



North Sonoma Valley Municipal Advisory Council

NOTICE OF MEETING AND AGENDA
In Person Meeting: Kenwood Depot
314 Warm Springs Rd, Kenwood, CA 95452
July 18, 2023
5:30 PM



Contact: Hannah Whitman, Board Aide for Supervisor Susan Gorin – hannah.whitman@sonoma-county.org

As of March 1, 2023, the Governor has rescinded the Emergency Proclamation related to the COVID-19 pandemic. **With this rescission, all Boards, Councils, and Commissions following the Brown Act must return to meeting in person** with some limited exceptions for individual appointed and elected officials on a case-by-case basis.

Remote participation by the public may continue if there are sufficient staff resources to allow this option. For the July 18 meeting of the North Sonoma Valley Municipal Advisory Council, we will be offering a hybrid option for the public to view the meeting and make public comment. Please note this is a new development and we have limited staff resources, so this option is subject to technical difficulties.

North Sonoma Valley MAC Councilmember Susan Oldroyd will be participating in the meeting via teleconference from 161 Bradley Ave., Morro Bay, CA 93442 . This agenda shall be posted at that location.

Zoom Conference Meeting

<https://sonomacounty.zoom.us/j/95218815928?pwd=L1JKYmdyWkFPU0xtRUJSbIRxTUIKQT09>

Passcode: 416072

Meeting ID: 952 1881 5928

Dial by your location: +1 (669) 900-9128 US (San Jose)

Due to the potential for technical difficulties, it is recommended that members of the public who wish to address the commission consider attending in person, or submitting comments in advance via e-mail to Hannah Whitman, Board Aide for Supervisor Susan Gorin, at hannah.whitman@sonoma-county.org

1. Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance, Roll Call

Call to order: 5:32

Eagles: Call meeting to order. Pledge of Allegiance. Land acknowledgement: We acknowledge that the citizens and community served by the NSV MAC, occupy the unseeded ancestral lands of the Coast Miwok, closely related to neighboring indigenous peoples: Pomo, Wapo, and others. Asking forgiveness for past transgressions they and their ancestors experienced, we humbly invite them to join us in person or in spirit as we give gratitude for their ongoing stewardship of this place since time in memorial. Recognizing how much we benefit from their continuing presence as culture keepers and teachers, we commit ourselves to building positive and lasting relationships with our local indigenous community and to honor all the diverse peoples in our region.

Roll

Present: Eagles, Galindo, Handron, Dickey, Oldroyd, Newhouser

Absent: Dawson, Nardo Morgan

2. Approval of June 20, 2023 minutes

Resolution

Eagles: Any adjustments?

Newhouser: Something in there, if find later will let you know. Nothing significant.

Whitman: Through the Chair, received corrections from Debbie Lammers on their presentation, will make those changes.

Motion:

First: Handron
Second: Galindo

6-0

3. Public Comment Receive
(Limited to items not appearing on the agenda)

No public comment.

4. Supervisor Gorin Update Receive

Moved to after item #5.

5. Sonoma County Energy Independence Program (SCEIP) Receive

- Receive presentation from Terri Somers on Sonoma County Energy Independence Program (SCEIP)

Somers: Work for Sonoma County Energy Independence Program, for about three years. Currently manage the SCEIP program. Administered by the Sonoma County Auditor-Controller-Treasurer-Tax Collector. Report to County Administrators Office. SCEIP is program that was created to help Sonoma County reduce greenhouse gas emissions, meet some of the pillar strategies and strategic plan set by Board of Supervisors 13 or 14 years ago. Started as a financing tool to allow homeowners to improve their properties not based on their income, and not based on their credit, but on the fair market value of their properties, gave access to many individuals. When SCEIP program came into play, also known as a PACE financing program, Property Assessed Clean Energy. Goes on tax roll as payback. Not payed back with monthly payment. On property tax roll and paid back that way. When first created, SCEIP took off like a rocket. At a time when solar was new, people needed new energy efficiencies, type of things to make houses more resilient. Were over 35 applications per day being processed by 5 individuals. Solar energy, people really wanted it, financing method open to many individuals. SCEIP has over 125 improvements will finance for Sonoma County residents. Added fire hardening about three and a half years ago, and seismic improvements as well. Service to Sonoma County to date: dispersed over 100 million in financing. Default and delinquency rate less than .015%. Proud of that, unique. Have financed over 3 million in wildfire safety improvements. In FY 22/23, went crazy. Financed over 9 million worth of energy generation improvements – solar, battery storage. 3.6 million in energy efficiencies. Anything that is attached to your home, can't be an appliance or something you can take away. 90% of all projects SCEIP finances are completed by local contractors. Bucket of funds circular piece of machinery, as people pay it back keeps refilling itself. Those 90% of projects completed by local contractors equates out to over 2,000 contractor or construction jobs created or retained. During the recession, different times when economy has suffered, construction trades have stayed strong in Sonoma County because have continued to find financing for homeowners to complete their projects. Program activity by supervisorial district. Number of programs that have been financed by SCEIP in each district, broke down by median household income blocks. Because don't collect income or credit data, is only way we can look at an equity measure. Meet every single income block, usage in every block. Base data on census based on 2017-2021. Because of the district that we're in – that's wildfire hardening, how can SCEIP benefit this. Just got this data. Nonrenewal by zip code in our area for 2019 was 1253 households reported. Skewed number, hard to define how many were because people sold their home, or didn't renew insurance policy, or switched providers. But in 2021, 1464 nonrenewals for insurance in our county. Wildfire hardening is what we feel is going to help our county with homeowners retaining their insurance. Perhaps someday, hope is having discounts offered to them for fire hardening, make our county and their own property safer. Wildfire safety growing faster than we imagined, basis is mostly class A roofing, fire hardening measure, a wonderful improvements. Can finance improvements, but can't finance repairs. A difference - if look at it as far as putting roof on home, can't just do a section. Our Division, Climate Action and Resiliency Division, offer more than just financing from SCEIP. Tool lending library for qualified contractors. In our office, many tools high efficiency measures, that people usually don't want to buy. Qualified contractors can sign up, check out tools. Can go into homes, measure efficiencies with high calibrations, and don't have to invest in it. Other thing we have is DIY toolkit it's a red toolbox, put in every library. Individuals can check out, don't have to be property owner, can be a renter. Equipment in there to make

