

THE MORNING AFTER

TOWN OF ROSS MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

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Mayor's Corner



Elizabeth Brekhus

The Town 4th of July Parade and Celebration was a smashing success. I want to thank each of the staff members of Ross Recreation for their incredible effort putting on the event! It is a lot of work, and on behalf of the Town, thank you Mike Armstrong, Sue Talmage, Maya Zorn, Robin Zellner, and Lynnette Lofgren! I also want to recognize and thank Ross resident and Master of Games, Ed Dong, who volunteers every year to run games for the kids. There is nothing more fun than looking out at a sea of Ross kids eating watermelon as fast as they can! Other people contributed as well. Our very own 6th grade, Ross School student, Katherine Berkowitz, did a fabulous job singing "The Star-Spangled Banner," and our Town Treasurer, and past Town

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New Town Manager Appointed



Joe Chinn, Town Manager

Following a recruitment search, the Council appointed Joe Chinn as Town Manager at the July 9th Council meeting. Mr. Chinn's anticipated start date is August 1st. He will spend time in July meeting with Dianne Thompson, outgoing Interim Town Manager, to get acquainted with current projects and operational matters and meet the staff.

Joe Chinn comes to the Town of Ross with 25 years of experience in both the public and the private sector, with an emphasis on management, public finance and planning. Most recently, Mr. Chinn served as the City of Rancho Cordova's Assistant City Manager for over eight years managing day-to-day operations. Mr. Chinn has extensive expertise in finance, public policy, negotiations, and organizational development. He has implemented many innovative partnerships and financing strategies with the private sector, public agencies, and not-for-profit groups that have enhanced the cities he has worked for. He played a key role in developing the award-winning culture at the City of Rancho Cordova that earned the City the designation of being the #12 "Best Small Companies to Work For" in the nation on Fortune Magazine's Great Place to Work® list.

Mr. Chinn also served as Finance Director for the City of Elk Grove. In both Rancho Cordova and Elk Grove, the cities had budget surpluses during his entire tenure. Previous to that he served as Administrative Services Manager for the City of Sacramento. He was also a Principal with Economic and Planning Systems (EPS), a private consulting firm working with both governmental and the private sector clients related to government and development finance, public policy, and real estate economics.

Joe enjoys working with elected officials, staff, residents, and organizations to find ways to improve the quality of life in communities through efficient, effective, and responsive services while ensuring long-term financial stability. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Finance and a Master of Urban & Regional Planning from the University of Illinois. He is an International City/County Management Association (ICMA) Credentialed Manager.

Mayor Katie Hoertkorn commented "We're extremely pleased to have Joe Chinn as our Town Manager. With many years of experience in public management, finance and planning, Joe will be a great asset to our Town for many years." ■

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Council Member and former Mayor, Kelley Reid, performed with his Barbershop Quartet. John Lill dressed the part of Uncle Sam, again, and I cannot imagine the parade without him! A big thank you to all the participants in the parade, to the Moya Library/Ross Historical Society for their display, and to the Ross Property Owner's Association for doing the Town decorations, year after year!

And speaking of fun Town events, please hold the date for the Town Dinner on Friday, September 25, 2015.

I am also pleased to announce that the Town Council did vote to appoint a new Town Manager, Joe Chinn. Joe comes from Rancho Cordova, where he worked as an assistant City Manager. He has an impressive skill set in finance, planning and building, and as a manager, and because of that, he was the lead candidate following interviews with other applicants. Joe has a very pleasant and warm personality and I believe I speak for the entire Town Council in stating that we are looking forward to working with him.



I also want to express my appreciation for Dianne Thompson, who has served as the interim Town Manager for the last three and a half months. Dianne did a great job catching up on the backlog of planning projects that resulted when our Town planner left, as well as assisting the Council with the recruitment of a new Town Manager. We wish her the best in her new position.

This is my final meeting serving as the Mayor of Ross. I have enjoyed the position, and serving the Town, but I am delighted to turn the job over to Katie Hoertkorn because we all know she will do a fabulous job. ■

New Mayor and Mayor Pro Tem Appointed



Katie Hoertkorn, Mayor

The Council appointed Katie Hoertkorn as Mayor, and Carla Small as Mayor Pro Tempore.

Each year in July, the Council elects one of its members to serve as Mayor for a one-year term. Currently the Council are serving the following terms:

- Katie Hoertkorn (2012-2016)
- Carla Small (2014-2018) *2nd Term*
- Elizabeth Brekhus (2012-2016)
- Beach Kuhl (2012-2016)
- Elizabeth Robbins (2014-2018)

Mayor Hoertkorn presented outgoing Mayor Brekhus with a commemorative gavel plaque and thanked her for a year of service as Mayor. ■



Council Supports Richmond-San Rafael Bridge Improvement Project

Anyone that travels the Sir Francis Drake Boulevard corridor to and from the Larkspur Ferry area, knows that traffic near the Richmond-San Rafael



Bridge has become a serious problem for Marin County commuters. At the June Council meeting, the Transportation Authority of Marin (TAM) presented a project currently in design by the Bay Area Toll Authority (BATA) to provide eastbound congestion relief on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge by allowing shoulder lane usage during the afternoon peak hour. The afternoon congestion approaching the Bridge is adversely affecting local traffic utilizing US 101 and all approaches to the Bridge especially I-580 and Sir Francis Drake Boulevard. The Bridge is a critical link for Marin towns and the East Bay and directly affects many Marin workers and residents, including residents of the Town of Ross.

