

# MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE TRINIDAD CITY COUNCIL

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 08, 2017

## I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Miller called the meeting to order at 6:07 pm – Council members in attendance: West, Baker, Miller.  
Council members excused: Ladwig, Rotwein.

City Staff in attendance: Becky Price-Hall, Grant and Project Coordinator, filling in for the City Clerk.

## II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

## III. CLOSED SESSION REPORT - *Report from Oct 30<sup>th</sup> Special Meeting*

The staff evaluation was not concluded and is continued to next week. This will be a closed session meeting on November 15 at 5 pm.

## IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

*Motion (West/Baker) to approve the agenda as written. Passed unanimously.*

## V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – *09-13-17 cc, 09-27-17 cc2, 10-11-17 cc*

*Motion (West/Baker) to approve the minutes as written. Passed unanimously.*

## VI. COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS, COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

**West:** RCEA – there is a lot going on with renewable energy and is a meeting tomorrow about renewable energy at HSU. HCAOG – not much came up. Money came up – Trinidad has good roads, the best in the county, so not much funding is going to Trinidad. The grant opening for the Bracut Trail will be Nov 19. STR Ordinance – Baker and West are working on a report and hopefully will have the report ready for next month.  
**Baker:** Was not able to attend the RREDC meeting.  
**Miller:** The Times-Standard Article about the Gallindo Street Trail is a possible future agenda item. I have received a number of email comments about this.

## VII. STAFF REPORTS A written staff report was in the packet. There was no oral report.

## VIII. ITEMS FROM THE FLOOR

*(Three (3) minute limit per Speaker unless Council approves request for extended time.)*

### **Adora King – Trinidad**

Instead of chasing Council members trying to get an answer, she submitted a complaint to Gabe three weeks ago about the Vacation Rental issue and wedding reception across the street and has received no response. City collected over \$9,000 in licensing fees and \$30,000 in TOT so doesn't know if it's a money problem or a process is not in place, but it's not working very well.

### **Jim Cuthbertson – Trinidad**

He looked out there and didn't see his button [for the ADA door]. He wants an answer and an update.

### **Leslie Farrar –**

Thanked the council for their time this evening and allowing her to speak. She would like to begin this as an observation, not a complaint. In the minutes that were just approved is a preponderance of complain or derivations of the word. At the last meeting she asked two questions; they were not complaints. Citizens are presenting observations on topics of concern. She feels the minutes are embarrassing, especially the items from the floor where the minutes describe public comments as complaints. Not she has observed. She wants to see best practices for the minutes and about minute taking. Could this be a good subject for future training for City staff?

### **Allen Grau –**

Asked whether the council members reviewed the minutes for items from the floor? Stated that there are many "complain", "complained", "complaints" used to record the comments engaged citizens are providing.

In the minutes Grau, Farrar, Cox, Lake are described as complaining. The wording is biased and divisive and needs to be changed. It has been going on way too long. It shows the clerk's bias. Would like the minutes corrected, because this is a permanent record. The speakers are engaged citizens trying to do good for the City.

**Shirley Laos** – Trinidad School Board Member

She reported that the school board and teacher collaboration meeting this week had a discussion about crossing safety – they would like to see flashing lights that can be embedded in the road that are small and unobtrusive to help the safety of the students as they are crossing the road. There is a lot of speeding. Also wondered if the City could put the flashers on the side, like in McKinleyville. Flashing lights will provide an additional way to alert drivers. Hopefully the school board will make a more formal request but would like this to be put on a future City Council agenda.

**Sarah Lindgren-Akana** – Tsurai Ancestral Society (TAS)

At the last TAS Management Team meeting, they brought up the issue of the Gallindo St Trail and the Yurok graves located beneath that trail. The Tsurai Ancestral Society has been talking with the City Council for 20 years with no response. There are graves below the trail. She wants Gallindo Street trail to be addressed. She stated that she is not requesting but is demanding the trail be closed - enough is enough. The Tsurai Ancestral Society has been working on this issue since its inception. Despite its obligation to protect these graves, the view sheds, lighthouse and memorial benches are always first on the agenda.

**Axel Lindgren III** – 6<sup>th</sup> generation Tsurai

He is here tonight to speak about the closing the Gallindo Street trail on behalf of the TAS. Why is the council dragging its feet? This has gone on for a long time. It's only the beginning and it needs to be fixed. There is a long list of things wrong and this is one of them. He would like to see the City close the Gallindo St. Trail.

