



COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
Inter-Departmental Correspondence

Board of Supervisors

DATE: December 16, 2008
BOARD MEETING DATE: January 6, 2009
SPECIAL NOTICE/HEARING: No
VOTE REQUIRED: Majority

TO: Honorable Board of Supervisors

FROM: Supervisors Rich Gordon and Rose Jacobs Gibson *RJG*

SUBJECT: Appointments to vacancies on Midcoast Community Council (MCC) and Request for future action on composition of elected Municipal Advisory Councils

RECOMMENDATION:

- (1) Appoint Sabrina Brennan to the Midcoast Community Council (MCC), to fill one of the two vacant Member positions that end on November 30th, 2009;
- (2) Decline to appoint Ric Lohman to the second vacant position on MCC; and
- (3) Direct County Counsel to draft a resolution specifying that persons who serve as elected directors of other local government agencies are ineligible for service on County of San Mateo municipal advisory councils which include elected members.

VISION ALIGNMENT:

This action contributes to the County's commitments that: 1) Our diverse population works well together to build strong communities, effective government and a prosperous economy; and that 2) Civic engagement -- including voting, public service, charitable giving, volunteerism, and participation in public discussions of important issues -- is uniformly high among the diverse population of San Mateo County.

DISCUSSION:

Under certain circumstances, the Board of Supervisors has the role of making appointments to fill seats opened through resignation on the Midcoast Community Council. Two current openings on the Midcoast Community Council were created

by the resignations of former members Geoffrey D. Davis and Terolyn Green. As in previous cases, the Board of Supervisors has relied on the Midcoast Community Council to review all applications to make a recommendation for the Board's consideration. Only two applications were received for the two positions, Sabrina Brennan of Moss Beach, and Ric Lohman of Miramar. The Midcoast Community Council interviewed both of them.

Sabrina Brennan has been a coast-side resident for over nine years. She has recently been a part of several working groups organized by our County Parks Department to help create the Midcoast Action Plan for Parks. In August, she was selected by the MCC to represent them at meetings of Midcoast Park Lands. She has expressed an eagerness to continue work, through MCC, on park and recreation related issues. We recommend Ms. Brennan's appointment to the MCC.

Ric Lohman has served the mid-coast community for many years, including eight years previously on MCC. For the past two years, he has served as a member of the Granada Sanitary District (GSD) Board. It is for this reason that we recommend against Mr. Lohman's appointment to the second vacancy on the MCC.

Municipal advisory councils advise the Board of Supervisors on matters relating to their communities in the unincorporated area of the County of San Mateo. Two of the County's three municipal advisory councils include elected members. It is common for those two municipal advisory councils to make recommendations on issues that involve other local government agencies. To ensure that the municipal advisory councils' recommendations are based solely on interests of the communities they serve, and are independent of the political interests of other groups on which the members may hold elected positions, we recommend that the County Counsel be directed to draft a resolution that provides that members of elected boards of other local government agencies are categorically ineligible to serve on County of San Mateo municipal advisory councils which include elected members. This change will be brought to the Board as a separate action item, at a future meeting.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact.