

MARK WEST CITIZENS ADVISORY COUNCIL
Meeting Minutes (Notes), January 13, 2020, 6:00 pm
Zoom Meeting

(Video available. Send request to MarkWestCAC@gmail.com)

- A) CALL TO ORDER:** Vice Chair Berg called to order, the regular meeting of Mark West Citizens Advisory Council 6:00 pm.
1. Roll Call: Councilmembers present: Roni Berg, Brad Sherwood, Karen Fies, Willie Lamberson
 2. Approval of Minutes: On a motion by Councilmember Sherwood, second by Councilmember Fies, the minutes of the regular MWCAC meeting, December 14, 2020, were approved. The motion carried on a voice vote. (4-0)

B) EX PARTE COMMUNICATIONS:

1. Tony Korman had a conversation with Council Vice Chair Berg about the Wikiup Commons park.

C) STANDING ITEMS:

1. Utilities: Margaret DiGenova, California American Water: Rainfall not enough. Conservation campaigns will be starting. Office is closed, but accepting payments there. Local office: (707) 542-8329. Customer Service (leaks, water shut off, etc), call (888) 237-1333. She has notification that Mark West Estates and Larkfield Estates will be paved soon, maybe two months. Community Member Susan Sloan: Big thanks to Cal Am water for reflectors on Wikiup Hillside, indicating fire hydrants. DiGenova added that Mark West and Larkfield Estates will be done after the paving. Wikiup Drive~later. Maybe two months.
2. Wikiup Commons: Community member Mike Landon had a conversation with Tony Korman. He felt it was constructive despite not always agreeing. Not many neighbors are in favor of current proposals, and will continue dialog with Korman. Anything for the park hinges on what's going to happen to the 25 acres. Developers working on finding a solution.
3. Sonoma County Plan for Mark West Area: **None**

D) PENDING ISSUES:

1. Speed limits on MWSR and ORH: Council Vice Chair Berg noticed the sign on Old Redwood, displaying the speed of oncoming vehicles into Larkfield, from the north.
2. "Hawk" light in front of Larkfield Shopping Center: **None**
3. List of Unmet Needs Projects for Larkfield/Mark West/Wikiup: **None**

- E) PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS:** This time is set aside for comments from the public regarding matters of general interest, not on the agenda, but related to MWCAC business. Pursuant to the Brown Act, however, the MWCAC cannot consider any issues or take action on any requests during this comment period. Each person is usually granted three minutes to speak. Time limitations are at the discretion of the Chair.

1. Jen Mendoza, District Aide Representing Supervisor James Gore, 4th District, County of Sonoma
 - The latest Neighborhood Improvement Funding project (NIFP), Larkfield Resiliency Program, for the landscaping along Mark West Springs Road and Old Redwood Highway, was approved by the Board of Supervisors. Going thru the encroachment permit process.
 - Sonoma County created an "Adopt a Road Program." Folks further up Mark West Springs Rd. are working on organizing a crew for their area. If the council wants to have something like that in Mark West, Jen Mendoza will help.
- Vaccines:
- The fairgrounds are one of three vaccination sites for front-line county employees, not open for the public. Once enough vaccine comes available, some will be distributed directly to health care providers to vaccinate the majority of their patients. Working on organizing that.
 - For the people in specific trades, qualifying for vaccines soon, trade organizations will be working with the health department. For instance private doctors will work with the Sonoma County Medical Association and they will work with the County to organize that. People in those situations should reach out to their trade HR Departments,

F) CORRESPONDENCE: **None**

- G) COUNCIL MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS AND DISCLOSURES:** Information only.
Councilmember Sherwood read a resolution from the MWCAC in appreciation of Stuart Tiffin for his contribution to the Mark West, Wikiup, Larkfield community during the fires.

H) PRESENTATIONS, OTHER THAN REFERRALS FROM PRMD:

To proceed as follows: 1. Presentation 2. Questions by Councilmembers 3. Questions and comments from the public.

1. Presentation: Permit Sonoma, Comprehensive Planning, Housing Site Rezoning Project:
Nina Bellucci, Planner, Project Manager and Katrina Braehner, Planner II, Project Review
 - The presentation is a preview of the housing element update and a presentation of one element of that project, which is the effort to identify sites around the county that are appropriate for housing and can be added to the inventory. The presentation is focused on areas of interest for the MWCAC.
 - Slides of the presentation can be seen on the video of the meeting. Also request of copies of the document "Rezoning Sites for Housing" and the map. Send request to MarkWestCAC@gmail.com
- Discussion followed:
- Sites selected by nominations from public and an elimination process of qualifications, etc.
 - Some sites are in the current inventory already and need to be rezoned.
 - Some won't be built on or possibly built with lower density.
 - This process is just to provide adequate land for housing. Just the first step.