your home more efficient, supplies, instructions. Refill those as turned back into library, intended for people to use the materials. Intended for people to use. Libraries always have waiting list. Also offer education, summer workshop series, the one that's coming up. Free seminars, workshops. Teach people how to find incentives and rebates. People don't often know where to start, help educate. In person events coming up. Have workshop on saving energy at home both in English and Spanish. Home resiliency guide also in both Spanish and English. Presented at climate conference a year ago. Received a lot of gratitude, particularly from teachers. Received award for design of resiliency guide. Image of beavers working together to build a better community. Push from community to help each other. Available to everyone. In doing your improvement to your house, you're helping others. Any questions?

Dickey: Local beavers?

Somers: They are Canadian beavers. Any questions?

Dickey: Several. Find that technology will exceed our capacity to understand it. True for this program? As example: electric car batteries more efficient at saving and storing energy than wall batteries. Car manufacturers and battery producers are now introducing electric cars that will allow homeowner to use car battery to power homes. With those sort of integrated systems, find yourself at a disadvantage as to what you can and can't improve? If I come and say, I want to buy electric car, because I can use battery in the car to power my house. Philosophy behind this, something you would maybe approve? How do you capture advancements?

Somers: New technologies. Attachment to your home is very much a requirement for us. Appliances, lots of energy efficiencies there, but you can take them with you, which is not really what we do. As long as it's hard wired, we're great, if it meets our standard. AB 811, bill that allowed us to create SCEIP by our Board of Supervisors and Steering Committee. Have to really look at things, can't do everything, but what we can do is so far proving to be effective. Able to look at measures coming forward, take those into consideration. Just last month started approving glass tile roof. Unique time for us to now be able to accept that. Today received call asking if we would fund, recapturing reusing CO2, bringing it in so not transporting on the roads. Sent document, since custom improvement, see if you want us to look at. What we're always doing is providing education on what is forthcoming, does prove to be beneficial. People are overwhelmed - where do you start? If get rid of gas stove, what do I do next? Workshops have been great, whether use program or not, constantly educating. Grid type battery a lot less costly, coming this fall. Lots of solar contractors interested in providing them. Meeting with contractors, about 135 on our participating list, meet with them and find out what they're looking for. Offer classes on new code standards.

Dickey: Ever had a hydrogen system installed? Fuel cell?

Somers: It is one of our improvements. Can loan for residential and commercial, multifamily is big push for us right now. Also in charge of trying to meet strategic pillar that county has set, 20 million in SCEIP financing to multifamily property units in our community. Forward thinking, one of the unique things that came recently was gentlemen interested in purchasing underused, abandoned commercial properties that haven't had tenants in some time. Repurpose, reuse, as multifamily. For permitting purposes, smart way to go, will really help our community. It is project that we'll take on. Help build 17 additional housing units.

Dickey: Helping to purchase property?

Somers: They're purchasing property, we're financing improvements. Great way to use the program.

Oldroyd: Do you do project management? Or oversee the projects.

Somers: We don't, don't have staff for that. Meet with individuals, offer better building consultation, 1 hour, it's free, if people thinking about starting project, help them make a path that's correct, know where to start. But can't manage property, don't have staff.

Newhouser: Regarding oversight, utilize PRMD to make sure actually doing improvements?

Somers: Yes, only way you can receive financing, funds, is at end of project, permits department in whatever jurisdiction you're in, issue a final to permit. Only way to ensure that giving out funds for the purpose intended. That is the means in which we verify.

Newhouser: Couple other basic questions. You use term wildfire hardening. Usually hear it in terms of house hardening, or home hardening. Is the way you're using it a more expansive term, above and beyond houses and homes, partly commercial, or go beyond building envelope?

