

Middletown Area Town Hall (MATH) Meeting Minutes - July 13, 2023

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Meeting Date: June 13, 2023

Location: In-person and Zoom (ID# 832 1989 2440) <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83219892440>

Board Members present: Fiora (meeting chair), Gonzales, Darms, Cordoba, Waite

Community members present: In-person = 10; Zoom = 4

Call to order: 7:02pm

Approval of Agenda: Gonzales moved to approve; Waite second; unanimous approval.

BUSINESS

Approval of Meeting Minutes (June 8, 2023): Gonzales moved to approve; Dedonato second; conditional approval with request for modification.

Request for modification to June 8, 2023 minutes related to Sheriff Howe, guest speaker:

Law enforcement and behavioral health: Sheriff Howe's presentation included comment and public discussion about the movement of a behavioral health approach within law enforcement and the differences between the personality traits that are typically drawn to policing versus those drawn to social services.

GUEST SPEAKERS

Todd Fiora, General Manager, Callayomi County Water District (in person) (45 min)

- Mr. Fiora provided information to the membership on the following topics:
 - Monthly and annual district water consumption. District water consumption compares favorably to other districts in similar size. 2023 monthly summer usage has been reduced as compared to 2022.
 - Big Canyon Well Project including purchase of land and well installation on Big Canyon Road (across from Diamond D). Funded by California SRF (State Revolving Fund). Installation is complete, however, methane levels have prevented use of water as of this time. Methane levels present are not a health hazard but pose potential safety risks. Testing continues and a remedy is expected.
 - New grant applications include planning funds for hydrants, mainline upgrades, and fire flow upgrades.
 - The State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) is encouraging consolidation of systems to streamline management tasks. Discussion of possible consolidation of CCWD and Lazy S Mobile Ranch (Bradford Road) systems.

CORRESPONDENCE

- Correspondence – MATH Secretary
 - Brief discussion of the Biblical Ventures Commercial Cannabis Cultivation project correspondence, notice of which was distributed on July 8th to MATH membership.
 - Community attendees request MATH place on agenda the potential creation of a committee to review and respond to cannabis RFRs.
 - Correspondence sent by a community member to MATH inquiring as to whether MATH has interest in signaling to the Board of Supervisors their support for a noise ordinance. Discussion followed including:
 - Existing ordinances relate to construction noise; noise within the city limits of Middletown and Hidden Valley Lake; amplified music sound events requiring permit application; disturbing the peace.
 - Community attendees request MATH place on future agenda discussion of current legal responses to noise and how noise issues are managed at the county level.

CLOSING COMMENTS

Public Comment / Announcements:

- Public comment: Community attendee reviewed two local initiatives that appear to have stalled/lingered and one new item that needs attention:
 - Middletown multi-use path for bicycles and pedestrians (SR29 from intersection of Rancheria Road to Central Park Road) CA Dept of Transportation approved \$1,2M.
 - Middletown beautification study / project
 - Middletown Square Park (at Library) fencing requires repair
 - Proposal: Create a committee to actively engage county officials and create action above three items. Fletcher Thorton volunteered to organize the committee.

- Announcement: Members of the SoLake Kindness Committee introduced their group including kid/teen/guardians volunteers working hard to make the world a better place! Meet monthly. Join Facebook group: SoLake Kindness Committee.
- Announcement: Middletown Art Center (the MAC) rec'd grant from Upstate CA Creative Corps to revitalize the EcoArts Sculpture Walk at Trailside Park. Project is called "Reciprocity". Also, a grant to train on how to trim oaks. See MAC website.
- Announcement: 6th Annual Middletown Square Park Chili & Salsa Cook-Off, benefiting the Middletown Senior Center, raised over \$5,000 for the Senior Center!
- Future MATH presenters / topics:
 - Proposed topic: Noise ordinances: What exists? What is needed?
 - Proposed topic: Should MATH create a committee to respond to Cannabis RFRs?

Adjournment: 8:45pm. Gonzales moved to adjourn; Waite second; unanimous approval.

Thank you for taking part in MATH and engaging in your community!