communications. Emails from Supervisor Hopkins Office were very good and received good feedback. There was some concern that Law Enforcement might not have been asking returning residents to identify themselves as such.

Council Member Cathy Beck stated that there was some confusion regarding what fire zone people were in. Ms. Beck had to help a few of her neighbors. Scott Farmer found he could not enlarge the map. Leo Chyi added that the zones were still being developed and weren't finalized when the fire occurred so that might have been some of the problem. He heard this feedback from the Russian River also.

### **Public Comment**

Kala Kalani - There was some confusion on the Fort Ross Hills the C1C vs. C12. She really appreciated the focused maps. They made a huge difference.

Carol Splenica - She and her neighbors thought the maps were helpful, but it might be easier to read if each area is just a number. Santa Cruz uses a number (1,2,3,4, etc.) only system for their fire maps. Leo Chyi said the Sheriff's Department is developing the map and residents should contact them directly with comments/suggestions. Mr. Chyi stated Supervisor Hopkins is happy to pass on your comments, but the Sheriff's Department is working directly with other agencies to develop the map so going directly to them is a good approach.

### **Sunsetting the By Laws AdHoc Committee – Scott Farmer**

Chair Farmer stated the AdHoc Committee has completed their task. Brooks Rooney asked if the Policies and Procedures should also be updated. Chair Farmer deferred to Leo Chyi who responded and stated he talked with Elise VanDyne about the Lower Russian River Policies and Procedures. There was duplicate information in the By Laws. He doesn't see an issue with updating the policies and procedures if some operational details need to be updated, we can have that conversation. He would have to check with Ms. VanDyne. Council Member Rooney thinks the Policies and Procedures should be tidied up, but we can certainly work under the new By Laws.

Chair Farmer suggested we sunset the By Laws AdHoc Committee and take up the possibility of updating the policies and procedures.

### **Parking AdHoc Committee – Scott Farmer**

Chair Farmer asked for participants for the Parking AdHoc Committee. Brooks Rooney and Cathy Beck volunteered. Chair Farmer asked if Elizabeth Gallagher was interested (she was not in attendance of the meeting thus did not respond). Chair Farmer will also join the Committee. Council Member Cathy Beck will contact Ms. Gallagher directly, and ask if she would join the Committee.

### **Staff Reports - Leo Chyi**

Mr. Chyi did not have any specifics. Chair Farmer stated that tackling the parking issue was important and Mr. Chyi agreed.

### **Call for Agenda Items – Scott Farmer**

Chair Farmer asked for agenda items from Council Members and the public. There is a running list that the MAC is working through. Council Member Brooks Rooney suggest all aspects of housing on the coast. This agenda item is already on the list.

Council Member Cathy Beck asked to add an agenda item regarding how to manage tourism on the coast. Chair Farmer said that is already being discussed and Ms. Beck agreed. Ms. Beck believes this should be an ongoing item.

**Public Comment – Agenda Items**

John Woodward agreed with Cathy Beck's comments regarding how to manage tourism.

**Adjournment - Cindy Culcasi**

Cathy Beck moved the meeting be adjourned and Che Casul seconded. The matter was approved 8-0-0 with one absent

The meeting was adjourned at 7:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Cindy Culcasi  
Clerk

DRAFT



## **Overview of 2020 MAC Representatives and Applicants**

The nomination process for members of the Coast Municipal Advisory Council was open through the month of October. While we have applications for most of the representative spaces, a few are still open. 9 representatives and their alternates are nominated to serve on the Sonoma Coast (Coast) Municipal Advisory Councils. These representatives give a voice to their community, provide a conduit between disparate rural towns and the County Offices, and advise Supervisor Hopkins on topics of importance. Learn more about each representative currently serving by visiting the [Coast MAC](#) site.

