McKinleyville Municipal Advisory Committee
In person at MUSD Conference Room at 2275 Central Avenue, McKinleyville
(Note: Due to technical difficulties the Zoom Platform was not working for this meeting.)
January 24, 2024  6:00 pm

MINUTES

1. Call to Order: Roll call Attendance, Acknowledgement of Indigenous Lands, Flag Salute, MMAC Meeting Rules.

   Members Present: Lisa Dugan, Pat Kaspari, Greg Orsini, Twila Sanchez, Bonnie Oliver, Kevin Dreyer, Maya Conrad.

   Members Absent: Kevin Jenkins

2. Review and Approve Minutes: October 25, 2023 and November 8, 2023

   The minutes of the October 25, 2023 Regular MMAC Meeting and November 8, 2023 Special Joint Meeting of the MMAC and MCSD Board were reviewed. Maya Conrad moved to approve the minutes as submitted. Greg Orsini seconded the motion.

   Roll Call Vote:
   Yes: Maya Conrad, Pat Kaspari, Greg Orsini, Twila Sanchez, Kevin Dreyer, Bonnie Oliver, Lisa Dugan.
   No: None
   Abstention: None

   MOTION APPROVED

3. Community Safety Updates:

   No community safety updates were presented, in part due to the lack of the Zoom platform connection.

4. Public Comment on items not on the Agenda:

   Several community members shared prepared comments on their concerns related to the proposed Valadao Subdivision on Pickett Road which will be before the Board of Supervisors for consideration of an appeal to its approval on January 26. Issues of concern included the scale of the project, public safety issues, lack of local Design Review and questions about exceptions granted on required parking spaces and solar shading restrictions.

5. Discussion / Information / Action Items

   A. Election of 2024 MMAC Officers:

      Maya Conrad moved to approve the following slate of officers for 2024:
      Chair – Lisa Dugan
      Vice Chair and Treasurer – Kevin Jenkins
      Secretary – Bonnie Oliver
Greg Orsini seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote:
Yes:  Maya Conrad, Pat Kaspari, Greg Orsini, Twila Sanchez, Kevin Dreyer, Bonnie Oliver, Lisa Dugan
No:   None
Abstention:  None
MOTION APPROVED

Note: Agenda items B & C were switched in their order of business w/ participants consent.

C. Presentation on McKinleyville Road / Trail Infrastructure:  Tom Mattson, Director of Humboldt County Public Works and John Ford, Director of Humboldt County Planning and Building

Director Mattson presented information on four upcoming projects in McKinleyville related to Road / Trail Infrastructure:
• Washington Avenue bike lane infrastructure
• Proposed cross sections for Hiller Road and Central Avenue in the Town Center area
• Three new speed bumps on Azalea Avenue
• Central Avenue from Grange Road to Clam Beach to be repaved, including paved shoulders for bike and pedestrian use.

Measure Z funding has been granted by the Board of Supervisors to work on these projects. Director Mattson also directed the community to their Public Outreach / Project Website for the Humboldt County Local Road Safety Plan and a link to provide input to Public Works on road safety issues.

MMAC members asked a number of questions to clarify the revised proposed cross sections for Hiller Road and Central Avenue in the Town Center. Director Ford reported that the Traffic Study the Planning Division is going to do for the Town Center Ordinance is going to be more costly than anticipated and has not yet begun. Future repaving of Murray Road from Central Ave. toward Fieldbrook was also discussed. A community member reported that D Avenue was being blocked by parked vehicles. Supervisor Madrone reported that a number of local roads had issues with downed trees as a result of the recent weather systems.

B. Presentation on Vista Point Park:  Steve Madrone, 5th District County Supervisor

Supervisor Madrone shared a PowerPoint presentation on the proposed Vista Point Park project. He mentioned that he has been working on the project for 28 years. The county owns the property for the proposed park, just south of the Vista Point Overlook turn-off. The FAA has recently given the project its clearance (required due to its adjacency to the airport. The project proposal includes a visitor’s center which could serve as a California Welcome Center and access from the south via the Airport Road exit. Following are MMAC and community questions and comments:
• How does this happen?
• How will the park be maintained?
• Ideas for displays in the visitor center were discussed including local Tribal history and the historical use of the site by the airport.
• Consider retaining the existing access from the north to the Vista Point parking area.

Supervisor Madrone shared that State Senator McGuire is in support of the project and that there is a possibility of the Coastal Conservancy doing a land swap with the county / airport for the site. The first step will be finding funding for a feasibility study for the project (possibly in coordination with Cal Poly Humboldt?). He stressed that McKinleyville is more than a “bedroom community” and that this park could be part of making McKinleyville a destination, supporting local retail and commerce.

D. Quarterly Financial Report: Continued to a future meeting.

E. Subcommittee Reports:

1. Committee for Active Transportation (CAT): Maya Conrad reported that she and Bonnie Oliver would be co-chairing the committee to share the workload. Lisa Dugan is also serving on the committee. The committee plans to add three additional community members, as allowed in our MMAC Rules and Regulations, and will report back in February on proposed new members and future planning efforts.

2. Incorporation Exploration (MIESC): Lisa Dugan reported that they will be meeting on Thursday, February 1, 2024. Future discussion will include agencies that would be affected by incorporation (MCSD and the County) and development of their own website, possibly in cooperation with the Cal Poly Humboldt Student Internship program.

3. 2 x 2: Greg Orsini reported that at their January meeting they discussed Measure Z funding for local projects, flooding in McKinleyville and having Cody Roggatz as a future guest participant.

6. Committee General Comments & Event Announcements:

Maya Conrad thanked the McKinleyville Chamber of Commerce for the State of McKinleyville meeting on January 17 and thanked Lisa Dugan for her excellent presentation on Incorporation Exploration. She announced that the State of Arcata meeting would be held on January 25.

7. Next Meeting: Our next meeting will be February 28, 2024, 6:00 p.m. at McKinleyville Middle School, 2285 Central Avenue, McKinleyville, in the portable trailer meeting room at the rear of campus and Zoom format.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:16 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Bonnie Oliver