



North Fair Oaks Community Council

*A Municipal Advisory Council to the
San Mateo County Board of Supervisors*

2600 Middlefield Rd,
Redwood City, CA
650-363-1800
www.nfoforward.org

Brooks Esser, Chair
Blair Whitney, Vice-Chair
Everardo Rodriguez
Juan Carlos Prado
Niket Sirsi
Kathleen Daly
George Saman
Kelly Parisi
Mariela Peralta

January 25, 2024

7:00 pm

The North Fair Oaks Community Council provides recommendations on the issues of community health, safety, welfare, public works, and planning for the North Fair Oaks geographic area. It holds regular monthly meetings to address the needs of the community, act as a forum, and serve as an advisory body to the Board of Supervisors.

The North Fair Oaks Community Council was held in person at the Fair Oaks Community Center (2600 Middlefield Rd, Redwood City) and by teleconference using Zoom:

<https://smcgov.zoom.us/j/92850446934>. It began at 7:00 PM and Spanish interpretation was available.

1. ROLL CALL

Present: Chair Brooks, Vice-Chair Blair Whitney, Councilmember Juan Carlos Prado, Councilmember Niket Sirsi, Councilmember Kathleen Daly, and Councilmember Kelly Parisi.

Staff Present: Timothy Fox, Community Affairs Office, Kenny Chu, Liset Gutierrez-Barraza, and Bo Unga

2. Public Comment

No public comment

AGENDA

3. 2022-2023 San Mateo County Libraries Annual Report. (15 mins)

<p>Presentation by Carmen Letona-Adams, Branch Manager</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • San Mateo County Libraries Vision & Mission: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - San Mateo County Libraires ignite growth through transformative experiences. - San Mateo County Libraries strengthen our community by creating an inclusive sense of place and environment for learning. • Of March 2023, celebrated the first anniversary of the expanded seven days a week service of over 36,000 service hours expanded evening and weekend hours provided more in person opportunities. • San Mateo County Libraries has had 1.5 million Library visits which is 56% increase over last year, 2.3 million items circulated which is 6% more items checked out and over 245,000 program and event attendees. • San Mateo County Libraries has had 1.5 million Library visits which is
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	<p>56% increase over last year, 2.3 million items circulated which is 6% more items checked out and over 245,000 program and event attendees.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Power Up Afternoons (summer program) has reached thousands of kids’ participants enjoyed 2,242 hours of programming which creativity and learning are encouraged. 97% of the participants have said they enjoyed their Library experiences. • Through the support of the County’s measure K funds – the programs served 960 students this past year and has shown strong positive in academics. • North Fair Oaks Library is one of the three libraries that have benefited from the Adventure Parks Pass Grant through Parks in California. • This year they launched Mental Health First Aid Training to continue supporting communities with making training available to empower community members to respond and provide initial help and support someone experiencing a mental health crisis.
<p>Council Members Comments</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council member Kelly Parisi <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Great work with everything that you’re doing. What is the ask or the need from us to help you? ○ The County has the great ability to require specific things, like housing – why is there not a library space. • Council member Kathleen Daly <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Great work! My goal is continuing to help you with anything that you need. ○ There’s a group in Redwood City that needs artists and the art center, we somehow can combine the two. ○ Kids will pick up a computer and “claim” that they’re reading, but they’re really reading when they pick up an actual book. ○ The power of books is the reason why we need a better library for NFO. • Vice-Chair Blair Whitney <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The San Mateo Library System – do they get funded directly from an increment of property taxes going to them and doesn’t have to come out of the County budget? ○ Is there a capital plan because Half Moon Bay seems better. ○ Have you done a fix it clinic? • Council member Niket Sirsi <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Is there a possibility of some sort of shuttle service or coordination between the location to give more access to activities to people to be able to do things? Maybe there’s a program in the downtown library, is there a way? ○ Something more small scale – like day-to-day activities. ○ The circulation numbers looked a little low, is that because the size of the collection is low – is there something else the reason why it’s not as circulated than others? ○ Does that mean there’s a thought to be more service oriented,

	<p>so you'll reduce the collection or use virtual check out?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Is there still a program that the children account of library cards where there's no due date for books? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Council member Juan Carlos Prado <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ I think we need to continue to keep progressing and keep moving forward! ● Chair Brooks Esser <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Can you talk more about the programs for PreK or third grade – for children at the library? ○ Bilingual program as well?
Public Comment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Marsha Cohen - Friends of Fitzgerald are a nonprofit group of volunteers founded in 1985. The mission is to inspire the preservation of the unique intertitle Fitzgerald through education and research. North Fair Oaks Library came on a guided tour and was delighted to have them over. We hope the kids will remember their trip at Fitzgerald.

