



**SANTA VENETIA COMMUNITY PLAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Summary Minutes**

Tuesday, October 1, 2013
7:00-9:00 pm
Marin County Civic Center, Room 315
3501 Civic Center Drive
San Rafael, CA 94903

Members Present

Giselle Block
Jane Brand
Russ Greenfield
Roger Heller
Bonnie Monte
Gary Robards

Staff

Christine Gimmler, Senior Planner
Suzanne Thorsen, Planner

1. Summary Minutes

The Advisory Committee accepted the summary minutes from September 10, 2013 as presented.

2. Community Meeting #1

The Advisory Committee and staff continued discussion of items related to the first Santa Venetia Community Plan meeting held on August 29th. The committee reviewed and approved a summary of public comments and feedback from the meeting prepared by staff. Committee members commented on the wide variety of ideas generated at the meeting and discussed with staff ways to incorporate public feedback from community meetings into the plan, either as an appendix or within the document itself. Staff presented the committee with ideas about continued outreach to the community using Open Marin. To date, the level of public participation using this on-line tool has been low. To increase its effectiveness, staff proposed the idea of posting a variety of more engaging questions about Santa Venetia which would be updated every few weeks. Committee member Russ Greenfield offered to send notifications to the Santa Venetia Neighborhood Association e-group to increase participation in the Open Marin forum. It was suggested that flyers regarding Open Marin could be posted in the community and that a brief article describing Open Marin and encouraging residents to participate could be published in the SVNA newsletter. The committee also discussed on-going efforts to increase participation of the Spanish-speaking community. Gary Robards reported that he has had several discussions with an acquaintance who is active in the Spanish-speaking community who might be interested in serving on the advisory committee. He indicated that he would follow up again and report back.

3. Review of Countywide Plan Policies

Many of the issues noted at the community meeting and discussed at past advisory committee meetings are addressed by goals, policies and programs in the Marin Countywide Plan. To help the committee become familiar with this framework, staff presented a table of Countywide Plan policies and programs, organized by topic area. Community ideas and suggestions for each issue were also provided in the matrix for easy reference. Staff noted that the list of policies and programs is not meant to be comprehensive, but rather to give the committee a sense of the breadth and depth of issues that are already addressed. Committee members were appreciative of the material and confirmed that it was a helpful way to begin to understand the relevant parts of what is a very large and complex document. Discussion of the specific policies focused on the issue of flood control, but the committee agreed to continue reviewing the material so that discussion of other issues could continue at the next meeting. In response to a request, staff agreed to send out a Word version of the document so that committee members could add comments into the document itself if they wished.

4. Next Meeting

Staff noted that the next committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 5th, and will include continued review and further discussion of existing Countywide Plan policies.

5. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm.