

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 wellbeing of the Springs.

**Springs Municipal Advisory Council
Minutes of the Virtual Meeting
June 22, 2021**

1. Call to Order 6:30

Roll Call: Vice Chair Willett

Present: Iturri, Goldman, Lombard, Reyes (attending soon from Mexico)

Absent: none

Chair Iturri announced availability of dual language English/Spanish interpretation.

Present: Jordi Vidales Interpreter

Per Agenda: Interpreting available

In zoom: to listen to the meeting in your preferred language go to the bottom right of your screen and click on the Interpretation logo. Select English or Spanish. You will automatically hear the language selected.

2. Approval of Minutes of May 25, 2021

Councilmember Willett moved to approve Minutes. Councilmember Goldman Seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

3. Public Comment limited to 2 minutes

(Limited to items not appearing on the agenda)

Public comment during the virtual meeting:

Members of the public will be recognized at the appropriate time for public comment. Those connected via Zoom must use the Raise Hand tool or dial *9 if called in. When indicated, members of the public will be allowed to speak, asked to unmute and make their comment. Depending on the number of commenters, the Chair may decide to set a time limit.

Karina welcomed callers

Seth Dolinsky reported on activities w/ Sonoma Springs Community Hall – landscaping/sculptural work at Agua Caliente Fire Station #3, in progress. Management of Larson Park Community Garden w/ Ariel Osborne, welcomed volunteers & visitors, invited to fill out State Survey on future of park, e.g. growing food, education, community focus. Contact info: email: sonomaspringshall@gmail.com.

Nick Koerner, update on progress of Skate Park Plans in connection w/ Park Dept., developing plan in alignment w/ greater Maxwell Renovation Plan. Announced **Community Cleanup Day at Park July 10th, 10am**. Will provide info on

issues/plans. Welcomes participants. For info: vomparkriders@gmail.com. More info soon on KSVY Morning Show.

Dana Bravo, re recent Hwy 12 restripe job near “Donald Gap”. They made a mess. What was the reasoning, widening the road?

Calvin Wojciechowski, Re Hwy 12 striping comment - knows CalTrans worker responsible, could speak w/ him tomorrow, will express concerns. Lives by Larson Park, doing a cleanup there w/ James from Park Service, waiting for Volunteer coordinator. Two projects pending. Many neighbors enthusiastic to clean up Creek area, plus other issues of vandalism, drug dealing. Sonoma Ecology Center wants to be involved in this project.

Sabina Rafaela, representative of Sonoma/Napa Campesino Organization, & Health Promoter w/ CURA Project. Appreciates MAC, here to learn what’s going on in community.
Public Comment closed.

Councilmember Reyes & Susan Gorin joined the meeting.

4. Community Event Announcements

Councilmember Reyes, **Health Center & North Valley MAC will host a Neighborfest, June 30th, 4-6pm, Abbott Winery on Madrone Rd.** Invited input for additional Neighborfests.

5. Chair Iturri: Update

- Acknowledged local radio station KSVY for support & broadcasts of meetings & recent Neighborfest in Fiesta Plaza
- Springs MAC appointments & vacancies: interviews underway, introductions at July meeting. One vacancy left.
- Success Re Springs Emergency Preparedness: Springs MAC signed MOU w/ multiple organizations to place Conex container at Alta Mira School site to house supplies for potential shelter, opening as needed. Acknowledged all involved: County, Catholic Charities, Red Cross, Sonoma Valley Unified School District, BoS District One.
- Discussion on possibility for an In-Person/virtual hybrid meeting in near future for MAC at Springs Community Hall w/ virtual options.
- Success Re 2 pop up vaccine clinics: El Verano School, Fiesta Plaza Neighborfest. Upcoming one June 30th sponsored by North Valley MAC, others pending. Opportunity for Emergency Prep, vaccination, meet your neighbors.
- MAC members need to assist w/ Community Outreach re Meetings & Info
- Re Annual Report, requested summaries from 3 Ad Hoc reps, can provide form, submit before July MAC, will then be presented to Supervisor Gorin & BoS.

Karina, Financial Report, \$1312.20 balance available for community projects. Will be \$700 following tonight’s meeting.



SMAC Invoices
2020-2021 presentec

6. County Update: Supervisor Susan Gorin

Acknowledged all MAC participants & staff. Applauded positive evolution of both new MACs.