**Kathleen Lowder** – clinical social worker

She is here in solidarity with the TAS. She came here last year about closing the Gallindo Street trail. Asked the council to please imagine people walking over their own relatives' graves. Would there be a problem getting a trail closed if it was their relatives? There is a proclamation on the agenda in support of Native American Heritage Month. If the Council believes it is important to pass the resolution, that is good, however it needs to be followed with action and protect the graves of their ancestors.

**Joel Morrison** – clinical social worker

Stated that he was here in support and solidarity with the Tsurai and others who want the Gallindo Street Trail closed. It's not right to use that trail and to ignore these issues. If the City was going to put a trail over your ancestor's graves, how would you feel about that and what would you do about that?

**Dorothy Cox** – Trinidad

She sent an email to the Mayor requesting clarification about a paragraph of the STR ordinance regarding when the meet and greet requirement starts. Question for the Council – Who's purview is it to answer questions about the STR Ordinance? She felt the tone of the mayor's response was disrespectful and she was offended.

Miller: Was sorry that the speaker was offended.

**Richard Johnson** – Planning Commissioner

He referred the Council to a short phrase in STR Ordinance 15.56.190.1 "Transmittal of Rules and Good Neighbor Contract", and said that there has been some re-interpretation of this phrase. Speaking as a Planning Commission member, this was included in an attempt to address earlier problems. The PC worked very hard on this. Some people may consider it to be onerous but it's in the ordinance. The PC members meant a face to face meeting with the owner/manager with the visitor on the day they arrive. That was what they [the PC] intended and their expectation. To not enforce this opens up other areas of the ordinance to re-interpretation.

**Kim Tays** – Arcata

Shared her experience traveling in France for 5 weeks, and spending one or two weeks at a number of short term rentals. Everyone met them at the door, showed them the apartment and how they worked. This was a very pleasant part of the stay. Trever has portrayed this as an infringement of privacy. Also wants to stand in unity the Tsurai about the trail.

**Hannah Lindgren-Trip** - Descendant of Tsurai

Here to request that the Gallindo Street Trail be closed. She believes there is a moral obligation to do so. Have to set a precedent. A lot of wrongs have gone on for far too long, and this would be a step in the right direction. It's long overdue and she doesn't want kids to have to deal with this issue.

**IX. CONSENT AGENDA**

1. Staff Activity Report for October 2017
2. Financial Status Reports for September 2017.
3. Consider Update to Salary Schedule – Pulled → Action Item 1
4. Consider Waiving Permit Fees for Tsunami Siren - Pulled → Action Item 2
5. Consider Vegetation Maintenance on Van Wycke St. - Pulled → Action Item 3
6. Second Reading and Adoption of Trinidad Cannabis Ordinance  
Miller read the Ordinance title and explained the ordinance passed by a majority vote at the last meeting.
7. Resolution 2017-15 Supporting Strawberry Rock Trail Easement - pulled to receive public comment → Action Item 4
8. Resolution 2017-16 Supporting Little River Trail Project - pulled to receive public comment → Action Item 5
9. Resolution 2017-17 in support of Native American Heritage Month - pulled to receive public comment → Action Item 6

Miller: Are there any public comments on the items remaining on the Consent agenda? Wants to call attention to item 6, the Second Reading and Adoption of Trinidad Cannabis Ordinance. It was adopted at the first reading on October 11. This was put into consent because the second reading is just for minor changes like commas.

*Motion (West/Baker) to approve the Consent Agenda with items 3, 4, 5, 7, 8 and 9 pulled and added as Discussion/Action items 1 – 6, respectively with the Civic Club Presentation as item 7.. Passed unanimously.*

**X. DISCUSSION/ACTION AGENDA ITEMS – items pulled from Consent were inserted below as action items.**

1. Consider Update to Salary Schedule – Steve Ladwig had requested this be moved to the next meeting.  
*Move (West/Baker) to table for next agenda. Passed unanimously.*
2. Consider Waiving Permit Fees for Tsunami Siren –  
Miller explained that the Council will be discussing this item at the next meeting.

