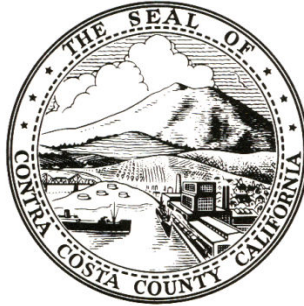


# Bay Point Municipal Advisory Committee



**Sterling Stevenson, Chair**

**Federal Glover, District V Supervisor**

*Debra Giles, Administrative Support  
3105 Willow Pass Road  
Bay Point, CA 94565*

**Respectfully submitted by: Debra Giles**

*The Bay Point Municipal Advisory Committee serves as an advisory body to the  
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors and the County Planning Agency.*

## **Record of Actions**

**7:00 pm**

**Tuesday, November 2, 2010**

Council Members Garcia, Mason, Stevenson, Tremaine, and Zumwalt were present.  
Council Member Magleby absent; Council Member Kopitar arrived at 7:08pm; Council Member  
Mason left at 8:35pm.

Others present: Ed Diokno of Supervisor Glover's office, Maureen Toms of County  
Redevelopment, Lt. Fernandez of the Sheriff's Dept., Officer Mark Mitchell of the Highway  
Patrol, Ben Helber of Habitat for Humanity, Superintendent Steve Lawrence, Sherrie  
Whitmore, Rose Lock, Denise Rugani and Susan Peterson of Mt. Diablo Unified School  
District, and Ben Helber of Habitat for Humanity.

- 1. Call to Order / Pledge of Allegiance** led by Councilman Charles Tremaine
- 2. Approval of November 2, 2010 Agenda**

Motion made by Councilwoman Mason to approve the November 2, 2010 agenda. Seconded by  
Councilman Tremaine. Motion carried 5 – 0; Council Members Garcia, Mason, Stevenson,  
Tremaine and Zumwalt voting "yes"; Council Members Magleby and Kopitar absent.

- 3. Consent items**
  - a. Approval of monthly Recording Secretary invoice - \$120.00**
  - b. Approval of Record of Actions of October 5, 2010**

Motion made by Councilwoman Zumwalt to approve the Consent Items. Seconded by  
Councilwoman Mason. Motion carried 5 – 0; Council Members Garcia, Mason, Stevenson,  
Tremaine and Zumwalt voting "yes"; Council Members Magleby and Kopitar absent.

- 4. Public Comments:**

None

**5. Agency Reports.** The MAC received the following reports:

**a. Redevelopment Staff Report – Maureen Toms**

Ms. Maureen Toms reported on:

· **Bailey Road Project Re-cap**

Ms. Maureen Toms stated the project is split into two separate projects. 1) From Highway 4 to Leland they have a fully funded project; working with the City of Pittsburg and the county's Public Works staff, working through the plans, going out to advertise in January or February. She stated also of note, they will be closing escrow on the last property fronting Bailey Road probably by Friday, so they will have enough right-of-way to do a full improvement of curb, gutter, sidewalks, and bike lanes along the county side of Bailey Road; leaving only 1 property left, back by Ambrose Park, that they haven't yet purchased. 2) Planning process completed from Willow Pass Road to Highway 4; they are currently going through a process to get the utilities underground, which is a two to three year process, and adopting an underground Utility District.

**b. California State Highway Patrol – Officer Mark Mitchell**

Officer Mark Mitchell introduced himself and stated he used to be Bay Point's Community Service officer years ago, and was filling in tonight; that he had no report given to him to share but could answer questions and hear complaints tonight.

There was a discussion including the need of the 'Radar (Speed) Trailer' in some specific areas in Bay Point; clarification regarding the duties of the Highway Patrol and the Sheriff's Dept. (particularly state owned property) because of a homeless encampment issue; speeding cars, speed bumps and having Jerry Fahy of Public Works come address those traffic issues.

Officer Mitchell stated he would be sure to get the information to the right people in his office to be handled, and also shared the name of Sgt. Joe Johnson for use if things don't get done.

**c. Contra Costa County Sheriff's Department – Lt. Victor Fernandez**

Lt. Fernandez distributed copies and reviewed the statistics for the month of October, including comparisons from last month and the same time last year.

Councilwoman Zumwalt stated she wanted to compliment the Department on its quick response time on an occasion she had called in on; the new Habitat for Humanity house having its windows broken out and its garage door bashed in by large bunch of teenagers.

Lt. Fernandez stated that had been a busy night, for a lot of different reasons; the Giants

had won and many were excited about that, but the Sheriff's lost two vehicles as a result of being severely vandalized, one in the unincorporated area of Walnut Creek that night.

There was a short discussion regarding the meaning of 'Battery Misdemeanor', and the number of stolen cars being dumped in Bay Point.

**d. Supervisor Federal Glover General Report – Ed Diokno**

- Mr. Ed Diokno of Supervisor Glover's Office stated Supervisor Glover's Gang Summit, held October 9<sup>th</sup>, was very well attended; and had good content. He stated several Bay Point young people and organizations took part including representatives from the Mt. Diablo Unified School District. Mr. Diokno stated the Supervisor and the Gang Task Force remain committed to intervention and prevention solutions to the emerging gang situation in East County. He stated over two dozen community organizations who work with young people took part in the event. Mr. Diokno stated Supervisor Glover has vowed that Gang Summits will take place more frequently than every three years.
- Mr. Diokno stated last October 29<sup>th</sup>, Supervisor Glover also spoke at the groundbreaking of the new eBART line that will be extending BART services from the Bay Point/Pittsburg station eastward to Railroad Avenue in Pittsburg and Hillcrest in Antioch. He stated the Supervisor emphasized the need for eBART as an important part of the solution of East County's transportation problems. Mr. Diokno stated the other elements, of course, include the widening of Highway 4, better public transit (busses) and a commitment to get jobs to locate on this side of the hill.
- Mr. Diokno stated the Supervisor also spoke at the completion of the effort by Habitat for Humanity to remodel existing homes to create affordable homes; one of the many projects Habitat for Humanity is working on in the community. He stated the Supervisor also welcomed the new homeowners of the Bayview home to the Bay Point community.
- Mr. Diokno reminded Chairman Stevenson about the MAC's annual report being due at next month's meeting.
- Mr. Diokno stated in the coming weeks Supervisor Glover will be taking part in the Veterans Day ceremonies in Pittsburg on November 11<sup>th</sup> and the opening of the new Courthouse in Pittsburg on November 12<sup>th</sup>.

**6. Presentations** Presentations were made by:

**a. Steven Lawrence, Superintendent, Mt. Diablo Unified School District**

Chairman Stevenson stated that an article in the Contra Costa Times regarding local school's API scores; that Bel Air, Rio Vista and Shore Acres Elementary Schools score's had actually dropped, one by 14 points. He stated the article also reported that the School

District had created a Reform Plan to be implemented this year. Chairman Stevenson stated he and another Council Member began working towards having the Mt. Diablo Unified School District Superintendent, Steven Lawrence, come address the Council regarding the scores and the Reform Plan.

Superintendent Steven Lawrence thanked the Council for inviting him to speak, and stated he had brought team members with him including Sherrie Whitmore, another School Board Member. He stated last spring they had restructured some of the positions in the District office, and created a Student Achievement and School Improvement Division, and brought in some of their very successful school Principals who are also present tonight; Rose Lock is the superintendent, Susan Peterson is the director in charge of elementary, and Denise Rugani is the directory of secondary; in addition to another 4 people who were Principals; supporting all the schools in the District, but keeping a particular eye on all the schools with persistently low achieving list.

Superintendent Lawrence stated they had created a lengthy, thorough report for tonight and distributed them to Council Members. He stated that when the District was notified last spring that several of their schools were on the persistently low performing list they set about applying for the Opportunity for the School Improvement Grant that the Federal Government put out. He then gave a description of the grant writing process and shared they had successfully applied and each site awarded different amounts according to their individual plans and requests. Superintendent Lawrence stated the reason Bel Air and Shore Acres received more money than Rio Vista was because they included going back to class size reduction, has since been told this could not be included, but will fund it for this year because the teachers had already been hired.

Superintendent Lawrence reviewed parts of the report including Riverview using Data through Curriculum Associates, an organization that creates assessments that are linked to the state's standards, and instead of relying on the one-time-a-year state test, using them 3 times a year to actually measure their student's growth throughout the year. He stated Delta View Elementary used this and looked at the data trying to target opportunities to enhance the instruction in math and language; finding a program called Board Math and Board Language which allows them to provide extra instruction tied directly to Curriculum Associates; modeling many of the implementation strategies they are utilizing at the other schools now.

Councilwoman Zumwalt asked about Delta View elementary in our neighborhood doing just fine, and what are they doing differently from the schools that are having difficulties.

Ms. Susan Peterson stated she had worked previously at Delta View for 5 ½ years as Principle; her goal now as Director of Elementary Support has specific support rules at certain schools including Bay Point schools. She stated 4 years ago they had spent quite a bit of time at Delta View establishing a climate for learning and once they did that they knew their students were having the same kind of success in test scores as the other schools in Bay Point; they started looking for some strategies to address some of the learning needs and implemented a couple strategies for Math and Language that were in

addition to the regular instruction, that Dr. Lawrence had mentioned earlier; that are very engaging for students. She stated they knew the students and their families needed to be connected to their school, especially for Delta View students who might feel somewhat isolated due to the location of the school. Ms. Peterson stated it unknowingly became a learning experience for the teachers and she as well about what standards really mean, what the expectations are when the students take the state test, and what they really are being assessed on. She stated the second thing they did was begin looking at data analysis, doing some assessments 3 times a year; learning what students had learned and what they still needed to learn, which students needed more time, more instruction, additional instruction, and teachers started talking about what teaching strategies had been successful and sharing them and making action plans. Ms. Peterson stated one of the things that happened is teachers started working in groups and collaborating; that she didn't think any of these things were very unusual, it was just a process of learning. She stated many of the District's schools, including Bay Point's, are now using those assessments; they have trained over 400 teachers in those strategies, and at Bel Air, Shore Acres, and Rio Vista all of the teachers have been trained and are implementing these strategies; not to become clones of Delta View, but for each to develop their own climate of learning.

Councilwoman Kopitar asked when the other schools had started using the Board Math and Language strategies.

Ms. Peterson stated they had started just this year so they have had one round of assessments and they are looking at that data now

Councilwoman Zumwalt asked about the turnaround of tenured teachers and the number of inexperienced teachers working in our schools. She stated she thinks part of the problem in our schools is that teachers don't stay that long; they get a better opportunity to transfer out and they're gone.

Superintendent Lawrence stated that it is happening at these schools but a lot of it has been based on the layoff process they've had to go through over the last several years because of the declining enrollment District wide as well as the state budget crisis; including getting rid of class size reduction. He stated he could get the exact data (numbers) and get it to the Council as he didn't have those tonight.

Ms. Denise Rugani stated that during her 7 years at Riverview, that as of June she still had some of the original teachers she had started with; that there is two ways to look at it. She stated when she first got there she knew first there was getting the climate under control and working with the kids; being respectful to them so they would be respectful back; and then a climate of academic learning. Ms. Rugani stated that when you change a climate like that there are times when adults may not agree with the change, some teachers chose to leave, but what came out of that was a group of people that are excited, and it is a positive environment, a positive climate. She stated they have been using the assessments and analyzing data and making progress in their scores; they have started this year not only doing the quarterly assessments but also doing many of them every

couple of weeks and embedding that into a Saturday school; not a negative Saturday school for discipline reasons, but actually academic. Ms Rugani stated the parents are really on board, that students can retake tests after they are re-taught and do some work, so that they really understand the information. She stated they are also collaborating with Debra Mason and the After School Program at Riverview, because they had totally changed the way they did business; now the first hour is all about academics, three tiered with strategic, basic level and then enrichment teaching, with a credentialed teacher. She stated if you look at research at schools that have improved over time it is because of more time spent with academics. So regarding the teacher turn-over we should look at it in that there might be some turn-over, but who's being turned-over and why.

Councilwoman Mason stated that if the concern was about inexperienced teachers, that fortunately or unfortunately those were the teachers who got laid-off and what we have left are the more experienced.

Ms. Peterson stated that she had hired new teachers during her time at Delta View and those were actually some of the very best teachers. She stated that one thing she has noticed in working with Rio Vista, Shore Acres and Bel Air is that we do have some very committed teachers; so combining the experience of some teachers with the enthusiasm of some of the newer ones could make for a very strong school.

There was some discussion regarding the information in the article's accuracy and it being very concerning.

Councilwoman Zumwalt asked about the District looking at closing some schools, that one of the criteria was low test scores, and how that fares for Bay Point schools.

Superintendent Lawrence stated there are 8 criteria looking at for closing schools, which a panel of 32 people is working on; but obviously looking at the capability of the Bay Point schools, you can't look at closing a school here and having enough room in the other schools. He stated the goal is to bring it before the school Board in December of January.

Chairman Stevenson asked how long it took after starting the strategies before results were seen.

Ms. Peterson stated they implemented the strategy mid-year, over winter break Math Boards were put in all the rooms, teachers started implementing that in January, started testing in May, and in terms of results they had a 64 point gain in Math API; the next year they implemented Language Boards, and there was another 85 point gain after that year. She stated in less than two years there was a very significant 149 point gain.

Mrs. Michelle Turner stated she wanted to share her concern about the lack of parent involvement in bringing ideas, actions, and participate in the decision making process towards the improvement of the schools. She stated if any plan is to be successful it needs to have everyone, including parents and families, be a part of the process. Mrs. Turner

stated that as an active parent, well known at the Board Meetings, she had felt at the end of this year she felt like she doesn't care anymore because her last child is graduating, but now they have been asked to raise 3 more children, the youngest 5, which means she will be involved after all. She stated even as the test score numbers rise, there is still a tremendous gap, and still a lot of unsuccessful things happening at our schools; if we don't get to a place where there is relationship created amongst the District, the schools, the parents, and the students, its not going to happen... "You can't fix my child without me".

Mr. Willie Mims stated he was here representing the Black Political Association; that because of late notice did not have the opportunity to bring some data of his own, but wanted to say that he hopes the Reform plan is success; it shows the District is serious about trying to provide funding for this part of the District. He stated he heard about 'climate under control', which brought up some of his memories and that it perhaps means there are problems in the schools themselves between student and teachers resulting in referrals from the classroom or suspension from the school, neither which will help a student raise his test score. Mr. Mims suggested the Council ask the school district about specific numbers of referrals and suspensions that occurred within the three schools last year. He stated that the difference in test scores among schools in our state suggest there is some component missing in terms of support for our areas schools.

Mr. Darnell Turner stated he wanted to comment on some observations he'd made; that historically they've always known that the Bay Point community, particularly the schools, have not received the full support or resources in order for these schools sites to be successful; historically that is data. He stated secondly about the involvement of parent and community participation; historically they have always done that, but been the step-child and not had the full attention or ear of the Administration and Board in the past. Mr. Turner stated that what is being suggested tonight is this will be a vehicle, an opportunity to engage the leadership of this community, the MAC, and all the other stake holders in this community, to bring up the level of awareness to our school sites and our community for more community resources and involvement. He also stated he would suggest quarterly or bi-annually reporting brought to the MAC about the condition of our schools; the Bay Point leadership must be engaged with the school District. Mr. Turner stated the achievement gap is a great concern and the NAACP has drafted a letter to the District regarding the academic achievement; and then there must be aggressive monitoring by the Bay Point community leaders on the performance, on resources, and on communication; we need to be talking when things are good as well as when things are bad. He stated lastly the community needs to fully engage in the communication process by learning about the school site plan at every school, and make sure what is in the plan is actually what is happening at that school site, particularly regarding parent involvement.

Councilwoman Mason stated that she spends every weekday in school in Bay Point, as part of her job, and there are some amazing things going on in our schools. She stated they had just won, through a partnership with the ASP (After School Program), a Silver Medal from the Governor of California's Fitness for their Bay Point Garden Project. She stated every single school in Bay Point has an After School Program, that there are lots of

schools over the hill that would like those and don't have them; and every single school in Bay Point has Title I extra support, and now these extra grants. Councilwoman Mason stated test scores are not everything; she was educated in Mt. Diablo, both her daughters graduated from here, one is a director and one is a published author; and it is right that a lot of it has to do with parents stepping up and working in partnership; but as evident in the ASP, hundreds of kids are there because their parents aren't home until 6:00pm; the ASP is providing academic and homework support because parents aren't there. She stated she has had a love/hate relationship with the school district, but they do a lot more for this community than they do for a lot of other communities, and they continue to be up for it; having sat on State Boards, the sad reality is the number one indicator has always been socio-economics; we live in a low socio-economic community and deal with a lot of English as a second language and diversity, which is a plus for us on one hand but a challenge on the other. She stated she just didn't want this discussion to end on a negative, that she is out there every day seeing teachers working hard, her staff working hard, parents working hard; everybody doing the best job they can; with these turn-around plans we really have an opportunity to make a difference in these kid's lives.

Superintendent Lawrence concluded with thanking the Council for the opportunity to share, and thanked the involved parents, notably Mrs. Turner's leadership and input, and invited everyone to contact Rose Lock's office to arrange a school site visit. He stated that earlier this evening 86 parents from Riverview graduated from PIQE, Parents Institute for Quality Education, a reform effort through the CSU system, about educating parents who haven't been through the college process to know what they can/should be doing during High School to prepare their student for college; several of the elementary schools will doing this to engage 5<sup>th</sup> grade parents too. He also stated he thought sharing data on a bi-annual basis from the District would be helpful instead of interpreting whether or not the Contra Costa Times is accurately portraying the information.

## **7. Items for Discussion and/or Action**

### **a. Discussion and approval of a Fall clean-up project - Councilwoman Garcia**

Councilwoman Garcia stated the Fall Cleanup would be November 20<sup>th</sup>, from 8:00am – 12noon, or when the dumpsters were all full.

### **b. Approval of 2010/2011 Budget – Maureen Toms**

Ms. Maureen Toms stated she had emailed the Council Members a copy of the budget; and she explained some of the columns and what they entailed, including the ERAF shift, the \$365,000 shift that the state is dictating come out of redevelopment funds to pay for state obligations; this figure together with the 1.7million dollars that was taken last year creating a significant problem in redevelopment meeting their debt service. She stated tax increment numbers this year has reduced drastically; a 50% reduction of where they were at 2 years ago; needing to borrow funds from another account to meet debt service. She stated some things that were normally covered through the capitol funds are no longer able to be covered, including the Newsletter, the banners being rotated, and the



Community Group funding program (which helped the Bay Point Pride).

After some further explanation and discussion it was decided:

Motion made by Councilwoman Mason to approve the 2010/2011 Budget. Seconded by Councilwoman Zumwalt. Motion carried 6 – 0; Council Members Garcia, Kopitar, Mason, Stevenson, Tremaine and Zumwalt voting “yes”; Council Member Magleby absent.

**c. Update on the Newsletter – Councilwoman Garcia**

Councilwoman Garcia stated someone is proof reading the Spanish translation, and then it will be ready to go out on the website after Supervisor Glover approves it. Then the eight page letter would be ready to be printed for the few that have requested a hard copy.

There was a short discussion about the Newsletter having page numbers, and some clarifications of story content.

**d. Update on the County’s Adopt a Road program – Councilman Stevenson**

Chairman Stevenson stated he had met with Tony Medina and gone through Bay Point looking at some different areas. He stated that in Bay Point there are 10 churches and at least 4 different service organizations that could work and get this done. Chairman Stevenson stated that was just step one of a long process of initiating the Adopt a Road program.

Councilmember Tremaine stated he had noticed Criterion Catalyst had adopted 1 mile, but thought the original discussion was a minimum of 2 miles. He stated in his discussions with people, there would be a more favorable reception if they could adopt 1 mile instead of 2.

**e. Support letter for historical designation in Bay Point – Ray O’Brien**

Mr. Ray O’Brien stated he was here tonight as President of the Bay Point Historical Society to ask for the MAC’s support for their first nomination of a historical landmark. He stated it is different from a typical landmark as it isn’t a property, it’s on a property, but they are objects; the two bells from the predecessor Catholic churches in Bay Point, now located at Our Lady Queen of the World church on a wooden structure. He stated the first bell is from the St. Frances of Rome church built in 1912, and the second bell is from St. Philomena built in 1940. Mr. O’Brien explained the nomination process and asked the Council for support in the form of a letter to the HLAC, the Historical Landmark Advisory Commission, with a cc to Supervisor Glover’s Office.