- New Permit Sonoma planners toured/reviewed Springs. Springs Specific Plan contributors.
- Re County Budget: April Budget Workshop - a good report. Often cutting back but current revenues good, lower expenses. Substation at Grove St saved; Sylvia, Community Services Officer. Success w/ Sup Gorin's list of submitted projects. County accepting responsibility for paying for parking enforcement at Community Plaza. Don't need \$60,000 from TOT funds for parking enforcement. More info pending on Community Plaza.
- Re painting utility boxes on Hwy 12 as art project - PGE said no. Navigating through 19 page Cal Trans contract to paint their utility boxes on corridor.
- New mural appearing on Sonoma Originals, artists contributing as volunteers.
- Identified hazardous eucalyptus trees by rural cemetery/County land, adjacent to residential homes, fire risk. Received funding, \$500,000 to remove. Also 8th Street East trees, Board approved funding to remove those trees. Developing a multi-use path on 8th St. E. w/ railroad & property owners.
- Re Bike lanes on Arnold Drive; progress. North & south of roundabout to be widened. Shoulders narrow. Board reviewing a design, will send out for bids.
- Road paving: in Newsletter, county funding using PGE settlement funds. Tier 1, 1+, 2. Tier 2 identified for beginning stages of design for "Donald St Gap". Right of way acquisition, retaining walls, sidewalks pending. No new bridge for pedestrians & cyclists.
- Funding for short/long term to relocate County Archives. 150 years of Sonoma County, City of Santa Rosa, history, special collections. At risk. Working w/ Library, Historical Records Commission to relocate before fire season.
- Homeless solutions - County funding in progress.

Susan moving home after 4 years of rebuild from fire.

Covid coming to close, returning to in-person meetings. Met w/ Logan Harvey, acknowledged his participation in Springs MAC & City Council. Sad to hear of his move to Washington, best wishes.

Re earlier Public Comment on Larson Park - thank you, & yes, is in serious neglect, facilities deteriorating. Have approved update of Larson Park, submitting grants, allocating first funds. Sonoma Ecology Center taking lead for Community Gardens. Also, Maxwell Park getting funding from Measure M & grants. Recommended MAC invite Park Reps to speak on plans, plus multi-use path plans from Aqua Caliente to Santa Rosa & multi-use path along 8th St E. Good things happening! Need faith, persistence, patience.

7. Emergency Preparedness (34:07 on You Tube Video)

a. Jeff Duval-Director Department of Emergency Management:PSPS/Drought/Wildfires

Projections for summer & fall re 1.Drought 2. PGE power shut offs. 3. Wildfire potential

1. Drought

Seeing effects of Year 2 of drought, lake levels low. Agriculture seeing effects. Sonoma Water Agency established inter-agency drought task force. County, cities, governments, water providers all planning, include public education, state agencies' assistance.

2. PGE Power Shut Offs

Concerned about hydroelectric plants' output decreasing due to drought, while demand for electric from grid increases in hot summer months. Recent heat wave across entire state set off a Flex Alert to decrease power demand. Situation could result in more rolling black outs. High winds will bring potential increase in **PSPS - public safety power shut offs** & lasting longer than normal. PGE doing outreach campaigns.

Encouraged all to reduce water use. Visit Sonoma Water Agency Website. Hosting community events, also working w/ Marin & Mendocino. <https://sonomacounty.ca.gov/Water-Agency>

3. Wildfires

More potential for wildfires this summer in state. Crews already working in Central & South CA. Some smaller incidents in Sonoma County, rapidly suppressed. Fuel i.e. dry vegetation evaluated w/ energy release component models. Shows how dry vegetation is on hills are. Graph today for middle/end of June as bad as usually in August/Sept. Very concerned.

Dept. of Energy Mgmt. working w/ county, cities, special districts for last 6-8 months to prepare. Strategic placement of supplies in community shelters, training.

Preparedness key for evacuation. Every minute of preparation counts.

SoCo Alert for preparedness info & updates, recovery assistance. <https://socoemergency.org/>

Emphasized residents know their Evacuation Zones. Doing practice evacuation exercises in county. Next year will be at the Grove Street Fire Safe Council for practice evacuation.

Chair Iturri called for Council questions.

Councilperson Goldman, what was learned from 2017 & other fires; what is being done differently now? Also specific programs for emergency housing? Evacuation programs to move more quickly?

Jeff Duval, upgraded his Department to be a Stand Alone Department; expanded staff to focus on prep for county; improved early warning system, county has dedicated staff to maintain/update/test SoCoAlert system, training to authorized agents e.g. Sheriffs, dispatch, law enforcement to send out alerts.

