



## Westport Municipal Advisory Council

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### MINUTES OF THE SEPT 7<sup>TH</sup>, 2023 WMAC Regular Meeting

**Call to order:** 7:10 p.m.

**Roll call:** Present were Vice Chair Bill Knapp, Secretary Gary Quinton, Director Robert Scott, Alternate Sally Grigg, Director Thad Van Bueren. Absent was Director Baile Oakes. In attendance by Zoom was member of the public: Robert Finnell.

- 1) **Prior Board Minutes:** The previously issued draft of the July 6, 2023 WMAC Regular Meeting were presented to the Board for review, comments and approval. Upon motion duly made and seconded the Board unanimously approved the minutes of the July 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023 Regular Meeting.

#### 2) **Public Expression:**

Director Scott brought up the subject of the Caltrans work on Highway 1 at the corner of Abalobadia and approx. mile marker 63 of Highway 1. The trees were removed on a very sharp curve by Caltrans. Director Scott requested he be permitted to inquire of Caltrans the reasoning of this tree removal. The inquiry process was so decided by unanimous Director vote.

Director Van Bueren asked that CDP 2023-0030 received in the mail yesterday be considered as Item 4d because the responses deadline is September 11.

Mr. Finnell (member of the public) expressed to the Board of Directorship appreciation of all the work and engagement that the Directors and Officers undertake as part of their appointment to the WMAC.

#### 4) **New Business:**

- a) Proposed subdivision south of the Fee Mansion: Alternate Griggs stated she was informed of a possible subdivision. After discussion it was determined that there was not a new intent of the owners of the subject property to do such, and the discussion ended.
- b) Discussion regarding increased community interest in MAC meetings.

Director Quinton raised the subject of homeowner insurance in the State of California with many insurance companies no longer offering homeowner policies and the related problems homeowners were experiencing. The WMAC directed Mr. Quinton to start a discussion with our District 4 Supervisor and others to determine if the WMAC could play a part in some solution to the problem.

- c) Discussion regarding the Chair position of the WMAC with the recent resignation of Chair. Director Van Bueren who served for many years as the WMAC Chair agreed to fill the position and was voted and approved by the Board by unanimous vote. During this discussion Secretary Quinton relayed a conversation he had with the Clerk of The Mendocino Board of Supervisors (MBOS), where he was told that Sally Grigg was the alternate and that Baile Oakes was a director. He was informed that these positions were a part of the appointment of the BOS. He was informed that the MAC does make these decisions and if Grigg wanted to be a director, she would have to re-apply and be approved by the BOS for that position.
- d) CDP 2023-0030 Lauwerijssen: Information on this proposed project at the SE corner of Abalone and Hillcrest in the village of Westport was discussed. Based on input received, the Council agreed that Director Van Bueren would draft a response under “Other Comments” conveying support for demolition of the existing residence and replacement with one consistent in scale and character with other houses in the village to be submitted by the September 11 deadline..

#### 5) Old Business:

- a) Communication to Mendocino County regarding notices of proposed projects. The WMAC agreed that the appropriate approach was to start with a one on one meeting between Chair Van Bueren and the Mendocino County planning director followed by an email copied to the WMAC Directors identifying how communications will be improved.
- b) Mendocino County Proposal to eliminate all the county MACs. After a discussion it was determined that no action was required at this time by the WMAC on this subject.
- 6) **Announcements:** There were none from the Board. Mr. Finnell noted that Saturday, September 23, 2024 is the 39<sup>th</sup> California Coastal Cleanup Day and posters had been posted at the Community Store’s public posting cabinet for those interested in participating. Mr. Finnell suggested or sought confirmation that the WMAC Area’s County Supervisor Mr. Dan Gjerde is invited to all WMAC meetings and Board minutes, once approved, are sent to his office. Mr. Finnell noted that an easy internet key word search shows a “live” WMAC website, but the data is several years old and in need of a current update to the posted information.
- 7) **Set agenda for next meeting of Oct 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023.** This agenda formation process was decided to be made by Board consensus through email.
- 8) **Adjournment:** 8:45 pm.