

McKinleyville Municipal Advisory Committee
ZOOM PLATFORM - ONLINE MEETING
March 31, 2021 6:00 pm

MINUTES

1. Attendance

Members Present: Maya Conrad, Bonnie Oliver, Twila Sanchez, Pat Kaspari, Greg Orsini, Kevin Jenkins, Barbara Georgianna.

Members Absent: Kevin Dreyer

Guests: Steve Madrone, 5th District Supervisor, Lt. Kevin Miller, Humboldt County Sheriff's Office, Emily Sinkhorn, Redwood Community Action Agency (RCAA), Michael Richardson, Humboldt County Planning Division (HCPD) Supervising Planner.

2. Review and approval of Minutes

The minutes of the February 24, 2021 meeting were reviewed. A motion was made by Pat Kaspari and seconded by Barbara Georgianna to approve the minutes as submitted.

VOTE:

YES: Maya Conrad, Barbara Georgianna, Pat Kaspari, Greg Orsini, Kevin Jenkins and Bonnie Oliver.

NO: none

ABSTENTION: none

Note: Twila Sanchez was not present for this vote due to technical difficulties.

3. Community Safety Updates

Humboldt County Sheriff's Office Lieutenant Kevin Miller:

Lt. Miller reported on their activity statistics for February 2021 within the greater McKinleyville area. The calls for service were down 8% with 941 total calls for service resulting in 77 reports and 17 arrests. Lt. Miller urged residents to watch out for vehicle break-ins at the local beaches, parks and scenic turnout and never leave valuables in your car. Greg Orsini asked whether we could install PSA signage with this warning at these locations. Kevin Jenkins shared how easily stolen credit cards with chips can be used at local stores. Maya Conrad discussed the continuing issue of homeless encampments at the end of Fisher Road. Lt. Miller shared that it has been a hard issue for the Sheriff's office to deal with, and the campsites also involve CA Fish and Wildlife issues. He encouraged neighborhoods to establish Neighborhood Watch programs and to register home security cameras with the Sheriff's office.

4. Public Comment Period for Items not on Agenda:

A community member asked why the Agenda for the meeting was not sent out to all the "interested parties" it usually is emailed to. Maya explained that Kathy Hayes (Clerk of the Board of Supervisors) was out the day the Agenda was posted and the staff member who did send it out did not have the full list of interested parties. She will follow up with Kathy

Hayes and staff to make sure they all have the full distribution list for the future agendas. Comments related to this issue continued in the Zoom Chat, including discussions on whether the meeting was properly noticed in accordance with the Brown Act.

5. Event Announcements:

Maya Conrad reported March 24 Tsunami Siren Test did not go smoothly with ½ of the sirens not working. She encouraged all to register our cell phones with the County to receive emergency warning texts. The link to do this was shared in the Zoom Chat notes: <https://humboldt.gov/2014/Emergency-Notifications> .

6. Discussion / Information / Action Items

A. Board of Supervisors Approval of increased MMAC support and upcoming MCSD consideration for support of MMAC:

Maya Conrad reported that the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors approved an ongoing funding allocation of \$3000 (annually) to support MMAC for administrative expenditures and 15 hours per month of BOS staffing support in their meeting on March 2, 2021. Maya thanked Supervisor Madrone for his efforts in bringing this request to the Board and to the Board for their unanimous support. The County is also now providing the Zoom account for MMAC meetings.

Pat Kaspari confirmed that support of MMAC via grant funding and continuing to provide meeting space in the future will be on the MCSD Board's Agenda for their next meeting on April 7, 2021. Barbara Georgianna inquired about the process for tracking expenses and turning in receipts for reimbursement.

B. McKinleyville Multimodal Corridor Project

Emily Sinkhorn of RCAA reported that the work on the Sustainable Multimodal Transportation Planning Grant from CalTrans is just getting started and community outreach is scheduled to start in early summer (2021). The focus of the grant will be on the connection of south end of Central Avenue to US 101 and connections to the Hammond Trail from the east side of Central Avenue. MMAC will be involved in this effort and will help with planning community outreach later this spring.

Maya Conrad asked whether it would still be acceptable for Mary Burke to co-chair the MMAC Ad Hoc Trails and Multimodal Transportation Subcommittee even though she is no longer on the MMAC. Discussion concluded that this was within the Chair's purview but that ad hoc subcommittee formation and composition, including community members, should be addressed in the revised MMAC Rules and Regulations.

C. Town Center Ordinance recommendations for County Planning:

Maya Conrad read a summary of Key Themes shared by community members at the McKinleyville Town Center Meeting on March 24, 2021.

- Bonnie Oliver requested that an item related to preserving and enhancing wetlands and habitats within the Town Center Area be added and that a long-term plan for maintenance and public access to preserved wetlands be specified.

- Colin Fiske of the Coalition for Responsible Transportation Priorities (CRTP) noted that pedestrian bridges are no longer recommended for crossings over busy traffic ways.
- A community member commented that the summary did not include the County’s Climate Action Plan for Sustainability.
- Twila Sanchez and other community members commented that the summary was not an all inclusive list and a lot of community input on building materials, lighting, art space, wetlands, signage and other topics are not reflected.
- Kevin Jenkins and Michael Richardson clarified that some of these issues, like adherence to the County’s Climate Action Plan, will be automatically required by other parts of the County’s Codes.
- Maya clarified that the list she read was intended as a recap of our March 24 meeting ideas, not of all the input from the last 2 years.
- Michael Richardson explained that the ordinance will have a technical side and a “softer side” that reflects the community’s goals for the town center. He is hopeful that County Planning and architect Kash Boodjeh will have the draft ordinance ready for review in the next few weeks.
- A community member observed that young people and communities of color have not participated in the input process and urged County Planning and MMAC to find ways to include them in the ordinance review.

Greg Orsini moved and Kevin Jenkins seconded a motion to direct the Humboldt County Planning Department to move forward with developing a Draft Town Center Ordinance that reflects the input of the community throughout the MMAC Town Center process since the Fall of 2019.

VOTE:

YES: Maya Conrad, Greg Orsini, Barbara Georgianna, Kevin Jenkins, Twila Sanchez, Bonnie Oliver, Pat Kaspari.

NO: none

ABSTENTION: none

D. Ad Hoc MMAC Rules and Regulations Subcommittee report

Bonnie Oliver reported that the subcommittee has not met since our last MMAC meeting of February 24, 2021, but she did send out a working draft of revised Rules and Regulations with questions and information requests to the rest of the MMAC members via Kathy Hayes, clerk of the Board of Supervisors. Thus far Pat Kaspari has submitted input, particularly clarifications related to MCSD. Bonnie reviewed the questions that the subcommittee has raised and requested that others on the MMAC submit their input to the subcommittee in April.

7. Subcommittee Reports:

Maya Conrad asked Barbara Georgianna and Twila Sanchez about the status of the Ad Hoc Subcommittee on Homelessness. Barbara noted that such a subcommittee should be meeting with local groups that are working with the homeless, and MCSD, to support their efforts. Barbara and Twila will meet to discuss how this committee should be formed and function.

8. Board general comments:

Maya asked whether everyone received and filled out the California Form 700 from the Clerk of the Board's Office. Greg Orsini did not receive it. The rest of us got a 2nd notice but never got the first notice.

9. Next Meeting

Our next regular MMAC meeting will be Wednesday, April 28, 2021 at 6:00 pm, Zoom format.

10. The meeting was adjourned at 7:58 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Bonnie Oliver