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COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

November 10, 2015

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Board of Supervisors
County of Marin
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SUBJECT: Resolution Regarding Preservation of the Assets of the Marin History Museum

Dear Board Members,

RECOMMENDATION: Consider adoption of the resolution

SUMMARY: In recent months, many questions have arisen about the Marin History Museum's finances and solvency – including questions regarding the sale of some artifacts from its collection via auction.

At the request of Supervisor Connolly, it is recommended that the County consider adopting the attached resolution to outline the County's offer to provide temporary support and technical assistance if the Marin History Museum's current Board Members agree to transition to a new Board of Directors.

With your Board approval, the County would offer short-term financial support to help preserve and inventory the collection while a long-term transition plan is developed. The Marin County Free Library could provide technical assistance along with the Marin County Cultural Services department. Our efforts would be to help work with stakeholders to develop a new governing board and business plan to preserve the Museum's assets for the benefit of our community.

FISCAL IMPACT: Given that we do not have a full understanding of the Museum's current financial position, it is difficult to estimate the cost of short-term support and the cost of an inventory. If the current Museum Board agrees to transition to a new governing board, we believe that there would be more opportunities to find funding partners to help support the cost of the inventory and development of a long-term plan. At this point, the County estimates that it would cost up to \$50,000 to provide short-term support and provide partial support for an inventory of the collection. As we learn new or additional information, we would return to your Board for further direction.

Respectfully submitted,

Matthew H. Hymel
County Administrator

Attachment