



County of San Mateo Planning & Building Department Agricultural Advisory Committee

John Vars, Chair
Natalie Sare, Vice Chair
Daniel Theobald
Dr. Igor Lacan

James Oku
Jess Brown
Jim Howard
Jonathan Winslow

Koren Widdel
Peter Marchi
Ryan Casey
Cole Mazariegos-Anastassiou

County Office Building
455 County Center, 2nd Floor
Redwood City, California
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650/363-1825

ACTION MINUTES

Draft

Monday October 16, 2023

A full recording of this meeting can be accessed on the official government YouTube channel of the County of San Mateo at: https://youtu.be/v_S3uBY38m8.

1. **Call to Order**

At the Ted Adcock Community Center, in the South Day Room, located at 535 Kelly Avenue, Half Moon Bay, Chair John Vars called the meeting to order at 6:15 pm.

2. **Member Roll Call**

Regular Committee Members Present:

Natalie Sare
John Vars
Peter Marchi
Ryan Casey
Jonathan Winslow
Cole Mazariegos-Anastassiou
Daniel Theobald

Regular Committee Members Absent:

James Oku

Nonvoting Committee Members Present:

Dr. Igor Lacan, UC Co-Op Extension Representative

Nonvoting Committee Members Absent:

Koren Widdel, San Mateo County Agricultural Commissioner
Jess Brown, San Mateo County Farm Bureau Executive Director
Jim Howard, Natural Resource Conservation Staff

Planning Liaison Present:

Olivia Boo, Planning Staff Liaison

3. **Meeting Procedures**

Discussion of meeting procedures to make the meeting more efficient for getting through the agenda. Items were included in the full packet with documents showing options. No action taken but limits to statement to be no longer than 3 minutes. Focus on off-agenda discussions. Olivia Boo volunteered to run on screen timer to manage time spoken.

4. Committee Nominations for AAC Secretary
- Committee discussed options.
 - Peter Marchi nominated Michael O'Neill, Staff Liaison from Supervisor Ray Mueller. Michael stated that he will have to get permission from Ray Mueller

5. **Officer Elections for Chair and Vice Chair:**

These positions are required to be filled by Farmers
Nominations for officers of the Committee:

Natalie Sare moved to nominate herself as Chair, seconded by Daniel Theobald.

Motion passed 7-0-0 with 1 absent member.

John Vars moved to nominate himself as Vice Chair, seconded by Cole Mazariegos-Anastassiou.

Motion passed 7-0-0, with 1 absent member.

Changing of positions effective with November 2023 meeting for one year. New elections held every October.

6. **Oral Communications to allow public to address the Committee Members**

No public Speakers

7. **Committee Member Update(s) and/or Questions** to allow Committee Members to share news and/or concerns for items not on the agenda.

- Ryan Casey requested the committee send a letter to the Board of Supervisor to restore funding for housing on site of producers. Letter will be composed and talked about next meeting.
Public comment from Dante Silvestri supporting letter.
Eliza Milio Agricultural Ombudsman support of letter.
- Comment regarding the training for AG ID. Hardship to attend training this time of year. Owner and manager only not staff.
- Olivia Boo stated quorum is the number of seated positions. At present time there are 8 seated members so 5 voting members present is a quorum.
- Olivia Boo brought up issue of Pescadero Fire Station. Coastal Commission required that there be other land dedicated replacing the agricultural land being used for the fire station to mitigate.
- Olivia mentioned that requirements to be member of the committee have been finalized. Openings have been posted on the County website for Commissions and Committees.
- Committee requested ongoing updates on the project as it moves forward.

8. **Consideration of Action Minutes** for the December 12, 2022, April 10, 2023 and May 8, 2023 AAC meetings.

- No action taken, continued to the next meeting.

9. **Community Development Director's Report.** *(Planning Liaison)*

- No agricultural permits considered by the Board of Supervisors.
- Project for 4 farm labor housing units at 4309 Cloverdale Road applicant is POST and Mid-Peninsula.

COMMITTEE ACTION:

No action required. The Committee reviewed the items on this month's report.

10. Discussion of status off Peninsula Open Space Trust parcels excluded from wildlife conservation easements that are associated with the Lake lucerne Mutual Water Company.
No action taken.
11. Presentation and on efforts to establish a food hub in San Mateo County. Presenters: Veronica Mazariegos-Anastassiou (Bris Ranch), James Nakahara (Kitchen Table Advisors), Kathy Webster (LeftCoast Grassfed), Eliza Milio (San Mateo Resource Conservation District).
12. **Adjournment**
Meeting was adjourned at 7:56 p.m. by Committee Chair John Vars.