Somers: People do use it for, we do have commercial use. Also offer ducts, are fire hardening measure. Area around your home, the five-foot perimeter, that suggest should be hardscaped, hardscape can be financed. Call it fire hardening, call it fire resiliency, different terms, people don't like buzzword resilience all the time, people don't like hardening. Judging by what is pleasing, more understandable when speaking to different groups.

Newhouser: Regarding outreach, I'm a homeowner, and I wasn't aware of your program. Wondering how?

Somers: Tax bill insert has flyer on our program every year. We do lots of marketing and outreach. Right now on the radio.

Newhouser: Last, didn't hear your mention interest rate, or how is competitive with other lending?

Somers: Always the hope that somebody will ask. Interest rate at this moment, just increased it, went from 6.99 to 7.49, fixed interest rate for 20 years, or 10, depends on what individuals choose. Interest rate is not based on lending rates. Our interest rate, 4 percent of that rate is what sustains our division. It's not general fund that supports our division. Other portion of the interest rate, depending on what it is, goes back into treasury for reinvestment for the betterment of all the community. Fiduciary responsibility we have in our county is to make investments that are similar to the five year treasury match, have to be competitive with that investment rate. That rate is what is the driver for our interest rate.

Dickey: How often is that rate adjusted?

Somers: It wasn't adjusted very often. From 7 percent at the beginning, went down to 5.99 during Covid because interest rates had dropped so low, and 5 year treasury was at all time low. Now what we do is every year go before the board, talk about interest rate. Work alongside Erick Roeser as our program administrator and our treasurer. It changes now, may change again next year.

Dickey: July 1, adjusted annually, if it were to be?

Somers: This year, yes. The year prior, two years prior, when it was lowered, it wasn't.

Dickey: Not related to fiscal year?

Somers: Not normally, although we do try to look at it.

Eagles: Goes on property tax bill, annually?

Somers: Yes, just a line item on property tax bill.

Public Comment: Do you already, or looking at financing water infiltration, roof water capture, tanks?

Somers: We do water conversation. Have funded drip water systems, water tanks, storage. Gardens, landscaping. Drought tolerant, create berms. It's new, and not as well used, sadly.

Dickey: Doesn't look like any ever been funded.

Somers: Have actually, a lot of people will participate in city programs, water waste programs.

Handron: Minimum or maximum amount?

Somers: Maximum amount up to 10% of fair market value of home or property.

Dickey: Minus any mortgage, or other liens?

Somers: Consumer protection oriented, we look at all the liens, will not fund over value, if you're looking 95 percent or greater of liens to value we will say no, will offer to reduce the amount you're asking for and see if people want to work with that.

Dickey: How long does it take for project to be approved?

Somers: Driven by property owner. Very easy process, one page document. Easy, provide copy of most current mortgage statement. Make sure they're current on their mortgage. Look at tax rolls for last three years, make sure no judgements, abstracts, unpaid tax liens. Very careful, also talk to people very carefully about what this will look like. This is how much it will raise your property tax bill. Very cautious. The faster turn homework in, faster application gets processed.

Dickey: Can be laborious.

Somers: Not common, doesn't happen every day, but we have received application one day, have signing contracts three days later. Always feels good when something like that, someone need new furnace and it's winter, driven to get homework back. Can start project immediately after signed contracts, do make sign and they have to sign three day or five day right to cancel. Consumer protection in place.

Dickey: In general consumer sense, say have property that requires consultancy. Going to create comprehensive energy plan, water conservation. Two-part question: does SCEIP offer consultancy services through private contractors? And also, are those services part of the cost of the financing?

Somers: Can be financed. Category called professional services, for engineering drawings, different types of. Do require seismic drawings, engineer plans for some of our improvements that require them.

Dickey: Have people that you recommend that work with your organization, or left to consumer?

Somers: Have list of participating contractors. Don't recommend contractors, don't vet. Requirements are across the board the same, abide by guidelines, provide general liability insurance policy. Anybody can become participating contractor if can meet qualifications. We can't say we recommend so-and-so, we're the county, impartial, have to remain impartial.

Dickey: From contracting standpoint, have review process so they can become participant. What about consultants? Not contractors necessarily, but offer professional services.

Somers: If licensed to conduct business, and want to be on our list. Have not had anyone come who is not a licensed contractor. Could look at that, have not had anybody who's asked to do that at this point in time, but can't recommend those individuals. We do invite people to come in and be our guest speakers, talk about topic they are subject matter expert in. Have had a lot of guests do that, had landscape designer come in and do water conservation workshop one time.

Dickey: Could I become a private utility, put hydrogen plant up and sell to my neighbors?

Somers: Would be your own business, not something we're going to finance.

Public Comment: Thinking of all these benefits, something pushing them down to rental market. People who are landlords being motivated to do this, make improvements. Live in rental, and there's no motivation for landlord.

Somers: Turn on radio, there's ads have put out there for multifamily property owners, starts with two tenants in laundry room. I'm trying very hard, because that's one of the county's strategic pillars, provide financing for multifamily

residents, properties. At first thought, this should be easy. Then recognize unforeseen consequence, some individuals might want to borrow money to improve properties and then raise rent. This isn't our intention. Went down path, want to find property owners that care, that believe in our community, believe in investing in their investment, and not necessarily in recouping that from their tenants.

