

June McHuen

From: Jami Morritt
Sent: Tuesday, September 7, 2021 2:55 PM
To: June McHuen
Subject: FW: You are not getting the truth from staff-- Please add to the record

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For the minutes please.

From: Cheryl Grover <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, September 7, 2021 2:52 PM
To: Supervisor_Burgis <Supervisor_Burgis@bos.cccounty.us>; SupervisorMitchoff <SupervisorMitchoff@bos.cccounty.us>; John_Gioia <John_Gioia@bos.cccounty.us>; District 5 Supervisor Federal Glover <federal@federalglover.com>; Jami Morritt <Jami.Morritt@cob.cccounty.us>
Subject: You are not getting the truth from staff-- Please add to the record

We have so much to say about what happened today, not the least of which is Eric last minute switched the items that he could have done well before the agenda was finalized and caused more confusion to participants, AND that there were participants having trouble with access both on zoom and on the phones so you didn't hear from many people intending and trying to speak. (And that isn't the first time this has happened.)

The one that sticks out most right now is the comments that the 'City has no interest'. Not sure why the City should because the proposal before you didn't need to have their interest. But is this just another false hurdle or talking point?

The City dutifully and with great interest negotiated with the County for at least 3 years (also with the developer at that time) and kept the APFCCC barely aware of how talks were going, so we were involved all that time except those negotiations were secret so our hands were tied throughout that time. We BELIEVED staff that talks were going well and as expected. No hurdles too high, they indicated.

It was the County who wrote the letter to break off negotiations and we as the APFCCC could not find out WHY that occurred but were given the opportunity to come up with a new plan via county counsel.

WE DID! We didn't need the City for any further negotiations because it would have been more time-consuming on the County's fast track. They could be included again AT ANY TIME!

But to hear staff report untruths and hear the Board repeat them as true is unconscionable. If staff is not telling you the truth down this path, all your decisions are suspect. And while your job is full of time-consuming subjects, those subjects affect people's lives, and in this case adversely. As you heard, NO ONE is asking for a bench to sit on at that end of town.

THERE WAS NO COMMENT supporting the tearing down of the Jail buildings OR of building a plaza. Especially at the expense of our historic buildings.

We totally understand that Eric, and a couple others, dislike "ugly". We have resolved ugly in the picture you received. And we even proposed to Eric and County Counsel that the very first things to take place in the remodel would be **all the exterior beautifications including the tops of the buildings** -removing all the utility elements, that are in the eyesight of Eric's lovely new office.

I am a LIFETIME Martinez resident and I promise you, anything that looks like Walnut Creek or Redevelopment is EXACTLY what this town has fought for centuries and is the REASON for the quaintness that is who we are. We won't let that go. We cant. So if you think Martinez doesn't care you will get a chance to hear from them again in the future.

For anyone to say "we have worked on this for so long"- **WE have worked on this for so long too.** Only LONGER. People BEFORE us have fought the odds to save it and won every time. And yet the County's only vision, even after those wins and the chance to do something creative, is how the County could reuse it. Not have it saved by others, which goes to the fact that they did everything possible to keep people out of there or to have any say about it for the last 10 years. (Letting it fall to further neglect.)

All that has been done in all of this is to assess that the County cant afford to bring it up to COUNTY employee standards for County use. No assessment had been allowed to stand for one second for the groups who wish to save and use this surplus property you were obligate to hand over to those who stepped up. Especially to help build a plan where that could happen. (That was a County BOS of old. The Gayl Uilkema times, the Mark DeSaulnier ties, even Tom Powers and Sunne McPeak. We all worked together for the good of communities, not plazas and dump trucks. Please rewatch the video that clearly shows the need for a place for dump trucks. Otherwise, you are tearing down for nothing better than cement fixtures. Neither is mitigation for what is being decided today.)

And that is ignoring the fact that demolition takes away a 120 year old historic resource from everyone in the County not just Martinez. You want an expansive modern plaza 2 blocks away from our Historic Downtown. That is proof enough County staff and very possibly this Board has no relationship to the reality around them.