Motion made by Councilwoman Zumwalt to approve writing a letter of support for the Historical Society’s nomination of the church bells. Seconded by Councilman Tremaine. Motion carried 5 – 0; Council Members Garcia, Kopitar, Stevenson, Tremaine and Zumwalt voting “yes”; Council Members Magleby and Mason absent.

Councilman Tremaine inquired, and there was a short discussion regarding the levels of approval required through the Catholic Church.

**f. Amendment to County Biennial Notice regarding election of officers – Ed Diokno**

Mr. Diokno stated this is an example of red tape; every two years all Commissions and Advisory Bodies in the county have to submit who their Chair person is and who the members of the Board are. He stated as the MAC has elections every year and the officers change every year, but they only require reporting it every two years. Mr. Diokno stated what he wants from the MAC tonight is an approval to submit their names in this Biennial Notice.

After some discussion regarding election next month and the absence of something written to be seen it was decided:

Motion made by Councilman Tremaine to approve using current Council members and officers names for the Biennial Notice. Seconded by Councilwoman Garcia. Motion carried 4 – 0; Council Members Garcia, Kopitar, Stevenson, and Tremaine voting “yes”; Council Member Zumwalt abstaining; Council Members Magleby and Mason absent.

**g. Approve expenditure for December meeting refreshments – Councilwoman Zumwalt**

Councilwoman Zumwalt asked about a budget report.

Councilwoman Garcia stated she didn’t have a report but there was close to \$1,000 left.

There was a discussion about repeating last years ‘December Celebration’ during the first half hour of regular meeting; inviting the Fire Dept., the Sheriff’s Dept., and members of the community to recognize and show appreciation for everyone; putting the invitation in the Newsletter; and a dollar amount.

Motion made by Councilwoman Zumwalt to have funding for refreshments for next month’s December Celebration, not to exceed \$200. Seconded by Councilwoman Kopitar. Motion carried 5 – 0; Council Members Garcia, Kopitar, Stevenson, Tremaine and Zumwalt voting “yes”; Council Members Magleby and Mason absent.

**8. Committee Reports** The MAC received the following reports:

**a. Code Enforcement – Councilmen Stevenson and Tremaine**

Councilman Tremaine stated he had attended the Code Enforcement meeting and it was amazing that they had 20 people there; there is a lot more interest in Code Enforcement. He gave a review of the meeting including:

- An update on the cameras being placed in areas of Bay Point
- Adopt a Road program can be started - through Joe Yee of Public Works

- East Bay Regional Park District talked about doing some clean-up; having large chunks of concrete on their property ground up and used for other things there
- Discussion about who does enforcement on state property
- Maureen Toms spoke on Orbisonion Heights
- Environmental Health has some programs they will be implementing – basically to monitor run-off into delta waters
- Issues regarding restaurant El Grullense, on Willow Pass Road and Bayview
- Visitor, Jack Bugar, seemed very interested in helping paint over Bay Point graffiti
- Discussion on ordinances and responsibility of areas with graffiti
- Begin levying fines on those caught painting graffiti
- Discussion on getting free paint to cover graffiti
- Norma Siegfried was also in attendance

Due to time constraint the remainder of Code report was tabled to next month.

**b. CAP – Councilwoman Kopitar**

Councilwoman Kopitar stated the meeting was held at Criterion Catalyst where they had a tour.

**9. Members’ Comments**

None – time restraint

**10. Correspondence.**

Councilwoman Kopitar reported on the following correspondence:

- Post Office Box receipt
- Approval of permit for Royal Trucking Company on Nichols Road
- Correspondence for Golden State Water Company

Correspondence was made available for viewing.

**11. Future Agenda Items.**

- a. December Celebration 7:00pm – 7:30pm - Zumwalt
- b. Election of Officers - Stevenson
- c. Budget Report - Garcia
- d. Committee to work with Mt. Diablo Unified School District – Stevenson
- e. Completion of Code Enforcement Report - Tremaine

**12. Adjourn to meeting scheduled for Tuesday, December 7, 2010, 7:00pm, at Ambrose Community Center Board Room.**

This meeting record is provided pursuant to Better Government Ordinance 95-6, Article 25-2205(d) of the Contra Costa County Ordinance Code.