Below, in this order, are:

- Council Members that are continuing their seats through 2021
  - Applicants who applied to represent your communities and will be seated in January 2021
  - Open seats that still require representation.
- I. **Coast MAC** Continuing Members – representatives with terms from January 2019 through 2021:
    - a. Sea Ranch/Annapolis - Marti Campbell, current Vice Chair
    - b. Timber Cove - Scott Farmer, current Chair
    - c. Jenner - Cal Ares
    - d. Bodega Bay - Brooks Rooney
  - II. **Coast MAC** – applicants for Council Members or Alternates whose terms begin January 2021:
    - a. Sea Ranch/Annapolis, one representative seat, one alternate. Representative designation underway and will be determined by the 18<sup>th</sup>.
      - i. Paul Plakos (current Alternate)
      - ii. Ann Yager
    - b. Kashia Band of Pomo Indians
      - i. Abreanna Gomes has been re-appointed by the tribal council
    - c. Fort Ross, applicant for representative
      - i. Wanda Swenson
    - d. Timber Cove applicants for Alternate
      - i. Annie Cresswell
    - e. Jenner applicant for alternate
      - i. Elizabeth (Liz) Gallagher
    - f. Bodega Bay – applicant for representative
      - i. Cathy Beck, Term start January 2019, Term end December 31, 2020
    - g. Bodega/Valley Ford – applicant for representative
      - i. Ché Casul
  - III. **Coast MAC** We still have a few openings for alternate positions. Alternates fill in for representatives who are unable to attend and also participate on committees as assigned. Please [download application](#) here. Any seats still without applicants by November 30<sup>th</sup> may be filled by Supervisor Hopkins at any time during the term.
    - a. Fort Ross Alternate
    - b. Bodega Bay Alternate
    - c. Bodega/Valley Ford Alternate

Current Coast MAC representative profiles are available for viewing on the [Coast MAC page here](#).

**Candidate Statements:**

**I. Sea Ranch/Annapolis, one representative seat, one alternate**

**a. Paul Plakos Profile**

In 1987, my wife and I visited the north Sonoma Coast with an interest in some day living here. We loved the area and bought a lot at The Sea Ranch on that first visit. Still living in the greater Los Angeles area, we visited The Sea Ranch as often as we could, and in 1997 we built our home. It took us another five years before we could move north, landing in the town of Sonoma. Finally, in 2005 we moved to Sea Ranch full time.

Since that time I have happily participated in several community programs. I am currently Chair of the Sea Ranch Trails Committee, a member of Gualala Rotary, a volunteer captain on the North Sonoma Coast Fire Department, President of the Board for the North Sonoma Coast Volunteer Firefighter Association, and a Rescue volunteer for The Marine Mammal Center.

For the past two years I have been the alternate-representative on the Sonoma County Coast MAC for the Sea Ranch/Annapolis area.

Thank you for your considering me for the position of MAC representative.

**b. Ann Yager**



Hello. My name is Ann Yager and I am at the point in my life where I understand what Audrey Hepburn meant by, "As you grow older, you will discover that you have two hands – one for helping yourself, the other for helping others." I have been lucky to find myself in a position where I have the wherewithal to give back to my community and would be honored to be considered for the Sonoma County Coast MAC representative position. c. I moved to the Sonoma County coast about a year and a half ago after accepting the Director of Administrative and Management Services position at The Sea Ranch Association. My husband has had family in this area for years and it was a dream for us to be able to move into the coastal community and enjoy the beauty of this area. My new job was a good stretch for me career wise as I was a supervising legal secretary in a busy District Attorney's office interested in pursuing an upper

management role.

As it turns out, my job with TSRA is becoming more and more of an experience in how to communicate effectively. I am responsible for the Association's monthly newsletter, the website, email alerts and general enquiries from our members. As well, I collaborate with a number of volunteer committees, staff members and my boss, the Community Manager. Communication is such a powerful tool, and I am fortunate to be an integral part of this communal exchange with my work. I would very much like to take my learning experiences further into my community to act as a liaison between members and our local government.

One thing I have found, is effective communication requires a great deal of quiet. I am a good listener, empathetic and engaged in what people have to say. I spend more time listening than talking to find out what is truly important to a person. There does come a point when it's time to speak up. I believe some folks feel they don't have a say when it comes to issues surrounding them and I would like to help be a voice for them. Communication has been a trend when I look back on my community service experiences. As an intern for an immigration attorney, my responsibilities included helping people disenfranchised or brand new to our country communicate some very fundamental needs to large government entities. Most recently, I have been active with Mendonoma Health Alliance and their endeavors to help our rural community members with opioid use disorder. Community stigma around drug disorders is very damaging and I hope to continue working with MHA to provide conversation regarding this topic. I am a self-learner and enjoy engaging with different aspects of my community. I think it would be interesting to be involved in decisions which will affect where I live and I want to share the decision making process with others around me who may not be able to focus on these kinds of topics by themselves.