Public Comment: Might need some protections.

Somers: So many things can do for tenants and residents, that want new windows to make more efficient. Do have a workshop coming up for multifamily property owners, talk to them about the benefits of rebates, and incentives for what they might do. And hopefully they'll want to do without raising rent. There's an offset that's fair - if going to put solar on building, and you're not going to have to pay utility bill, and that's agreeable, and raise rent by that much, that seems more normal. But when really look at investment as investment. Wished for a day of past, in Marin County, had an ordinance that they did of habitability review of rental properties on an annual basis, people have to improve their properties. Have our limitations. Everyone who works in division I'm in is there because have a heart to change something. Outstanding environment. Always looking at rights and wrongs of it too. And can use DIY toolkit to improve your own space.

Eagles: Glad you asked that, question I had. Thank you for asking about multifamily, and how you are incentivizing carefully, so doesn't have unforeseen consequence.

Somers: So often you don't know that might be that, so more harm than good can come from something. Have a lot of support from Board of Supervisors, all working hard to do right things so wrong things don't happen.

Dickey: Interesting part of what this includes now, both home hardening and seismic. Can make argument that homeowner who's renting a single-family residence who maybe can't afford out of pocket expense of new foundation, or new siding and windows, at rate of construction cost acceleration, even at 7 percent they're likely to benefit from doing now as opposed to waiting five, ten years before they did it. Don't know how would approach landlord, those kinds of things can make sense to the right person.

Somers: Using some of those funds set aside for us to meet strategic pillars on, that outreach and education, to even those owners, outside of Sonoma County some of them. Reaching those homeowners, pulling those individuals together, to one location, has been a difficult process. Been working on for year and a half. Every multifamily that comes our way, so excited. Trying hard.

Gorin: Thank you for your great information. One of the hidden treasures of Sonoma County. Hopefully you said that Sonoma County is one of the first counties that introduced concept of PACE program. When they have been doing reports to board, little races for each district, and often District 1 was number 1. If you've used this, even if you haven't, point is to start working on programs for resiliency, solar panels, battery backup. Exciting to see how this benefits everybody. Ironically, about to fly to hot Austin Texas, where the National Association of Counties annual meeting. Serve on Energy Environment Land Use subcommittee, have submitted proposal to support our PACE program, because federal government wants to chip away. Need to get some information from you, been some allegations of abuse but not in Sonoma County. Expect to be persuasive, get support of committee and then board to fight back at any effort at federal government to minimize our ability to operate this program.

Somers: Good timing. Right now, met about writing our letter response to CFPB asking for that carve out. Consumer Protections Bureau has tried to limit PACE financing. We're the only surviving resi PACE program out there. Because we have been diligent to abide by all protections, and we care, not making a profit. It's a pass through fee program.

Dickey: What is PACE?

Somers: It's the Property Assessed Clean Energy financing. It's what we do. Assessment based financing.

Gorin: It's the generic name for a program like SCEIP.

Somers: Thank you for bringing up. We have been told that we are the rockstars, we are the one that are doing it right. Asking to carve us out. Those letters will be ready tomorrow. You'll be first to hear, we reached 100 million dollar mark in financing with .01 default rate.

Gorin: Came to us a few months ago, board affirmed our support of the program.

Somers: It's been a great year for SCEIP.

Gorin: Often they report to us about how many people installing solar panels, battery backup. No way to judge that. If people financing other ways, or privately, don't report it to county. Whatever statistics we have are probably understated significantly.

4. Supervisor Gorin Update

Receive

Gorin: Moving forward, Board commented on extreme temperatures, how we provide cooling centers across Valley. I commented specifically because the triggers they have created, means need to have three days certain temperature, three nights above certain temperature, before set up cooling center. Doesn't make sense to me, they're coming back. In Sonoma Valley, except for the Veteran's building, we don't have a lot of spaces that are air conditioned and could provide respite center. Looking at what smaller spaces - maybe Hanna Center, La Luz Center, Unity Village building when they're set up. Work in progress, know we had some extreme temperatures this weekend, cooled down just enough so not overly unbearable. Shade of things to come. La Luz Center said to me they are working with COAD, committee organized to prepare for disasters. They are reaching out to variety of facilities across county, advocating, applied for funds from strategic growth council to create conditioned space in those facilities. La Luz Center is one of them, hoping to have more, have been working with Springs Grange Hall for a number of years, so far they have not prepared enough to get PGE funding to get air conditioning, solar panels, battery back-up, though I do think they have access to a generator. Challenging, as you all know, in the Springs, resort communities, not exactly prepared for extreme temperatures. Ten hour meeting yesterday, dealing with the Local Coastal Plan. Coast is important to all of us. I just heard that you're a surfer?

Dickey: I have been. Water is cold here.