These implementations all paid off in 2019 Kinkaid fire - quickly identified situation, got into system, alerted public, better notification. Continue to redefine programs & services.

Re Evac programs: best time to leave safely is when evacuation warnings are given, the hi-low sirens. Or before warning if concerned.

Councilperson Goldman, re rolling black outs & PGE shut offs. Some people have generators,

what about cooling/food centers?

Duval, re PSPS events – PGE sets up Community Resource Centers (CRCs) in/around affected areas for public use to provide water, info sources, device charging. Rolling black outs are usually last minute, independent service operator reductions. Shelters not ready to set up.

During Covid shelter use was limited. This year have better resources available.

Councilperson Goldman, unaware of this info. How does this info get shared?

Duval, PGE info on centers posted on their website.

Councilperson Goldman, suggested a link on SoCo Alert re this PGE info.

Councilperson Lombard, concerned about smoke & heat. Springs’ residents in small houses not well insulated, unable to cool off at night. Is it possible to plan for this?

Duval, shelters have air filtering devices. Re homes during hot rolling power outages. His department begins prep 2-3 days ahead, discuss & evaluate w/ health officers w/ list of options for actions e.g. cooling centers throughout night. Use a “night time recovery” evaluation for day vs night temperatures.

Chair Iturri, re outreach to Latino & other native language communities. Info tonight being translated. Aware of County Equity Office. What else?

Duval, Dept. of Emergency Mgmt. & Public Information Office share public information to be translated on social media. All info coordinated w/ translators on team dedicated to that task. Have info already in translated templates to disperse quickly. If shelters/centers needed the team handles it, working w/ District Sup & staff, all avenues.

Councilperson Reyes, re outreach, printed materials. In 2019, county distributed printed Sonoma Ready Sonoma Emergency Guides. Can county print more? And pdf of PSPS flyer. Duval, materials in Sonoma County Libraries, English & Spanish & on So Co Emergency website. Councilperson Reyes, need bilingual printed materials from county. Library materials have to be online/virtual.

Duval, will look into it w/ Community Preparedness Dept.

Chair Iturri called for Public Comment

Karina welcomed callers

None. Closed.

b. Misti Wood-Community Engagement Liaison, (58:13 on You Tube Video) Sonoma County Sheriff’s Office: Evacuation tags & Evacuation Map



Evacuation
preparedness 2021.p

Power Point: Evacuation Preparedness 2021

Three topics: 1. Evacuation zones 2. Evacuation Tags 3. Alerts

1. **Zones:** a new tool. A predetermined geographic area used for calling evacuations, simpler & faster. When you hear your Zone called, you know if you are subject to an evacuation or not. Rolled out in Glass Fire, fine-tuned, officially rolled out recently.

socoemergency.org/evacuation-map

<https://socoemergency.org/get-ready/evacuation-map/>

Misti guided participants through application for Evac Zone Map

Encouraged all to know Zones for home, work, child's school, family members in area, friends especially those w/ special needs

Form on website: *Find Your Zone* - enter your address, Zone number will appear. Write down your Zone Number, put on your refrigerator/desk.

Allow time for GIS Map to load.

Or CALL 211 for your Zone location/number.

2. **TAGS: a small action w/ big impact**

Helps Sherriff's Office do faster evacuations = lives saved. Lesson learned from previous recent fires.

WHERE to put them: a highly visible location e.g. front door, mailbox, front of property

INFO: social media, emergency alerts, media

YELLOW TAPE: will be tied on when Sheriff knows you are evacuated

SECURITY: roadblocks, patrols, deputies & mutual aid officers, arrests (approx. one dozen per fire) zero tolerance policy

Effort to distribute Tags via drive through has concluded. Now available at Sheriff's office, River Substation, **Valley Substation, Sonoma Police Dept.**, Windsor Police Dept.

For nonprofit, neighbor group requests, Sheriff-outreach@sonoma-county.org

NOTIFICATIONS: Hi-Lo siren; Deputy door to door; PA announcements from patrol cars; social media *caution that info is accurate & reliable; alerts; media; Neighbors

ALERT SYSTEMS: sign up for SoCoAlert & Nixle

Forced: Wireless emergency alert (cell phone); emerge alert system on TV/radio, Reverse 911 on landlines; weather radio

www.sonomasheriff.org/evac

Bilingual info also on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram from Sheriff's Dept.