I) REFERRALS FROM SONOMA COUNTY PRMD W/OUT PRESENTATIONS REQUIRED None

J) REFERRALS FROM SONOMA COUNTY PRMD WITH PRESENTATIONS: Action Item. Consideration of proposed projects will proceed as follows: 1. Presentation by project applicant 2. Questions by Councilmembers 3. Questions and comments from the public 4. Response by applicant, if required 5. Comments by Council members 6. Resolution (Action) if indicated **None**

K) SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS AND DISCUSSIONS: Action if indicated

1. Rebuild Subcommittee: See Margaret DiGenova's report above (C.1. Utilities). Councilmember Sherwood added Kudos to Supervisor Gore and his team for funding that.

Councilmember Sherwood: wrote a press release for the current NIPF project. The project will be finished by the end of this month. The neighborhood continues to follow PG&E's funding allocation for the County and vegetation management efforts. received several inquires from community asking about the coordination for recovery in the Mark West area? Shiloh Estates HOA President shared their really-well-drafted fire/vegetation management plan. They want to share it for replication. Councilmember Sherwood wants to invite them to a future meeting to make areas fire safe and possible navigate for funding.

2. Neighborhood Improvement Funding Program (NIFP) Subcommittee: **None**

3. Community Services District (CSD) Subcommittee: **None**

L) OTHER REPORTS: Discussion may follow: Action if indicated None

M) DISCUSSIONS: ACTION ITEMS Action if indicated

1. Web site: Council Vice chair Berg reminded council members to get bio/photos to her for website "build day" 1/28.

2. Budget: FY: July 1, 2021-June 30, 2022

-Administration: secretary and supplies, same as last year.

-Franchise Fee funds: Current balance ~\$261K. Approximately 35K/yr added from Cal AM Water franchise fees.

Councilmember Berg recommends increasing the budget "place holder" amount (for neighborhood projects) from 36K to 50K to hopefully expedite the approval process. Web site costs are coming out of this year's budget.

Councilmember Fies moved to accept the dollar amount on the existing budget and recommend the \$50K amount for projects. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Lamberson. The motion carried on a voice vote. (4-0)

This might be a good reason to solicit for grant application deadlines so the Council can plan ahead.

3. Facebook page, Jen Mendoza:

-Customarily groups like this have a Facebook page. Info will be focused on this group and area.

-Can post agenda info and various things going on in the community.

-Good for communication between groups and community.

-Helpful during fire season for communication with community members.

-Or maybe a block party, etc.

-Councilmember Sherwood volunteered to manage the page.

-Suggestion: Reach out to Susan Sloan, an expert in this field.

-Susan Sloan suggested an intern position for social media. Great idea!

-Councilmember Sherwood suggested a survey to reach out to community with questions.

4. Nomination of new Chair and Vice Chair: Councilmember Lamberson made a motion to nominate Councilmember Fies as Chair and Councilmember Sherwood as Vice Chair. The motion was seconded by Council Vice Chair Berg and carried on a voice vote (4-0)

N) FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS: Potential future projects and suggestions for the next meeting

1. Presentation of examples of proposed logo for the MWCAC, created by MWUSD students. Ron Calloway and the districts are going to revamp that contest for the students. Council Vice Chair Berg will donate a Yogurt Time gift certificate for a family of five, to the winner.

2. Mark West Area vegetation management planning: Include fire district and others. The county is applying for a \$50 million grant for vegetation management.

3. Presentation from Shiloh Estates HOA, Vegetation Management Planning.

O) ADJOURNMENT: ACTION ITEM: There being no other business to discuss, on a motion by Councilmember Sherwood, seconded by Councilmember Fies, the meeting was adjourned at 7:23pm.

Approved Date:

Chair

**MWCAC MEETINGS: 6:00 PM—SECOND WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH
Zoom Meetings Until Further Notice**

Be sure to check the MWCAC website for meeting agenda, location & time

sonomacounty.ca.gov/Mark-West-Citizens-Advisory-Council
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