

McKinleyville Municipal Advisory Committee

In person at MUSD Conference Room at 2275 Central Avenue, McKinleyville and
ZOOM PLATFORM - ONLINE MEETING
July 26, 2023 6:00 pm

MINUTES

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

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

Members Attending via Zoom (Just Cause): Bonnie Oliver.

Members Absent: None

2. Review and Approve Minutes: June 28, 2023

The minutes of the June 28, 2023 meeting of the MMAC were reviewed. Greg Orsini moved to approve the minutes as submitted. Kevin Dreyer seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote:

Yes: Lisa Dugan, Kevin Dreyer, Pat Kaspari, Kevin Jenkins, Greg Orsini, Twila Sanchez.

No: None

Abstention: Bonnie Oliver

MOTION APPROVED

3. Community Safety Updates:

Arcata Fire District's Fire Prevention Specialist and Public Information Officer Alyssa Alvarez reported on AFD statistics and events for the month of June. There was a deck fire and an out-of-control burn pile in McKinleyville. They also provided mutual aid for fires in Blue Lake and Westhaven. Their average response time for McKinleyville in June was 3.5 minutes and 55% of the McKinleyville calls were for medical aid and lift assistance. There also were a number of false alarm calls (10%), in most cases caused by faulty alarm systems. She urged McKinleyville residents to check on old smoke alarms and CO2 detectors as they have found a lot of unworking detectors in building safety inspections. Kevin Jenkins raised concern that he's seeing a lot of outdoor burning on no-burn days. Specialist Alvarez confirmed that fire season has begun and there are no more burn days this season.

California Highway Patrol Sargeant Matt Harvey reported on CHP statistics for the greater McKinleyville area in June and July. There were 8 crashes that resulted in property damage but no injuries. Sgt. Harvey and MMAC members discussed new grant-funded CHP positions including officers planted to discourage distracted driving and encourage safe speeds, turning and stop sign observance. Grants also fund personnel for special events (like the Oyster Festival) and an HCAOG Grant is funding new emergency call boxes on remote areas of CA Highways 96 and 36. CHP has been playing a supporting role (tactical alert) on several wildfires in and around Humboldt County. He also shared CHP's search for a location for a new Humboldt County Headquarters to replace their existing small, outdated facility in Arcata which is also in the floodplain. The former Jacobs Education Facility in

Eureka is one option they are looking into. Kevin Jenkins brought up the speed issues on many McKinleyville arterial streets that go along with children being dropped off at school and asked about the possibility of “your speed” signs. Sgt. Harvey shared that they will be emphasizing safety in school zones starting in August as the school year begins. In response to an inquiry from Twila Sanchez related to safety issues on Central at Bella Vista and Sgt. Harvey said CHP cannot do road engineering, but they do provide safety issue statistics to Public works and Caltrans who are responsible for this.

4. Public Comment on items not on the Agenda:

Dr. Ann Lindsey gave an update to MMAC and community members on Life Care Humboldt, which has signed a purchase agreement for the undeveloped land south of Hiller Road. The final project should include around 200 living units.

Two residents shared concern about the work that was done related to the Timber Harvest Plan for the proposed Beau Pre Subdivision. A letter of inquiry to John Ford and Supervisor Steve Madrone related to when the approval of the subdivision plan will be up for renewal by the County Planning Commission has not been answered. Calls to County Planning Division indicated the project was not up for renewal. (See MMAC Minutes from 4-26-2023)

5. Discussion / Information / Action Items

A. Presentation on the Incorporation Process – Collette Metz Santsche, Executive Director, Humboldt Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo):

Collette Metz Santsche shared a Power Point presentation on the extensive and expensive process of pursuing Incorporation. She also fielded many questions from the MMAC and community members related to the process. Some issues discussed include city boundary establishment guidelines and criteria, what part a Community Service District can play in the incorporation and future governance, how revenues are determined, what funding sources are available for the work of the required incorporation studies and who we should use as consultants in the process. Director Metz Santsche stressed that outreach to the McKinleyville community will be very important throughout the process. She also shared that while LAFCo is responsible for selecting a consultant to prepare the Comprehensive Fiscal Analysis once an incorporation application is filed, the Preliminary Feasibility Analysis may be performed by incorporation proponents or their contractors prior to an application being filed. LAFCo is more than happy to provide suggestions on use of consultants and guiding the scope of contract for a preliminary feasibility study. “This is an important first step in analyzing fiscal feasibility so we are here to support in any way we can.”

MMAC thanked Director Metz Santsche for her excellent and informative presentation.

B. Final (new) Draft of the McKinleyville Town Center Ordinance: John Ford, Director, Humboldt County Building and Planning Division

MMAC and community members discussed whether the review of this new Final Draft should be for information only, with no decision on recommending approval, because the draft was released too late to attach to the Agenda and with only a few days to read it prior to the meeting. A community member also asked about the status of a comparative 1 and

3 Parameter Wetland Delineation that Director Ford mentioned was underway at our May 24, 2023 MMAC meeting. Director Ford shared that the report was not yet complete, but it would be done prior to the Environmental Impact Review.

Kevin Jenkins moved to continue this Agenda item to our August 23, 2023 Regular MMAC Meeting, with the hope that the One-Parameter Wetland Delineation could be available to inform our review of the Draft Ordinance. Greg Orsini seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote:

Yes: Maya Conrad, Lisa Dugan, Kevin Dreyer, Pat Kaspari, Kevin Jenkins, Greg Orsini, Twila Sanchez, Bonnie Oliver

No: None

Abstention: None

MOTION APPROVED

Following the vote Greg Orsini recommended that we advertise to the community that the final review of the Draft Town Center Ordinance will happen at our August 23 meeting. Bonnie Oliver volunteered to come up with a flyer that could be included in MCSD billings and other mailings prior to the meeting. Also discussed was the possibility of holding the meeting at Azalea Hall. Pat Kaspari will check on its availability.

C. Subcommittee Reports:

Kevin Jenkins reported for the McKinleyville Incorporation Exploration Subcommittee that they continue to look at map options for incorporation borders. MIESC would be in favor of having Cal Poly Humboldt team, working with Prof. Zender on the maps and preliminary data collection, present to the MMAC in our September or October meeting after they have all returned and regrouped for the semester.

6. Board General Comments & Event Announcements:

Greg Orsini shared that the coordination meetings of the MMAC Chair, MCSD Board President, MCSD General Manager and 5th District Supervisor that occur the Monday before our Regular MMAC Meetings will be expanding to include the McK. Chamber of Commerce Director and invited staff from the County. Their guest at the last meeting was Public Works Director Tom Mattson, who shared that the McK Multimodal Transportation Report will be on the agenda for approval on the August 22, 2023 meeting of the Board of Supervisors. He also reported that the Ocean Avenue improvements were not proceeding due to lack of support by the neighborhood.

Lisa Dugan announced the McKinleyville Chamber of Commerce Mixer on August 24, 5:30 – 7:30 pm at Azalea Hall in coordination with the last Music in the Park concert. Maya Conrad and Twila Sanchez agreed to oversee a MMAC information table at the Mixer.

7. Next Meeting: Our next regular meeting will be Wednesday, August 23, 2023, at 6:00 pm, location to be announced, and Zoom format.

8. The meeting was adjourned at 8:49 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Bonnie Oliver