## **II. Kashia Band of Pomo Indians**

**Abreanna Gomes** has been re-appointed by the tribal council

Occupation: Water resource technician, Kashia Band of Pomo Indians

Community service experience: American Indian Science and Engineering Society (Treasurer), National Society of Leadership and Success (Member)

Goal(s): To represent my Tribe, connect with and learn from fellow Coast MAC representatives and ensure Kashia is informed about decisions being made along the Sonoma County Coast that may affect them.

## **III. Fort Ross, applicant for representative**

### **Wanda Swenson**

My wife Gayle and I purchased a 40 acre property on the Gualala Ranch in west Sonoma County in 1992 and moved here in 1993. This is an area that was decimated by the Creighton Ridge fire in 1978. Our local VFD (the Fort Ross VFD) strengthened after the fire and reforestation and stream restoration work began. As we became part of our new community we supported fund raising efforts for the VFD in the community and did our own CFIP project, planting over 2000 redwood trees, and other natives.

As olive oil mills began popping up in Sonoma County in the mid 1990's, we planted olive trees for a small-scale olive oil production in 1997. At first, as the trees were still coming into fruition, we harvested (as many small olive producers do) on the weekends, taking our fruit to one of several mills in the area on a Monday. At first we combined our fruit with that of neighbors and for the past 10 years have had our own oil, Las Sirenas Olive Oil. The early years were fun times with friends and neighbors out working together, with plenty of food and music in the evenings. As the trees grew and our harvest reached up to a ton of fruit we began hiring neighbors to hand pick and now with harvesting rakes (and for the first time this year mechanical hand held shakers) and nets, on the ground to make the harvest even more efficient. We still love the oil, the friends we've made through our common olive oil

production and getting together a few times a year with them to taste and compare each others oils and enjoy great food, wine and good company.

I worked as a physical therapist at Kaiser Santa Rosa for 20 years and retiring in 2013. I still work as a PT locally and have recently written and published a self-care book for the general public. Gayle worked as a firefighter in San Francisco and retired in 2006.

We've both been active at times with our local homeowner's association, the Gualala Ranch Association, being board members and serving as officers. I served as president from 1998-2001. From 2016 to the present I've been on the board of the Coastal Ridge Community Forest, acting as secretary. The CRCF has been instrumental in obtaining grants for water catchment, and helping with obtaining CFIP grants for tree thinning projects and other fuel reduction programs. Gayle is on the board of the Fort Ross VFD and is currently involved with facilitating the merger of our VFD with adjacent departments (Cazadero and Timber Cove). I've attended community meetings with regards to the upcoming changes in our local emergency services. We both became HAM radio operators in 2013 and are member of the Coastal Hills Radio Group to improve local emergency communications.

I would be honored to serve the Sonoma Coastal MAC for another two years as the Fort Ross Representative during these times of change to both protect and enhance the beautiful Sonoma County coast of California.

#### **IV. Timber Cove Alternate**

##### **Annie Cresswell**

Annie Cresswell grew up in the coastal hills of Cazadero, on Seaview Road (the Ridge). She continues to reside in the community she values. Annie graduated from Fort Ross Elementary School, attended El Molino High School and transferred to Point Arena High School. Attending Empire College for a Legal Office Administration certificate she received an Associate Degree with honors. Annie married Frederick Cresswell III (aka Cress) in 1993, whom also was raised on the Ridge. They have raised two young adults in the area, both children attend Fort Ross School and El Molino High also. They enjoy sharing their love of the outdoors and the importance of involvement with their children. In 2002 Annie joined the team of Stewards of the Coast and Redwoods. She has worked for 18 plus years with Stewards expanding programs, fundraising, managing inventory, HR, planning both annually and strategic, accounting oversight and working with volunteers. This career has been both challenging and rewarding to Annie. Working with State Parks and youth education programs has been and continues to be inspiring. Through her work with Stewards as a member of the management team, Annie has learned to work with diverse groups of stake holders. She has learned the importance of listening with the intent to learn and how to manage differences of opinions. Working within the constraints of a state agency has furthered her knowledge of procedures and policies. Annie has an understanding of land use, zoning, forestry, community organizing, environmental and safety issues. She has worked on environmental issues in the area and researched proposed projects through CDF, Fish and Wildlife and Regional Water Quality. Through this research Annie learned the complexity of these projects and the importance of community involvement. She looks forward to expanding her knowledge in these areas. In her spare time Annie enjoys traveling and learning about other communities, learning in general, gardening and working with animals, cooking and baking, hiking, skiing, reading, and working outside with her family to

maintain and enrich the family properties. Annie enjoy sharing with others about our natural and cultural history of the area she is most familiar with.