Gorin: I grew up on East Coast. All things being equal, I tend to go to where water is. Just put on Facebook a note from press release about what happened from our discussion on Local Coastal Plan. Kudos to Lynda Hopkins for incredible work she put into Coastal Plan. Probably fifty to seventy commenters, and hundreds of letters, mostly saying the same thing. Then had to get down to, okay, how do we actually create maps that work for agriculture and protection of species, more challenging. Got there, a little more work to do, then will come back. Lynda sprung some new policies on us, have to go out for public review, and then come back to board again. Today, board voted to join Enhanced Infrastructure Financing District for downtown Santa Rosa, way to create funding through tax increment, kind of like redevelopment 3.0. Use tax increment to finance infrastructure and housing in downtown Santa Rosa. It's the highest revenue generator in the county. But I do have some concerns about having all of that tax increment go to downtown Santa Rosa so it will come back to the board with an expenditure plan. I suspect board to probably say okay we'll participate, but maybe at lower level, not 100% of the tax increment. Pay attention to that, complicated, think it's a good investment, but don't want to put all our eggs in that one basket. Also updated Project Labor Agreement, lowered threshold from 10 million to 1 million, included the Water Agency, Fairgrounds, and airport when it can be incorporated into that. Will come back. County center will be a part of Project Labor Agreement. A number of other projects you might not think about such as road paving will definitely trigger that threshold. Stay tuned. Great apprenticeship programs, but controversial, many companies say that they can't apply for those bids, because not union, but they can, just need to use union subcontractors. That's my update, Lynda Hopkins and I have been appointed to Unincorporated Communities ad hoc, working through some discussion points looking at how we quantify the need for services in unincorporated, how we measure what kind of services are provided. Art and Public Places Policy coming to board in October. Will be discussion points about levying percentage on development projects for art, doesn't have to physical, could be performing art. Certainly, Developmental Center will be part of that program when it gets unstuck.

Eagles: Thank you, councilmembers, any questions?

Handron: Is there an update on county resource building in Sonoma, Gary Nelson building?

Gorin: Board just passed for the second reading the lease agreement for half of the building. Not sure what's going to be moving into other third of the building, Gary Nelson wants market rents. If talking about nonprofits, can barely afford rent. Don't know how will move forward. Tenant improvements, maybe opening the doors September/October.

Galindo: Had the same question, about the timeline for that. Lots of people in the community have heard about it, very excited about not having to go all the way to Santa Rosa for services.

Gorin: May have a community meeting in August, to take the pulse of the community, what kind of services they want to see. May be other functions of the county that, may have to jawbone, have Permit Sonoma have a part time person there. Right now it's Health and Human Services, and maybe housing navigation, although not clear about that. I will have office, so will Karina and Zaira.

Galindo: Said that there's going to be a survey coming out?

Gorin: Maybe a community meeting, or maybe a survey. While we're talking about that, may have heard there has been discussion about shared services between the city and county, maybe leading to annexation at some point in the future, a little fuzzy. The city, county, catalyst fund, along with our consultant agreed to take a step back, do some community engagement, take pulse of community: what do you think your needs are? What's your vision for the next five years? Do you know if you live in city and county? If you have a need for services, who provides those services? Lots of people don't actually know if they live in the city or county, or how to access services. MACs will be a part of that community engagement, how do we engage. Is it a big community meeting, an online survey? Don't know yet.

Eagles: Community meeting, would be in August?

Gorin: August or September. Also, just fixed a date for a housing forum between the city and the county, the Sonoma Valley Collaborative, August 30 5:30-7:30.

Eagles: Question about Unincorporated Communities ad hoc, intrigued by that. Could you say more, what was the genesis?

Gorin: Has been increasingly frustrating for Supervisor Hopkins and I to always beg and plead for resources to serve the needs of communities. The center core of the county, not a problem, variety of organizations getting funded, and actually river area is very successful at getting funded for a number of those services, especially West County Community Services and the healthcare center. Sonoma Valley, almost zero, we got almost no funds from ARPA. Number one issue besides housing is mental health services, got no funding for any of that. We suggested an ad hoc to really explore. Challenges for unincorporated communities is we don't have a partner for matching grants, don't have a city. Ag and Open Space says, we'll give you this for new restrooms, but for parks renovations, no, that's renovating existing facilities. City government would apply for that funding and get matching grant. It is important that we rethink need for services in unincorporated communities. Not there yet, trying to get there.

Dickey: Speaking about an office in the valley for services. Wondering, can it be like a generic opportunity for residents to fill out intake forms? So don't have to go to Santa Rosa?

Gorin: For human services, eligibility? That's the point.

Dickey: Big effort on part of county, to figure out how we can have multiple disciplines intake forms in one location, but would certainly be efficient.

Gorin: Exactly, that's why I've been working on this for six years, put on back burner by fires. Will be receptionist there, doing intake, what kind of services do you need. Computer, kiosk. Would love to have Permit Sonoma have an ombudsman there, have not yet approached that.

Dickey: Or even if had a chance to set up a Zoom meeting, broadband access there. Could always make claim that one service would have priority over another, depending on what kind of emergency you're facing. But in a general way to serve our community, have it be as broad as possible would make sense.

Gorin: Would be great if MAC might think of this at next meeting, maybe develop small discussion about ideas you would like to see built into that service center.

Handron: I think someone from the Clerk Recorder Assessors office for vital records, paying tax bills, other things like that would be very helpful.

