

Memo

To: Members, Board of Supervisors
From: President Rich Gordon *M*
Date: April 18, 2005
Re: Appointment of Board Sub-Committee on Facility Naming

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that a Board Sub-Committee consisting of President Rich Gordon and Supervisor Mark Church be appointed to develop a draft policy on the naming of county facilities.

BACKGROUND:

Over the past several years the Board of Supervisors has taken action to name county facilities after individuals both living and deceased. These requests have come directly to the Board usually upon the retirement or death of an individual. Currently there is no policy for the naming of facilities, so each request must be considered in isolation. The absence of a policy also makes it impossible for those making the request to know whether they are making a request that has county-wide merit and significance.

With the construction of the Youth Campus nearing completion, the Probation Department and related entities have indicated that they may have multiple requests for facility naming.

I believe that all in the County would be better served if a policy on the naming of facilities was in place. The timing for such a policy seems to be appropriate given the issues related to the completion of the Youth Campus.

With your concurrence, I would like to appoint Supervisor Church and myself to serve as a Board Sub-Committee to draft a policy on facility naming. The purpose of the sub-committee would be to identify those County facilities that have already been named in recognition of an individual, explore policies of other governmental entities related to facility naming, and develop a draft policy for San Mateo County. The draft policy would be brought back to the full Board of Supervisors for consideration and eventual adoption.

I would hope that this Sub-Committee can complete its work within the next 120 days, so that we could consider a draft policy in early September.