Chair Iturri called for Council Questions

Councilperson Lombard, neighbor tried to find their Evacuation Zone, using an I Pad, couldn't get it. Is there a problem accessing on Apple devices?

Misti, has heard of this, should work across all devices, has been tested. Might be a bug or owner problem. Will report.

Councilperson Willett, clarification on purpose of yellow tape?

Misti, since there are hundreds of Deputies working in the field during evacuation, when they have secured your evacuation notice they mark w/ yellow tape.

Councilperson Goldman, concerns re Nixle. During recent fires, got many more Nixle alerts from Napa. Wants to be prepared ASAP & know what direction fires are moving. Seems Sonoma

alerts only go to affected areas. Suggested Napa/Sonoma exchange tips.
 Misti, get many Nixle questions. What is difference between Alerts/Warnings and information?
 She also wants as much advance info as possible. She watches fire cameras, Facebook Fire
 Agencies, other sources. Feedback on Nixle is people only want to know what will affect them.
 How to best effectively use Nixle for 500,000 people? Use for Evac orders & warnings. Do cast a
 wide net in areas. Will report.
 Councilperson Goldman, suggested giving people 2 choices: I want all info OR I just want info
 for where I live.
 Karina, can sign up for multiple sites for additional warnings.
 Councilperson Goldman, follows all, gets good collective information

Chair Iturri called for Public Comment

Karina welcomed callers.

Gina Cuclis, agreed w/ Goldman’s comments re Nixle; gets more unrelated Napa Nixles. During
 last fire did not find out a friend was evacuated from Oakmont until she personally contacted
 her. Living in Boyes/Springs, Oakmont is important nearby location. Appreciates having county
 wide info, but Oakmont or Kenwood are close neighborhoods. Napa County seems to be more
 effective, even w/ road accidents. Sherriff’s Dept. needs to up/improve Nixle game.

Public Comment closed.

8. Permit Sonoma (cancelled due to conflicting schedule, will be rescheduled soon)

- a. Gary Helfrich-Planner, Permit and Resource Management:
 Public Workshop/Listening Session Vacation Rental Ordinance Update

9. Ad hoc Updates

- a. **Map Your Neighborhood/MYN, Dana Bravo**



6_22_2021 MYN
 updates.pdf

- Neighborfest event, June 15th, sponsored by Springs MAC, Sonoma Valley Community Health Center; distributed Evacuation Maps, info on Zones, over 100 vaccinated. Did Facebook Live. Fire Dept., Art Escape tent for kids. DJ music. Halter Project. Raffle prizes. Big success.
- MYN joined Son Val Housing Group in Community Listening Circle – “What Happens after Covid?” - next day at El Verano School.
- Shared Presentation:

Outreach Events/Meetings:
 Zoom meetings/webinars
 Parent University
 Lideres Campesinas
 SVCHC, Latino Advisory Committee

SIS citizenship class, Sonoma Immigrant Services

Publicity, SV Sun article, Leslie Nicholson (Happy Lane Block leader)

- Nine other Neighborfests planned. June 24, 1-3pm LA Luz preparedness event. Neighborfest Glen Ellen: Abbotts Passage Winery, June 30th.
- Priorities: outreach/building community, block leaders/meetings, developing website (funding needed)
- Participated in CHARLA Communitaria.

Chair Iturri acknowledged Dana's bilingual skills for MYN.

b. Fire Safe Council vs Fire Wise, Willett

Introduced new Ad Hoc participants: Gary Johnson (SVFD), Lucas Patzek, (Napa Fire Safe Council), former MAC John Wheatley continuing

Working on modification to Resolution to change name from Fire Safe Council to Fire Wise Community. A technicality w/ Fire Wise program - in order to be certified, is a limitation of 2,500 households to use model; unsure how many for Springs, researching to verify. Priority is what's needed to get a CWPP Guide quickly for Springs w/o Fire Safe Council requirement to create a 401K. Need to identify potential financial partners & move forward w/ best model. Next step to meet regularly for discussion/decisions, perhaps in-person meetings.

Gary Johnson, SVFD, available for questions.

Lucas Patzek, Exec Dir Napa Resource Conservation District, works w/ all Napa County Fire Safe Councils, lives in Springs on Fiesta. Have done cross county Mayacamas, Mt Veder projects.

Announced retirement of Roberta Macintyre from County. Still on CWPP project.