But you can't build a wall of a destroyed building to respect Black Lives Matter. Because that is just more of what they call "talk". Black Lives Matter wants to see real action. Real change. Real commitment and your very white Chief Eric is not listening. And this Board continues to paint pictures of plazas that aren't real- instead of creating useful access to social justice with the proposal and a real picture taken of the building.

The ivy is drawn on. The cut building was a simple crop. The new windows the county could have done 50 years ago, Instead of leaving ugly to get a worse and worse reputation. That looks very deliberate and very uncaring, and frankly like a narrative because cosmetics are solvable.

The new building looked stunningly like the 1944 jail from the front, only with windows without metal screening.

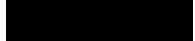
But beauty is in the eye of the beholder, and this time it isn't including an eye for budget, history, or community. You don't need to do this. And in fact you DO need to do something to address Social Justice in the justice quarter that is real and tangible and has an effect in people's lives and futures.

A huge expansive plaza is not it.

The last words when I was cut off on: **"Turning Pine St. into a plaza would be a GOOD addition to a Historically themed restaurant, with a renowned community-driven Cultural Arts Center, and a small Patio Garden for outside dining."**

THAT would be the Civic Center that you could take pride in. As could communities that would be served by this acknowledgment to us all.

Cheryll Grover



[REDACTED]

From: James Dean [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, September 5, 2021 4:26 PM
To: Supervisor_Burgis; Federal Glover; supervisormitchoff@bos.cccpunty.us; John_Gioia; Candace Andersen; Monica Nino; Clerk of the Board; APFCCC - Save the 1903 Jail
Subject: Save the Old Jail

I ask that careful consideration be given on demolishing the "Old Jail"once it is gone...it is forever gone. Where there is nothing glamorous about a Jail...

these buildings are a part of our history as a County. The construction of the 1902 structure was the beginning of a County Corrections system that set the pace for incarceration standards throughout the nation. When the Main Detention Facility was constructed in the 80's, it pioneered how detention housing of inmates should be done. Throughout the United States in the 80's and 90's "County Jails" were constructed based on the "Contra Costa County model." When other States and Countries came to CA to see the MDF, the Old Jail was also part of the tour...showing the evolution of custodial housing of inmates.

Research found that this is the oldest standing, original, not-modified County Jail in California. I believe we owe it to our children and grandchildren to show them how "things were done in the old days." And, then show how we now approach corrections. Tearing it down will only afford future generations to see this type of facility on television or at the movies. (In the 90's, movie and television companies filmed in the Old Jail because they desired authenticity and there was nowhere else in CA s except State prisons that the old guard jail design.

I believe there have been many practical uses for the 1945 facility suggested. There seems to be growing interest by several non-profits groups with more and more innovative ideas for its use. If I'm understanding the material on the demolition of the old jail, the facility costs the county essentially nothing. So, why would you destroy history for maybe 40 parking spaces and the expenditure of hundred plus thousands of dollars? Does this make any sense? These buildings could be turned over to several non-profits, certainly costing the County much less money and make productive and educational use of the facilities.

From 1972-1975, I worked in the 1902 facility. It is not with a sentimentality that I urge you not to demolish the building. But, I so believe in these trying times we have an obligation to hold on to our history. This building is a testament to how we as community cared for inmates and how we evolved, prioritized, bettered our systems. I believe it should be preserved to stand as a reminder of how far as a community we have come.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Dean

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

-----Original Message-----

From: Priscilla Tudor <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Tuesday, September 7, 2021 10:52 PM

To: Supervisor_Burgis <Supervisor_Burgis@bos.cccounty.us>; Federal Glover <Federal.Glover@bos.cccounty.us>;
supervisormitchoff@bos.cccounty.us; John_Gioia <John_Gioia@bos.cccounty.us>; Candace Andersen
<Candace.Andersen@bos.cccounty.us>; Monica Nino <Monica.Nino@cao.cccounty.us>; Clerk of the Board
<ClerkOfTheBoard@cob.cccounty.us>

Subject: SAVE THE JAIL!

The jail is a piece of Martinez history and part of the city's legacy which needs to be preserved for future generations!!

Priscilla Tudor

[REDACTED]

Martinez

Sent from my iPhone