Comments from the public and Council included:

Kim Tays: She is not opposed to moving the siren, but would like other options than just the 30 ft pole, since that will mar the view and increase clutter on the head. She wants a thorough vetting of the options. Not opposed to waiving permitting fees.

**Miller:** Wants to clarify that the siren is on Rancheria property.

Shirley Laos: The Rancheria has not submitted an application yet, and has not met with the City Representative. They will be addressing the findings of the Office of Emergency Services. There is not an application yet and they will go through the normal process.

Leslie Farrar: She stated she doesn't have a problem with waiving the siren fees but is concerned with the placement.

*Move (West/Baker) to table for next agenda. Passed unanimously.*

3. Consider Vegetation Maintenance on Van Wycke St. –  
West had requested this item be pulled from consent to discuss at the next meeting.

Comments from the public included:

Kim Tays: Would like to see the exhibits which were illegible in the packet, so would like to be able to review what is being proposed. Concerned that the City says it is in the right of way so needs no permits. Tays doesn't agree and send email to Coastal Commission requesting a site visit, as she is concerned about cutting trees on the fragile bluff. It's easy to say it's a street right of way when it hasn't been a street for decades. She will address her concerns at future meeting.

Leslie Farrar: She wonders why this would be on the consent agenda without a discussion. She concerned about the vegetation maintenance item as well. A lot of things show up on the Consent agenda

Jim Cuthbertson: The trail closed signs should be put up.

*Move (West/Baker) to table for next agenda. **Passed unanimously.***

4. Resolution 2017-15 Supporting Strawberry Rock Trail Easement –  
Comments from the public included:

Richard Johnson: Explained that this resolution is for support of the Trinidad Coastal Land Trust, but not requesting funding.

*Move (West/Baker) to adopt. **Passed unanimously.***

5. Resolution 2017-16 Supporting Little River Trail Project -

*Move (West/Baker) to adopt. **Passed unanimously.***

6. Resolution 2017-17 in support of Native American Heritage Month –  
Miller read the resolution.

Comments from the public included:

Leslie Farrar: Totally supports this and wants to see action. These resolutions are passed and nothing is done. Let's close the Gallindo Street Trail. Please make an action, build bridges, and extend hands.

Shirley Laos:

She said, Wok-hlew, it means a lot to hear this. She had asked for this resolution to be on the agenda. It was asked in the spirit of collaborative partnership.

*Move (Baker/West) to adopt. **Passed unanimously.***

7. Trinidad Civic Club Memorial Lighthouse Presentation –

Jan West from the Civic Club presented a slideshow about the Memorial Lighthouse, concluding with fundraising plans and an appeal.

Comments from the the public included:

Dorothy Cox: Why has HAF not donated to this? Have they given a reason why they say no?

Jan West: Patty sent the application. Patty hasn't heard anything and neither has Jan, but she doesn't plan to give up.

Dorothy Cox: Jan Kayak Zack received tens of thousands of dollars for Stone Lagoon. There is lots of money in the HAF Fund. She stated that the Lighthouse means everything to her husband and "My dad's on that one."

**Miller**: This was a discussion item, and there is no action.

## **XI. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:**

**Miller**: Future agenda items: Closure or realignment of Gallindo Street Trail, Meet & Greet clause of the STR Ordinance – thank you Richard for bringing that to our attention. We voted for it knowing that there was the intention to have the meet and greet. The Feb 14 meeting will be rescheduled because there has been a request by the Civic Club has an event.

**Baker**: Shirley brought up the crosswalk lights.

**West**: Gallindo Street Trail – that has come up a number of times.

**Baker**: He stated that it was hard to imagine that the graves wouldn't have been included in the Information Center for Recorded Sites at the time the trail was put in. There needs to be some discussion. We tabled

a number of items and hopes the minutes record them so staff can be address them before the next meeting.

**Miller:** The minutes should record the public comments.

**Baker:** Make sure that gets to staff so it can be addressed.

**Miller:** November 22 wouldn't be a good date for a meeting due to the holiday. December will be the next meeting. If the priority list is too full then some items may go onto the January agenda.

**XII. ADJOURNMENT: 7:40 pm**

**Submitted by:**

**Approved by:**

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**Rebecca Price-Hall**  
**Grant Administrator, acting for the City Clerk**

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**Dwight Miller**  
**Mayor**