Invited any interested neighbors to participate. Contact ray@tbearch.com

[[Community Wildfire Protection Plan \(CWPP\) - Leaders Guide https://www.iafc.org/topics-and-tools/resources/resource/community-wildfire-protection-plan-leaders-guide](https://www.iafc.org/topics-and-tools/resources/resource/community-wildfire-protection-plan-leaders-guide). With this guide, fire service leaders will be able take the steps to create a CWPP that addresses community risk of wildfire with respect to other resource values.]

Councilperson Goldman, to Gary Johnson, CA AB38 fire hardening new regulations passed, plus County regulations. How will homeowners implement these regulations? Who will follow through?

Gary, too early to say. Contracted w/ county to provide Chapter 13A Ordinance, completed first round of inspections in Springs. Hillcrest south through Fetters, 240 properties just completed. This is in Local Responsibility Area, on border of State Responsibility. Changed last July when BoS approved Ord for homeowners to constantly maintain properties. Curious now to analyze data w/ results, county-wide, following all inspections. Mixed results. Funding still available for program. Focusing on unincorporated county areas. Cal Fire has other State Responsibility areas. Focusing on Weed Abatement Ord in city, following Chapter 13A Ord for unincorporated area.

Councilperson Goldman, Law goes into effect July 1. Agua Caliente Canyon important for fire prevention due to high fuel load. Neighbors need to be informed.

Chair Iturri suggested a future presentation.

Chair Iturri called for a Break at 8:12

Returned at 8:17

Councilperson Lombard, how many households in Springs?

Vice Chair Willett, could be counted on GIS system, through Planning, been trying to get info. Gary Johnson, SVFD, will research.

c. Arts in the Springs, Goldman

Ad Hoc met w/ Chair Iturri, Karina re painting of utility boxes. Sup Gorin explained problems w/ red tape.

Suggestions for other Springs' art projects: cross walk signs, light pole banners/flags like City of Sonoma, denoting Springs' history from native peoples to present.

Want to expand Ad Hoc, Art Escape wants to be part, scheduling meeting. Avram's artist wife expressed interest.

Churchmouse building vacant, recently purchased by Mattson, do an art show of Springs' artists there.

Chair called for Public Comment

Karina welcomed callers

Hannah Perot, suggested to Arts Ad Hoc/MAC to use piece of plywood covering Churchmouse window, graffitied now, could be painted/muralized.

Angelica Vargas, translated, will info be presented at CC/Charla Comunitaria? Karina, info on Evacuations & Emergency Prep was presented at last CC, available on you tube page, & will be provided in future. 707-565-1776 office, Karina

Public Comment Closed

10. Chair and Vice Chair Election FY 2021-2022

Vice Chair Willett nominated Chair Iturri for a 2nd term. Councilperson Lombard seconded. All in favor. Unanimous.

Chair Iturri nominated Vice Chair Willett for 2nd term. Councilperson Goldman seconded. All in favor. Unanimous.

11. Consideration of Future Agenda Items

Chair Iturri, Permit Sonoma update/overview, System Tutorial July 21st.

Sonoma Water, drought presentation

Vacation Rental Ordinance

AB38, into effect July 1st, affects Sonoma County homeowners

Larson Park Plan

Vice Chair Willett, Maxwell Park/trails update

Councilperson Goldman, Springs Specific Plan permit update

Chair Iturri, ongoing quarterly - Mattson projects' update; Chief Aker

Councilperson Lombard, presentation by Marcos Suarez, re small business development in Springs.

Councilperson Goldman, the Plaza for August/Sept agenda

Susan Gorin, re Community Plaza, will advise when ready. Liked suggestion to use vacant

storefronts/windows for local art projects.

12. Adjournment 8:34

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-A1, Santa Rosa, CA, during normal business hours.

Note: Consideration of items will proceed as follows:

1. Presentation by proponent
 2. Questions by Commissioners
 3. Questions and comments from the public
 4. Response by proponent, if required
 5. Comments by Commissioners
 6. Resolution, if indicated
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Web Links: County of Sonoma: www.sonoma-county.org select Boards and Commissions

Additional links:

<https://www.facebook.com/susangorin1st>

[Springs MAC Facebook page](#)

[2021 meeting dates](#)

[Springs MAC county page](#)

Contact: Karina Garcia, Field Representative to Supervisor Susan Gorin –
Karina.Garcia@sonoma-county.org

Sonoma TV you tube video for Springs MAC June 22, 2021

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ajB_G-HYKVA