4. Boards and Commissions: Conflict of Interest, Ethics and Brown Act Refresher Training. (30 mins)

<p>Presentation by Timothy Fox, <i>County Attorney's Office</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● What is the <i>Brown Act</i>? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Enacted in 1953 - Law's intent is the actions of California's public Boards, Commissions, and Councils should be taken openly and their deliberations should be public. - Law attempts to balance public's right to access most proceedings and the need to conduct some proceedings with confidential candor. ● Three Main Rules: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Notice to the public before any meeting describing when, where, and what for. 2. Opportunity for public participation during the meeting. 3. Exceptions to the public access/participation rules. ● The public is entitled to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To adequate advance notice the time, place, and topics of meetings. - To geographically proximate meetings - To accessible meeting locations and assistive devices - To record the meeting - To bring new issues to the Board's attention (public comment) ● A <i>quorum</i> is a number required to be present to transact business legally, usually a majority.
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The teleconference provisions of the Brown Act were written at a time when “teleconference meeting” was thought to be two public conference rooms, miles apart. Both (or all) locations must be accessible to the public and have a posted agenda. Once you find out you can’t just call in to the meeting from your car on 1-80 on the way to Tahoe, just missing the meeting looks attractive by comparison. • The use of social media – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Members cannot “discuss among themselves” the posting. - AB 992 authorized posting on “open and accessible” platforms (as defined) - Commenting, sharing, retweeting, and “liking” or “disliking” other members’ posts is prohibited. - Previously, the status of “public” posts on social media was questionable. • Call your staff liaison and ask to consult the office if there’s a violation.
Council Members Comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council member Kathleen Daly <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ What is the purpose of ‘council report out’ – what are we reporting? ○ When is the best time to request an agenda item to make it on the agenda? ○ Is there a way to alert the entire council about something like an event – can we email that out or? • Vice-Chair Blair Whitney <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Is there a way to put something on the agenda, that may not be of interest to all the council members– with backing it up with facts to get the ball rolling. • Chair Brooks Esser <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ What is the likelihood of legislation that allows remote meetings in the future?
Public Comment	No public comment

5. Report Out

<p>County Executive’s Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No report out. <p>Supervisors Report, presented by Connie Franco, Legislative Aide</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hopeful Horizon initiative is about hope, dignity, and empowerment to improve the lives of those who in the streets. This initiative was passed on January 23rd. • On December 12th board of supervisors approved the creating of the Independent Civilian Advisory Commission. Applications now open for the Independent Civilian Advisory Commission and deadline is Friday February 23 to apply. • District 4 is working with public works and code enforcement to work on the commercial
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parking situation and outside food vendors situations as well.

Council Member's Report, presented by North Fair Oaks Community Council

- Vice-chair Blair Whitney
 - Tuesday, January 30th at 6pm there will be a candidate debate at the Menlo Park city council chambers. The debate will be for the candidates that are running for Supervisor for district 4.
- Council member Juan Carlos Prado
 - No report out.
- Council member Niket Sirsi
 - When will there be a report on the tree plan and environmental plan?
- Council member Kathleen Daly
 - There will be a candidate forum Saturday, January 27. This forum is held by Mark Simon who writes for the Daily Journal.
- Council member Kelly Parisi
 - What are the communication efforts on publicizing events?
 - What is the authority of this council?
- Chair Brooks Esser
 - Shout out to those who participated in the homeless count.
 - Elections for chair and vice chair will take place during the February meeting. This will be for the coming year.

The meeting adjourned at 8:49 p.m.

Next Council Meeting:

Thursday February 22, 2024; 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

For more information on future meetings, agendas, minutes, and presentations/presentation materials, please visit: <https://www.smcgov.org/ceo/north-fair-oaks-community-council>