

Springs Municipal Advisory Council
Minutes of the Meeting
October 22, 2019

1. Call to Order 6:30:

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call: Chair Lely

Present: Iturri, Willett, Paz, Conlan, Goldman, Lombard, Wheatley

Absent: Anderson

Chair Lely read Mission Statement, Role & Scope of MAC and Councilmember Duties. The same will be read at beginning of every meeting for benefit of attendees.

2. Approval of Minutes of September 24, 2019. Councilperson Paz moved to approve Minutes. Seconded by Councilperson Conlan. Motion passed unanimously.

3. Public Comment:

(Limited to items not appearing on the agenda)

Ken Brown, 1396 Lubick. Acknowledged Commission for meetings, dedication, good work. Mentioned Community Center meeting on Habitat for Humanity project. A positive movement towards more affordable housing in Valley.

Caitlin Cornwall, Sonoma Ecology Center. Notified MAC of Cal Dept. of Water Resources funded project, asking people of Springs to discuss water-related needs. State wants to fund water-related projects. Doing a bi-lingual survey, sending postcards, bilingual in-person meetings, Spanish language events, with Daily Acts from Petaluma. Have 100 survey responses, hoping for 200. Some findings: flooding in streets, broken manhole covers, trash in open space/parks/creeks, erosion issues. 50% surveyed are drinking bottled water. Common statewide issue. Bay Area starting a messaging campaign re unsafe drinking water, expense of bottled water. Open space is combined w/ water issues; parks & trails have land and water use needs. Encouraged MAC's participation, seeks suggestions for further outreach. Project Manager can provide materials. Estimated it to be completed in approx. two months.

Teri Shore, 30 year Valley resident, now in Springs, North Bay Regional Dir. Green Belt Alliance. Notifying MAC of information relevant to MAC Goals.

1. Scope of HAZMAT [Hazardous Materials Training] prioritization of transportation, transit, cycling & pedestrian improvements. Sonoma County Transportation Authority (SCTA) updating & analyzing travel behavior in Sonoma County to provide a regional model to analyze projects using measurement of *vehicle miles traveled* - how that impacts transportation. Suggest issue for MAC agenda; determine how a project impacts transportation service. Question will be: how much driving/more vehicles will a project cause? Then: how to decrease greenhouse gas emissions? New analysis, final report in December. Have found: 89% of all vehicle trips are within county. 1.6 million week-day trips; of this total 2/3 are 10-12 miles or less. Why important? Reveals traffic congestion is local residents. Other 11% commuters, weekday visitor trips. Will email MAC the Agency presentation. City of Sonoma has 65,000 trips per week; 38,000 within city. 16,000 trips to unincorporated area. Only 7,000 go out. Traffic patterns same as in county – majority of trips

are short.

2. Info re understanding and participating in planning and government processes. SCTA also did analysis on housing units in pipeline in county. 18,000 units of housing in pipeline, an increase of 3,500 since last year. City of Sonoma has 556 new houses in pipeline, an additional 256. Important to recognize that there is building and housing in the pipeline. Report doesn't say what is affordable.

3. County Planning Dept. submitted letter of interest to regional Metropolitan Transportation Commission, to create a *Priority Development Area* in Springs. Springs currently a *Rural Investment Area* w/ own criteria. Also, Springs Specific Plan pending. Recommends MAC be aware of all this. Has document to share. Not much public dialog. If goal is to get benefits of more transportation funding, what is real cost?

Tom Conlon, 1. Explained his insight re County Transportation data from Teri: housing analysis over last 2 years, 2/3 of new county construction has been outside of Priority Development Areas. Seems opposite of General Plan [goals]. Should be doing urban centered development. Argument made that PDAs are small, in proportion to County. Should Springs be a Priority Development Area going forward? Should be a discussion relating to Springs development. Without a tax base and governance it's difficult to continue to add burdens of residential development in Springs. Should city of Sonoma annex Springs? Incorporate Springs? Or continue as last 40 years?

2. Question re Agenda: *addendum* labeled on [MAC] website was a Spanish language version of agenda. If Spanish speaker, would need to navigate to locate, possibly confusing.

3. Re Agenda on website, 2 pages long, referenced Minutes, but better to have a hyperlink to Minutes? Reference where Minutes are.

Liz noted his recommendations.

Seth Dolinsky, Carriger Rd., appreciates Springs MAC. Grange Event: Nov 10th, popular community Fall Pancake breakfast. 9-11:30. All local, all organic.

Public Comment closed.

4. Develop Action Plans

Chair Lely referred to Action Plan documents resulting from Council submissions. First MAC collective review. Discussion of process/priorities.

a. Develop Community Engagement and Outreach Strategy

Chair Lely read all Action Items from document.

Liz will apply changes/notes to document.

Categories labeled: Identify. Develop. Research. Outreach.

Discussion of how to apply each term.

[Final document version available here & from Liz. liz.hamon@sonoma-county.org]



Action Plan -
Community Engagem

b. Educate the MAC and Community on Planning and Development Issues

[Final document version available here & from Liz. liz.hamon@sonoma-county.org]



Action Plan - Educate
MAC.docx

c. Action Plan on Implementation of a Plaza Development Plan

[Final document version available here & from Liz. liz.hamon@sonoma-county.org]



Action Plan - Plaza
Implementation Plan MA

Public Comment

Susan Gorin acknowledged MAC's ongoing proficient process. How will public get tonight's revised documents? Liz will send to MAC members. AD Hocs will create final documents. Susan Gorin, re Plaza - waiting for Springs Specific Plan, EIR, will go through approval process, consider location selection, invite General Services for info on RFD process, solicit designs, get MAC & community input, parking considerations, support of businesses – all for future success of plan.