Gorin: I got to officiate my sister's wedding, was over at the Clerk Recorder's office turning in the marriage license. Very handy to be right next door. Good suggestion, I bet the Registrar will want to put in ballot box drop off there. Will talk with her about maybe having some function, even if it's virtual.

Handron: You can get most vital records online instantly; having a kiosk there might be helpful.

Gorin: More and more of our functions online, but takes someone pretty sophisticated, with language ability, to be able to navigate that. Thankfully, I have people working in my office that do.

Newhouser: You mentioned that fundraising and matching funds is a challenge. Having worked in the Valley for a nonprofit for many years, that was always the challenge. But we were successful, at times had to get creative, did partner with City in many cases. Usually took a lot of creative, dual applications. Sometimes would go to Fish and Wildlife Foundation, or other government agencies. State for state usually doesn't match, but state for county can match, or federal for county can match.

Gorin: And are getting more creative, have been hammering them for past couple of years for challenges in unincorporated. But they're not going to be lead agency for administering a project. So, not only do you have to be creative with volunteer efforts, who is going to administer. We are working, once again, on community plaza, thinking about how to get funding through Ag and Open Space. Who's going to administer the project, probably General Services. In other cases, a MAC cannot be a lead agency, even though may have good idea. Part of the challenges of how we be creative.

Newhouser: Many nonprofits either choose not to take on that role, because of the administrative burden. A lot of work, can become a burden, unless funds are significant. Just putting that out there, know you have internal staff, can't help but think that having someone who is strictly focused on that.

Gorin: Working through some of those logistics. Ag and Open Space coming back to board both to award some project grants, and will have another round next year, but want to do a check in on grant guidelines, how do we actually get to that creativity, and the lead agency. Don't know that many of you know, there is another park in Kenwood, right next to the creek. It will take some creativity to figure out, do they really want to develop that near the creek.

Newhouser: Just an FYI on that parcel, it is identified as a restoration project site. Could enhance funding, could be dual purpose, creating fish habitat, retrofit culvert, and creating a park. It is in plan that was developed for the whole Valley. Before I left SEC, we got a grant, worked with successful consultant who did master planning for Napa Valley. Will get you name.

Gorin: Will check with SEC, maybe want to apply for matching grant.

Newhouser: This is why need overseer, coordinator to work with not only nonprofits in the area but also be able to bring them together for multiple benefit project, the best. Restoration, recreation, public access. More you can bring in to single project, more likely to get funding, more opportunities for cost share through matching grants. But what I'm trying to drive at here is you need someone who can really coordinate that effort in a given area.

Gorin: Time frame for that project is long enough, the next Supervisor. Appreciate that information, that idea has been sitting on back burner, figuring out how we do that.

Newhouser: That little park, diamond in the rough.

Eagles: Susan, you had a comment?

Oldroyd: Comment regarding the Unincorporated ad hoc. Think that unhoused comes right between mental health and house. A steady stream of people that come through Kenwood, Glen Ellen as well.

Gorin: Are they camping? Someone did set up a tent at Boyes Post Office parking lot, just as we were approving the camping regulations. Sheriff had to help him figure out that he needed to move. Trying to figure out how to put cameras in that space. Thanks for letting me know, if it becomes a number of people, let me know.

Eagles: Your initial framing was the ad hoc, a potential subject for the ad hoc.

Oldroyd: Yes, a subject for the ad hoc for unincorporated areas.

Gorin: Broader scope. Lynda and I have been working on homeless issues since elected. Good news, residents moving into Homeless Action Sonoma. Took forever. Unity Village working on tenant improvements, hope they can move in in another month. Have been making significant progress on establishing coordinated homeless services. Not as together as maybe Petaluma is, but getting there.

Dickey: Question, separate from your presentation Susan. Do governmental offices have opportunity to take advantage of SCEIP?

Gorin: Not SCEIP program, would be put into capital improvements budget. Sonoma Veterans building has a list of things that working on, one was putting in a generator there so if power shutoffs, can be used as place of refuge.

Dickey: But they're constrained by budget, whereas SCEIP isn't constrained by budget.

Gorin: Government doesn't pay property taxes.

Dickey: No it doesn't, but wondering, when working through PACE, do have programs that allow governmental agencies to receive funding for energy improvements.

Somers: In my office, we do have a couple of individuals that have been working to bring energy efficiencies into the buildings, like heat pump systems, that type of thing. Able to secure a huge number that could go into county facilities at minimal cost. Do work in trying to do some of that work in county buildings. That was originally the intent of Energy and Sustainability Division, make county more facilities more efficient. Bring awareness, what's out there and what's available, how to get rebates and incentives.

Dickey: Larger picture, we're talking about places where people can go when too hot or too cold. Not all governmental buildings can satisfy those needs. It's an integrated concept really, try and create temporary spaces for people, and want them to be efficient, how do those programs work, how to receive funding for them. Way to make county buildings more useful to general public.

