



Westport Municipal Advisory Council

P. O. Box 307, Westport, CA 95488
www.westportmac.org

Summary Minutes—July 2, 2013

The WMAC convened for a meeting on July 2, 2013 at 7:00 PM at the Westport Community Church in Westport.

1) ROLL CALL

Roll call was conducted with directors Grigg, Knapp, Van Bueren, and Vidaver present. Director Vidaver agreed to take notes in Director Eyerly's absence. Director Van Bueren presided. Several members of the public were in attendance.

2) APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Director Knapp made a motion and director Grigg seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the June meeting. The minutes were approved with Director Vidaver abstaining.

3) Public Expression – (Discussion Only) – None

4) New Business – Discussion and Possible Action—State Parks & Recreation (SPR) new Rule Making Process for State Natural Preserves.

Bears on how SPR will plan and conduct projects within the MacKerricher Natural Dune Preserve (and all SPR Preserves). Close of Public Comment August 15, 2013. New rules would require use of any motorized vehicle to be used solely for the purpose of protecting cultural or ecological resources. Also prohibits aircraft from flying lower than 2000 feet over or adjacent to a Preserve.

Concerns were expressed on how these new rules would impact: 1) plans for the Pacific Coast Bike Route portion running along Highway One and the Preserve; 2) ADA motorized wheelchair use of Haul Road as recommended by the Local Coastal Plan (LCP); 3) future projects to restore washed out sections of the Haul Road. Director Van Bueren made motion that WMAC submit comments to SPR and the Coastal Commission addressing these concerns on behalf of WMAC. Seconded by Director Knapp, passed unanimously. Comments to include a request to classify the Haul Road as an existing trail to be exempt from this rule in order to satisfy the MacKerricher Park General Plan [**is it the Park Plan or the LCP or both?— maybe both**] calling for the road to be “maintained.”

5) Old Business – Discussion and possible action

a) **Ten Mile Dunes Restoration project**—The WMAC previously commented on this project which was approved by the County Department of Planning and Building. WMAC has appealed this approval to the County Board of Supervisors (BoS). Much discussion ensued by the public and WMAC. Main areas of concern were loss of public access through Preserve as mandated by the LCP, though Director Vidaver pointed out there is still no formal, legal access at the north end. Environmental impacts from mechanical removal of the Haul Road including destruction of listed species habitat, destruction of wetlands, and release of currently sequestered toxins in the buried railroad ties were also issues of discussion.

Board of Supervisors to meet 10 AM August 13, 2013 in Fort Bragg on this issue. A pre-meeting planning meeting will be held 6 PM June 29th at the Grange to strategize for the BoS meeting. All are welcome.

6) Other business/announcements – Discussion Only

Director Van Bueren reported that Director Eyerly is moving out of the area and is resigning. Director Van Bueren will contact the Board of Supervisors for the proper procedure to appoint WMAC alternate Robert Scott to the vacant position.

7) Set Preliminary Agenda for next meeting

The next meeting will be held on August 6, 2013. The preliminary agenda for that meeting:

Ten Mile Dunes Restoration project

8) Adjournment

Chairman Van Bueren adjourned the meeting at approximately 8:00 P.M.

Thad Van Bueren, Chair

ATTEST:

Judy Vidaver in behalf of
Chuck Eyerly, Secretary