Public Comment closed

Chair Lely, called for Motion to adopt Action Plans. Councilperson Goldman, Motion to adopt Action Plans as discussed. Councilperson Paz seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

5. Formation of Ad Hoc Committees

Chair Lely, limited to 3 Councilpersons per Ad Hoc. Community involvement encouraged but will not be elected. 1. Develop Community Engagement Outreach Strategy: Councilpersons Paz and Lombard. 2. Educate MAC & Community on Planning & Development: Councilpersons Conlan, Goldman and Iturri. 3. Implementation of Plaza Plan: Councilpersons Willett, Wheatley, and Chair Lely. Chair Lely called for Motion to approve appointments Ad Hoc committees.

Public Comment

Susan Gorin, thanked volunteers. Recommended they create an appropriate timeline for each Action. Meet, discuss, find agreement, connect w/ County, report back.

Chair Lely, noted recommendations. First report at next meeting: timeline, performance measures & priorities.

Vice Chair Iturri, Ad Hoc complete grid's three columns before November meeting.

Susan Gorin, bear in mind timelines will vary, e.g. plaza a long-term goal. Focus on other more immediate actions.

Chair Lely called for Motion to approve appointments of Ad Hoc committees.

Councilperson Willet made Motion, Councilperson Conlan seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Comments: Councilperson Conlan will send materials from Sustainable Sonoma to Liz. Liz will forward to MAC.

Councilperson Lombard, question re physical boundary of plaza.

Susan Gorin, a community plaza might use half of long rectangle that is public parking. Decision up to MAC. What will the uses, programs & parking look like? Post Office has no parking. Develop criteria with Ad Hoc. General Services will present on resources/costs. County can provide budget info. Good potential for future.

Councilperson Goldman, are there county grants available?

Susan Gorin, yes, county will accept, write and administer grants. Submit ideas.

Councilperson Goldman, has Susan seen vacant lot For Sale sign?

Susan Gorin, yes, noted, SSP will provide info on opportunities for rezoning lots, financing, etc.

6. Community Event Announcements

Susan Gorin mentioned local women leaders producing year-long event, 100th anniversary of Women's Right to Vote, called "Women's Empowerment." See calendar of events on <https://we-2020.org> [WE-2020 | Womens Empowerment in Sonoma County.](#)

MAC may want to create and participate in events happening in Springs and Sonoma.

2. Also consider participation in community preparedness, for potential power outages. She is coordinating w/ City of Sonoma on Emergency Operations Center; will open again at Vets Bldg. Two weeks ago, 400 visitors first day, 700 second day. Also an EOC at Hannah Boys Center. Oakmont negotiated a generator from PGE for community center. La Luz also facilitated. Hopefully fewer businesses & residences impacted next shutdown. Visited PGE Operations Center, listened to weather forecasters, power experts, re 34/35 counties shut down. Challenge re weather/wind patterns originating in Napa which result in Nixle alerts coming from Napa Command Center rather than Sonoma. Working on improving accurate communication updates with Facebook & email blasts. Encouraged MAC to be active in communicating updates and alerts to community re resources. In future bring Emergency Preparedness folks to speak at MAC.

Councilperson Goldman noted he had similar Nixle alerts mostly from Napa. Did have messages on Next Door from Sonoma County. Can go on PGE website to check your address for outages. Hopes to disseminate helpful info re emergency preparedness.

Susan Gorin, purchased a generator for her own use. Disappointed to hear police reports of gas station fist fights, generator malfunctions. Encouraging PGE to get better grid resilience. Going solar with battery back-up on her home rebuild. Hopes to better serve the community on info for resiliency in all ways for the future.

Liz, there are different size generators - small, portable, rechargeable and affordable.

7. Consideration of Future Agenda Items

Chair Lely suggested Emergency Services preparedness speaker. Susan Gorin, yes, if no power outage, possibly at November meeting, which is Thanksgiving week. Also reconsider holiday meeting dates.

Ad Hoc reports

Last of Action Plans

Kick-off event

Emergency Services

Discussion re next meeting date. November 26th will be 2 days before Thanksgiving. Move to November 19th or December 3rd? Then January 2020.

Confirmed change of meeting date from November 26th to December 3rd.

Question regarding completion date for Springs Specific Plan. Susan Gorin, unsure. Donald Street neighbors want extension past holidays. Will be talking to Permit Sonoma. EIR scheduled to be released in December. Inquiring if there will be a community meeting before meeting with CAT Team, CAC. Will get more info and report.

Question whether to invite Emergency Preparedness speaker in conjunction with SSP report? Susan, unsure, probably under sponsorship of CAT Team and Permit Sonoma; MAC could co-sponsor. Also, will be news about land use planning contract approval for SDC, maybe in

December. 100+ applications, 13 people on advisory team to Permit Sonoma. January may be first community engagement meeting on SDC.

8. Meeting Adjourned Unanimously at 8:38

Contact: Liz Hamon, Administrative Aide to Supervisor Susan Gorin – liz.hamon@sonoma-county.org

Materials related to an item on this Agenda submitted to the Springs 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-AI, Santa Rosa, CA, during normal business hours. Web Links: County of Sonoma: www.sonoma-county.org select Boards and Commission

The Springs Municipal Advisory Council represents the people of the Springs in Sonoma Valley as the voice of the community to elected representatives. SMAC is committed to engage with all community members in meaningful and inclusive ways to promote the health and well-being of the Springs.