Gorin: Sonoma Valley Regional Service Center has very large conference room. Could potentially use it for cooling center for 30 people, that would be maximum. Government should look for opportunities and thank you, Terri for reminder. Board said, okay, just going to demolish county center and build new. Going to let Susan design it. Probably have more, they're not well attended, but advanced energy center downtown by Sonoma Clean Power, go in there and get some ideas. Right there on Fourth Street, just poke around, fascinating.

No public comment.

6. Consideration of items for future agenda

Receive

Eagles: Hannah is going to post our list from last month.

Oldroyd: I have one. VOTMA, similar to the Glen Ellen Forum, major items in Kenwood for a long time.

Eagles: Good idea, we talked to VOTMA during the formation of the MAC way back when. Valley of the Moon Association?

Whitman: Sorry to interrupt. Just wanted to share because I know some of us weren't here last month. List was put together during the meeting, living document we can revisit during this item each month.

Eagles: Was going to try to do calendarization, haven't gotten to that yet.

Newhouser: Generally in the order they're going to be seen?

Eagles: Not yet, in a random order, haven't tried to order them yet, going to look at Supervisors' calendar. If have thoughts on that.

Dickey: Question for you Hannah on outreach. At last SVCAC meeting, discussed our concerns over outreach and community participation. Asked Arielle, because CAC does not have budget the way MAC does. Asked if possible to have internships for youth, can pay them out of budget dollars to encourage youthful participation. General idea, go to the high school, Kenwood, all those things would be discussed. Create some incentives for young people to participate. Maybe one of the commission's positions dedicated to that role, turns over annually. Opportunity for us to throw ideas around. Chief amongst that, can we use some of that budget money?

Whitman: Know that Fifth District has, think they're just summer interns, one of their responsibilities is the minute taking for their MACs. So some sort of precedent. Imagine that those interns do other things in the district office besides that, will reach out to their staff and ask.

Dickey: But they're participating in an administrative role. I'm thinking more about our role as community members. Want to encourage young people to participate in this process. Think it's worthy of discussion. If turns out have to do it as internship, in order to do it, I'd be fine with that. Look at our group, same with CAC, all the ancient mariners. That's a concern. Brainstorming, if you would check if that's something that can be done with our budget.

Eagles: What would the budget actually fund? When you first started talking, I thought you were going to suggest that we have a youthful person, do some social media, promotion in general, but that's not what you're suggesting.

Dickey: I think that we should pay them to be here.

Whitman: Definitely have to look into it.

Dickey: But there might be other ideas that you guys have.

Oldroyd: How about a younger person as a member of the MAC? That's what I'm looking for in Kenwood.

Dickey: Want to provide an incentive for them. Dollars are the easiest one. Not necessarily the best.

Eagles: Topic for the agenda?

Dickey: Sure. Brought up at the CAC meeting, to talk about next week. Hope Arielle might have answers for me, will prompt her. In terms of a budget, a little different in that conversation. Also pool of people is larger, can draw from the city, draw from Boyes. Northern part of the MAC has from population standpoint far more limitations. But, have a budget.

Galindo: I think that reaching out to the high school would be a really good idea, there are so many enthusiastic, energetic, intelligent kids, if start with them maybe at 11th grade, could be part of their senior project. There are a lot of young people interested in what goes on in the Valley.

Dickey: Would probably want to include the high schools in Santa Rosa too, because the high schools there draw from Kenwood.

Oldroyd: Where do Glen Ellen kids go?

Eagles: Splits, the high school, Carillo, or private.

Oldroyd: The high school?

Eagles: Sonoma Valley High. Or Maria Carillo, or private.

Dickey: Could be associated with a civics class, with a senior project.

Eagles: Well let's put that on the agenda, will do some more research.

Whitman: Happy to do that.

Eagles: Other things on the list?

Whitman: At the last meeting, the direction was to pursue for our next meeting a conversation with the Glen Ellen Forum on signs, but we wanted to give them opportunity to meet with their board which I believe was yesterday. And then second one was to look at pedestrian safety improvements in Kenwood, sidewalks and crosswalks, more generally how those can be implemented, and they can come in September. And there was one more, believe prior to last meeting, which was wanted an update on vacation rental, I think also available in September.

Eagles: What was the organization that would present on the sidewalks?

Whitman: Sonoma County Public Infrastructure, formerly Transportation and Public Works that merged with General Services. SoCo Pi for short.

Eagles: Vacation rental ordinance, do we know where that stands on county calendar?

Whitman: One phase completed, starting another phase.

Eagles: For August we have, potentially, Glen Ellen signs project. Also Supervisor Gorin asked us more generally what kind of services we want to see at Sonoma Valley service center.

Handron: Don't know if anyone else is interested, would love to hear from facilities people at SDC about their gates and access.

Eagles: Bugged Supervisor Gorin about that last month, and there was not a lot to report, just that they were having issues with people coming into the property, put the gates there at night, to prevent vandalism. Opening every day. Did meet with someone, Sonoma person, working on site. If we have questions we can ask her, but that was the report, that they were just having issues, that's what they're going to do for now.

Galindo: There is someone I know who asks lots of questions, and he asked the people that were putting up the gates and they said the same thing, but very specific, that there were people going in there at night in their cars, sometimes in their campers, once in there, difficult to get out. So that was one of the reasons why they had put up the gate.