V. Jenner applicant for alternate

**Elizabeth (Liz) Gallagher**

I was born and raised in Concord, California in 1953. My Mother was born in Tomahawk, Wisconsin and my Father born in San Francisco, CA. My Father was in the Navy as a radioman and my Mother was an Army Nurse/Officer at Letterman Hospital in San Francisco. They met at Gonzaga University and married in 1949 and began their family in 1950. They happily raised their 13 children in Concord, CA and enjoyed many Grand and Great Grand Children thereafter!

I attended 8 years at Queen of All Saints Catholic Grammar School (1967), 4 years at Carondelet/DeLaSalle High School (1971-Grad.), Diablo Valley Junior College (1975 Grad.) and finishing at Sonoma State College/Criminal Justice (1978 Grad.).

During High School I had a beautiful poster over my bed with a scene of a raging creek with an abundance of ferns and trees (possibly a few redwoods!) that I knew had to exist some where in this world...! I worked as a dinner cook during High School for the Sisters at a local Catholic parish. I worked for Standard Oil Co. (Chevron) during my college years.

In September of 1978 to mid December of 1978 I toured/back-packed through Great Britain and Europe with a BritRail and EurRail train passes and staying in Youth Hostels. It was filled with many "small world acquaintance" contacts relating to Sonoma County. This experience heightened my desires for traveling and feeling more comfortable about going out on my own.

Worked as a Permanent employee April 1979 at Standard Oil with a weeks paid vacation in October 1979 where I took advantage of a trip to Massachusetts to visit a former co-worker from Standard Oil. Finished work at Standard end of March 1980 with plans to work in Kodiak, Alaska for the summer. In Seattle before departure when Mount St. Helens went off on May 18, 1980. Unbeknownst to me a significant date for me in 1984!!! Back to Concord at the end of summer to work for an Attorney in Walnut Creek.

In May 1982 co-worker friend from Massachusetts came out for a visit to see Yosemite and Sonoma/Mendocino Coast...! A late stop in Jenner brought us to a stay at the Jenner Inn and meeting some locals. Stayed a few extra days to explore the area...INCLUDING JENNER CREEK... LOW AND BEHOLD...MY POSTER IDENTITY REVEALED!!! I FOUND MY FOREVER HOME!  
Moved to Jenner February 1983 and became President of The Jenner Community Club the following September or October...!

Worked at The Tides in B.B. 1983 til present...! ON MAY 18, 1984 my Daughter Sarah was born...The rest is History!!!

**VI. Bodega Bay – applicant for representative  
Cathy Beck**

Occupation: Self Employed Business Owner, Interior Design

Community service experience: Bodega Bay Fire Protection District (Director, Vice President, President), Salmon Creek Water District (Committee Member)

Platform: As a MAC representative, I keep a finger on the pulse of my community and welcome the opportunity to communicate with other MAC members about our common interests and concerns and finding possible solutions for consideration by the Board of Supervisors.

Goal(s): To have the Board of Supervisors actually listen to points and concerns our community is trying to get across. I have lived here for 42 years and it often feels like we aren't heard most of the time.

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**VII. Bodega/Valley Ford – Ché Casul**



**Ché Casul**

Term: 2 years

Occupation: Chief Executive Officer, The Center for Social and Environmental Stewardship

Community service experience: West County Community Services (Business Liaison), Buckelew Programs (Assistant Program Director), Habitat for Humanity of Sonoma County (Community Development Manager), Latino Services Providers (Board Member)

Platform: I feel I have a depth of understanding within different cultures represented in our community, which is rare to find in one person. I'm a generational rancher, a first generation Latino and a social worker, all which enable me to understand multiple perspectives, and the ability to bring diverse groups to consensus on difficult issues.

Goal(s): To protect my community's way of life, economic and physical security, and to ensure the prosperity of the generations that will come after us.