The Council adopted a Resolution at the July meeting formally supporting the project and urging the agencies involved in the project, including Cal-Trans, BATA, and TAM, to find ways to expedite the project. ■

PLANNING RESULTS



Ali Giudice
Contract Planner

The Town Council took the following action on planning applications at the July Council meeting. Staff reports and audio for the meeting can be found on the July 9th meeting page. The minutes for this meeting will be available on this page after adoption by the Council at the August Council meeting.

Address: 90 Glenwood Avenue
Applicant: Traci McCarty
Council Action: Approved
Vote (for/against/abstain): 5-0-0

Council Committee Assignments for 2015-16

Standing Committees

Community Protection: (Emergency Preparedness Police & Fire Organization)	Beach Kuhl, Chair Elizabeth Brekhus
Finance: Chair (Budget)	Katie Hoertkorn, Carla Small
General Government: Chair (Council Policies, HR, Job Descriptions)	Elizabeth Robbins, Beach Kuhl
Public Works: Chair (Parks, Trees, Town Facilities)	Elizabeth Brekhus, Carla Small
Town Liaisons	
Leadership Cabinet:	Katie Hoertkorn
Marin Art & Garden Center	Elizabeth Brekhus
Ross School	Elizabeth Robbins
Ross Property Owners Assn	Beach Kuhl

To see the full list of committees, click [here](#). ■



RECREATION NEWS

Staff Updates:



Eda Lochte & Maya Zorn

After nine years of service to Ross Recreation as a Clerk and Recreation Specialist, **Eda Lochte** is leaving Ross Recreation to pursue her interests in the fashion industry. Eda was instrumental in building the Ross Recreation instructional classes and summer camps. Eda has been our “go to” staff member for program information. We know Eda will continue passionately rooting for her beloved SF Giants baseball team!

Recreation Clerk, **Maya Zorn** is leaving the Department as she is moving to Colorado to begin a new adventure. Maya came to Ross Recreation in the Summer of 2014 and has provided exceptional customer service. Maya helped with the transition of Ross Recreation to a Town of Ross Department and has been an integral part of our staff.

The Town of Ross will greatly miss these two dedicated staff members and wishes them success in their new ventures.



Robin Zellner

The Ross Recreation Department welcomes **Robin Zellner** as our new Recreation Specialist. Robin has previously served as a Director of Recreation and Parks for Wellfleet, Massachusetts. Robin has extensive experience in managing adult and youth cycling camps as well as managing a professional cycling team. He will oversee the Ross Recreation youth sports, instructional classes and summer camps.



Lynnette Lofgren

Ross Recreation also welcomes **Lynnette Lofgren** as our new Recreation Clerk. Lynnette has previously worked for the City of Novato Parks and Recreation and was responsible for program registrations and marketing. Lynnette currently works for the City of Petaluma as a Recreation Specialist at the Petaluma Senior Center. She is also a professional photographer. Lynnette will assist in implementing program registrations and marketing for Ross Recreation.

Ross 4th of July — An Event To Remember



Photos courtesy of Lynnette Lofgren, Ed Dong, and Katy Boyd.

ROSS CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JULY 2015

July 3	--	--	Town Hall offices closed Independence Day Holiday
July 4	11:00	am	Annual 4th of July Parade & Celebration, Ross Common
July 9	6:00	pm	Council Meeting, Town Hall
July 14	6:00	pm	Recreation Advisory Committee Meeting, Town Hall
July 22	4:00	pm	Finance Committee Meeting, Town Hall
July 28	7:00	pm	Advisory Design Review Group Meeting, Town Hall

AUGUST 2015

August 13	6:00	pm	Council Meeting, Town Hall
August 25	7:00	pm	Advisory Design Review Group Meeting, Town Hall

SEPTEMBER 2015

Sept 1	--	--	Town Hall offices closed Labor Day
Sept 10	6:00	pm	Council Meeting, Town Hall
Sept 22	7:00	pm	Advisory Design Review Group Meeting, Town Hall
Sept 25	5:00	pm	Annual Town Dinner, Marin Art & Garden Center

RECURRING EVENTS

Thursdays thru October	Ross Farm Stand, 12:00-7:30 pm, Ross Common
Thursdays Jun 25-Aug 13	Free Summer Concert Series, 5:00-7:00 pm, Marin Art & Garden Center

CONTACT US

Administration	415.453.1453 x105	Public Works	415.453.1453 x106
Building	415.453.1453 x106	Recreation	415.453.6020
Planning	415.453.1453 x121, 122	Ross Valley Fire	415.258.4686
Police	415.453.1453, Option 2	Town Manager	415.453.1453 x107

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