Eagles: I had heard the same.

Handron: To me, see a pattern of restricting access in last five years or so. Just curious, what kind of numbers they're talking about with vandalism.

Eagles: Asked Supervisor Gorin, not a lot of other information that she had.

Newhouser: Because it's state property, don't really have jurisdiction or ability to influence.

Dickey: General Services will have that information. Could make Freedom of Information Act request. Might be able to get through county, have made several lately, have been very helpful and very prompt. Of course has a lot to do with local reporting on local things, as opposed to anything that might be associated with GSA. Might be question you can ask.

Handron: Law enforcement there not state, right?

Dickey: No, don't think so, think subcontracted. I'll send you contact person's name. Might be place to start.

Eagles: Don't need on level of agenda item? Okay. Anything else?

Dickey: Speaking for myself, there's sort of limit on how much attention we have. Just take into account, the number of agenda items. County item today, was short, but had a lot of questions.

Eagles: Hear you, point taken. Any public comment?

No public comment.

7. Reports and Announcements from Councilmembers and Ad Hocs

Receive

Eagles: Any reports or announcements? Matt, anything on CAC?

Dickey: Last meeting was presentation on history of CAC. Started out as an effort at advocacy. Over period of time, changed. Discussion about, do want to be stronger in role of advocacy? General plan is coming up. In the past, distinctions that could be made in general plan development that could impact how we are managed here in Sonoma Valley. Thought significant discussion. Despite fact have CAC and two MACs, how much voice we have for all development going on? How many hotel developments have in our area, doesn't include Hanna, SDC, golf course. These things tend to happen piece by piece, and in vacuum. Discussion about how that wasn't always the case. At next meeting, going to discuss formulating ad hoc committees. Second thing: in the past, the city of Sonoma and CAC had a lot of synergy. We live in a web of interacting relationships, traffic, water, energy, water, anything else. Development projects all have impacts whether live in Kenwood or live in Sonoma. In past, lot of discussion, between planning department at City of Sonoma at CAC. Would make regular commentary, or would send to executive committee, some conversation on the major projects coming up, somewhere along the line that stopped. Going to try and open up that avenue of discussion again. For same reason, all these things have vast impacts, incrementally, don't even see. Hopefully next time we meet, I'll have some more clarity.

Eagles: When next meet?

Dickey: Next Wednesday.

Newhouser: If may respond, made me realize, potential topic for MAC meetings, have CAC, or Matt give presentation on what they do, what areas of influence are. Don't want you to answer this, don't want us to dive into deep: one of first questions that came to me, can the county, through the advice of CAC, actually influence development above and beyond through PRMD? Even look at saturation of hotels in an area? Questions that are really interesting, other thing that came up: land use, technically not in our purview. Supervisor Gorin gave us some latitude on SDC project because so critical. If we were to delve into that again, cross fertilize maybe with CAC, or other organizations.

Dickey: These are citizen groups, we're all citizens, presumably all voters. Opportunity for creating more uniform voice for things that matter to us. Another reason we want to have young people participate. In my experience working with developers, can outlast you. Have younger people participate.

Eagles: Keep us posted, love the idea of community groups keeping each other informed. Let us know, that's something we can put on the agenda. Keep in touch on that, might put on agenda.

Dickey: Other thing that might be useful too: history of what a MAC is, what do they do, what does their portfolio of energy look like. Been a while since this MAC established, not that long since, had pandemic in between, only again started to meet in person. Might be worthwhile to have history lesson.

Eagles: Let's put that on our list, maybe for this fall. Any other announcements? Debbie, when is next Forum meeting?

Lammers: Board meeting was last night. Community meeting is August 7th, which is our quarterly meeting, community information and issues.

Dickey: Exclusive of development issues, right?

Lammers: Provide information, take the pulse of community, but don't have real authority to influence anything. Role as two way information provider.

Dickey: How's the pulse going?

Lammers: Lots of outspoken folks involved, lots that show up for general information. August 7 is next quarterly meeting, will probably have a holiday event, had summer event this weekend. Fall cleanup day, a Sunday in September, pretty sure September 24th.

8. Adjourn

Resolution

First: Dickey

Second: Handron

6-0

Adjourn: 7:28pm

COMMITMENT TO CIVILITY: The North Sonoma Valley Municipal Advisory Council has adopted rules of procedures which include a commitment to civility. To assure civility in its public meetings, the public is encouraged to engage in respectful dialog that supports freedom of speech and values diversity of opinion. Councilmembers, staff, and members of the public are expected to establish and maintain a cordial and respectful atmosphere during discussions; and foster meaningful dialogue free of personal attacks. Members of the public must also adhere to the speaking time limit.

Materials related to an item on this Agenda submitted to the North Valley 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-A, Santa Rosa, CA, during normal business hours.

Note: Consideration of agenda items will proceed as follows:

1. Presentation
2. Questions by Councilmembers
3. Questions and comments from the public
4. Response by presenter, if required
5. Comments by Councilmembers
6. Resolution, if indicated

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