

**Geyserville Planning Committee Draft Minutes**  
**Public Meeting**

January 22, 2019

7:00 to 9:00 pm

---

Present: Daisy Damskey, Paul Connors, Ryan Petersen, Walter Kieser, Bryce Jones, Brian Sullivan, and Hal Hinkle. Absent: None

**President's Welcome and Introductions**

President Damskey opened the meeting and reported that she had a walking meeting with Burt Whittaker, Director of Regional Parks at the potential River Park site near Geyserville SR 128 Bridge. It appears that there is some enthusiasm and funding available and many good ideas; however, no discussion of site control or acquisition as of yet. The newly authorized Geyserville MAC was mentioned and the request from Supervisor Gore that the GPC appoint one of the members as an ex officio member of the MAC.

**Agenda Update**

It was noted and discussed that GPC Organizational Development topics should best be subordinated to the discussion regarding newly formed Municipal Advisory Council (MAC) by action of the Board of Supervisors. The relationship of the MAC to the GPC remains unclear as the GPC was not formally notified about the Board's action nor was there any opportunity to comment upon or influence the Board's action.

**1. Approval of Minutes and Meeting Agenda**

Minutes of the January 22 and November 27, 2018 GPC Meetings were reviewed. Minutes were approved on a motion by Member Petersen, seconded by Member Connors.

**2. Public Comments on Items Not on Agenda**

There was no public comment offered by those attending the meeting.

**3. Committee Outside Correspondence and Communication**

Member Kieser reported that he had a conversation with Lorie Loe regarding options for zoning changes on her property. President Damskey covered her communications with Regional Parks in her opening remarks.

**4. Consent Calendar Items**

No items on the consent calendar (the Consent Calendar will include items such as authorizing routine payments of invoices and approval of contracts, etc., that have been previously discussed).

**5. Financial Report**

Treasurer Petersen reported that the GPC bank account hovers at \$1,042 and the outstanding invoices remain unpaid. There is an offer from an anonymous donor to make a donation that would

allow the GPC to pay the outstanding invoices; the only issue is how and to whom the donation is to be made. Such donations can remain anonymous if they are below \$5,000.

**Action:** A motion was made by Member Hinkle, seconded by Member Jones, to accept the donation through the auspices of the Geyserville Community Foundation. The motion was unanimously approved.

## **6. Presentations**

There were no presentations made to the GPC.

## **7. Pending Development Project Reports**

No Project referrals have recently been received from PRMD and no projects were formally discussed.

## **8. Member and Committee Reports**

### **a. Discussion of the Municipal Advisory Council**

The Members all expressed surprise regarding the formation of the MAC and the GPC's apparent lack of opportunity to participate in or influence the formation which occurred in late December. The MAC mission overlaps with the mission of GPC in a number of ways and specifically will take over the role of advising the County regarding the upcoming General Plan Update. President Damskey did communicate our concerns to Supervisor Gore but there appears to be no opportunity to affect the Board's decision.

Kathy [spelling of last name] with the Geyserville Community Foundation, raised a number of important issues including the selection of the MAC members (not being fully representative of the community), the expansive boundary which includes most of the Alexander Valley, and the role and required commitment of time by the MAC members.

President Damskey reported on her conversation with Jennifer Mendoza that it is not the intention of the Board that the MAC eclipse the GPC and that it is still possible to receive some funding for GPC activities from the County.

Member Connors stated that the GPC will retain its PRMD development project referral role and noted that the MAC has a "sunset" date.

Member Hinkle stated that the MAC, in assuming the General Plan advisory role will overlap with the GPC's efforts direct available funding for capital projects in Geyserville and also its community outreach efforts regarding the future of Geyserville. He suggests preparing a letter to Supervisor Gore outlining our concerns about the MAC.

Member Ryan stated that the GPC has served the community well for 36 years but that a variety of factors may lead us to consider disbanding. These factors include:

- Boundary issues (e.g., the overlap with Dry Creek on project referrals)
- The lack of any recurring funding source and seeming unwillingness of the County to provide operating funding
- The lack of "officers and directors" or any general liability insurance coverage

The work that has been accomplished, particularly the community survey work, funding priorities, and community engagement and leadership can be effectively passed on to the MAC. Member Connors does agree that various aspects of the MAC were not fully thought through, including representation from other community-based organizations such as the AVA, the AVSP (Casino Mitigation Fund), the Grange, the Kiwanis, and the Historical Society. The boundaries, particularly the overlap in the Dry Creek Valley, should be resolved.

Member Sullivan noted that the liability insurance issue was compelling and also the fact that the MAC will be funded by the County, making it more capable of representing the community's interests.

Member Jones stated that the MAC is a done-deal so we should cooperate in a manner most consistent with the community's interest. Since there remains uncertainty, the GPC should simply express its concerns and at the same time go ahead and appoint a GPC member to the MAC as requested by Supervisor Gore. Also, given the likely time demands of the MAC the GPC member should be relieved of other GPC officer duties.

Following further discussion by the GPC a set of specific issues were identified that would improve the MAC. These concerns and suggestions should be transmitted in an official correspondence from the GPC to Supervisor Gore forthwith:

- Boundary changes. Boundary should be redrawn
- Membership/Leadership. Council members should be expanded or changed to better represent the territory including in the MAC. Perhaps the GPC should get two members.
- Limits on "overhead" or "planning" expenditures. The limited funding available to the Geyserville/Alexander Valley community should be prioritized for capital improvements (over and above what the County should otherwise be spending for road maintenance and other routine or emergency investments); a limit on MAC overhead expenses (staff support, etc.) and also consulting efforts should be set to equal no more than 15 percent of funding available.
- Greater clarity regarding the role and time commitments of Council members. The initial estimate of time required of MAC members of "30 to 40 hours per month" should be reviewed and revised; this time commitment seems excessive.
- The continuing role of the GPC in relationship to the MAC. A declarative role, both in transition and ongoing for the GPC should be identified, including training for new MAC members regarding the efforts of the GPC over the years.
- Need to continue and expand upon the GPC ongoing community survey efforts. Specifically, the GPC has put a very large effort into the community survey over the past two years that should be supported, continued, and expanded by the MAC.

**Action:** Member Jones made a motion, seconded by Member Hinkle, to choose a GPC member for the MAC as has been requested. After discussion the motion was amended to nominate Secretary Walter Kieser. The motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

## **9. Board and Policy Matters**

GPC policy matters were again deferred to the February meetings, or beyond. No policy matters were formally discussed as part of the overall review of the scope and mission of the GPC.

### **Adjourn**

The GPC meeting of January 22th 2018 was adjourned at 8:30 pm. The next meeting of the GPC, a “work session” meeting, will be held on Tuesday, February 12, 2019 at 4:00 PM. The meeting is open to the public who are encouraged to attend and participate.