

General Membership Meeting Minutes
March 7, 2013
Marin Board of Supervisors' Chambers (room 329)

President Mike Chernock called the Meeting to Order at 9:00AM.

A quorum was not met with attending Board Members Mike Chernock, James Murad, and John Carapiet and Members Albert Lozano, Sterling Harwell, Owen Haxton, , Dennis Brown, Brant Miller and Gene Dyer.

The members reviewed and approved Meeting Minutes for February 7, 2013.

The financial report review; discussion and approval indicated that we have \$4,436.39 in the checking account and by combining accounts resulted in a savings of \$144 a year.

Remarks by President Chernock:

The Yuba City Regional Meeting

Meeting with Kim Turner meeting and her recommendation to meet with County Counsel to get his view on Report Follow up, Continuity Committee changes, High School Senior Scholarship proposal, and a public Policy White Paper on Civil Grand Juries.

Plenary Meeting attendance with the current Grand Jury immediately after Membership meeting to invite them to join us in next years Grand Jury Association.

Status report of League of Women Voters annual celebration and presentation of Plaque for seated Grand Jury.

Financial Review Audit Report held over till next months meeting. There were still some details the review team wanted to iron out once and for all for future Boards.

Membership Committee Chair Owen Haxton proposed new MCGJA application changes and membership price adjustments. The approval vote was held over till next month due to a lack of Quorum.

An information discussion was held regarding our May 10 Annual Reunion Meeting. At this writing, we are hosting Susan Adams- Marin County Supervisor, CGJA President - Bill Trautman, Vice President -Beate Boultinghouse, and Membership Chair - Dan Mufson. The keynote speaker is Paul - Marin Transit Authority. We were reminded to hold July 17 for the annual Social reception with the new Grand Jury, outgoing Grand Jury and all members of the MCGJA.

We heard a Communications Technology Committee status report by Sterling Harwell as well as expressions of concern about an apparent lack of interest by current MCGJA members.

Discussion of Orientation & Training Committee changes in next year's Orientation program including fewer speakers, moving report writing to mid-year, and putting

Newspaper people in as speakers earlier to promote relevant investigative idea's. Also moving "County Government Overview" early in training. Reminder: the team is always looking for new volunteers.

Discussion by Vice President James Murad Chair of the Bylaws and Policies Procedures Committee of the various categories MCGJA members, such as Honorary Members without voting privileges and paid-up regular members with voting privileges.

Discussion by President Chernock of the possibility of a Advanced Policy Analysis by a student at Graduate School of Public policy at Cal to analyze the relevant history, look at alternatives, discuss political feasibility and write recommendations and propose an implementation plan for California Civil Grand Juries.

Discussion and reminder of need to staff Excellence in Reporting Committee as timing is from April 1 to May 31.

Reminder to contact any interested parties for next year's board of the MCGJA.

There was no New Business.

The meeting was adjourned, 10:50 upon the arrival of our speaker, Jim Welte.

SPEAKER:

Following the formal meeting, Jim Welte, Associate Regional Editor, Marin Patch spoke to us about the Patch websites and how news and analysis is being transmitted throughout the County. Patch is owned by AOL and will be a good resource for Civil Grand Juries to disseminate reports to the public. Also Patch might be used to bring out discussion of relevant past reports.

Respectfully Submitted, John Carapiet Secretary MCGJA