

Hayes, Kathy

From: Maya Conrad, MMAC Chair <mckinleyvillemac@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 4, 2020 9:47 AM
To: Fennell, Estelle; Madrone, Steve; Wilson, Mike; Bass, Virginia; Bohn, Rex
Cc: Hayes, Kathy; Bonnie Oliver
Subject: MMAC Request for additional County support

Dear Chairwoman Fennell and members of the Board,

On July 29th, the McKinleyville Municipal Advisory Committee (MMAC) approved a motion to request additional support from the County of Humboldt. Since 2012, the 8-member MMAC has provided a vital role to liaise between the community and Humboldt County, providing a missing voice for our large, unincorporated community. During the past year, the MMAC has been engaged in many complex, challenging and time-consuming endeavors including: drafting the Town Center ordinance; Multimodal Transportation planning; Homelessness; Airport Land Use; Community Safety and much more. To-date, our committee has done all of this as a volunteer effort with very limited County staff support for public meeting and agenda noticing. We are grateful for the support of Supervisor Madrone and his consistent involvement in our meetings and projects.

If we were to tally the volunteer hours of all eight MMAC members' service hours since its inception for regular meetings, special meetings and subcommittee meetings, the donated time amount would be staggering. On average, the secretary and I (as the chair) each spend 10-20 hours/month on MMAC-related activities. If we were each billing our time as professionals, at a rate of \$100/hour for each of us for 30 hours per month, that amounts to \$3000 per month of our time, alone. I acknowledge that our request comes at a very uncertain time financially due to the pandemic. Nonetheless, the MMAC's role in our community has increased significantly recently and our request for additional support and greater transparency is so nominal compared to what we provide to the County and the McKinleyville community.

In summary, we respectfully request the Board of Supervisors to approve the following support request so that the MMAC can continue providing essential representation of our unique town:

1. An annual budget for MMAC expenses up to \$2,500
2. County administrative staff time up to 10 hours per month
3. An email account for each MMAC member;
4. A video-conferencing account, with access provided and transferred to the Chair when a new Chair is appointed;
5. Storage on County server for MMAC documents including but not limited to recommendations in addition to the posting and archiving of meeting agendas and minutes;

6. A County-maintained webpage as a portal to MMAC information, member emails, and current issues

McKinleyville Municipal Advisory Committee

Regular meeting July 29, 2020, 6pm - 9pm

Motion unanimously approved:

Whereas transparency in governance is critical in public relations for decision-makers;

Whereas MMAC is an appointed (quasi-?) government committee;

Whereas MMAC serves as an important place for public awareness and communication related to County services in our community;

Whereas MMAC provides a consistent communication platform saving time and effort for County staff, 5th District Supervisor, and Board of Supervisors;

Whereas MMAC is an appointed Committee with no meeting convening support provided by the County;

Whereas MMAC Chair provides a private email address and purchasing online meeting tool to host meetings at their own personal expense and time;

Whereas MMAC has no established file sharing, leading to loss of information and lack of continuity and fragmented or loss of institutional memory.

Timely information is important for the community to be informed

Whereas the community of McKinleyville deserves to know MMAC's history; MMAC member terms and bios

Motion that the MMAC Chair write a letter requesting the County to provide staff time and a budget to support MMAC activities

Sincerely,

Maya Conrad, Chair
McKinleyville Municipal Advisory Committee
707-498-2025