

**IDEAS & CONCERNS REGARDING  
THE FORMATION OF A GLEN ELLEN ADVISORY COUNCIL**

- Ideal number of members?
- What mix of demographic/interest groups would best represent the community of Glen Ellen? (e.g. residents, agriculture, business owners, ethnic background, age etc.)
- How would the boundaries of the Council be set? (e.g. zip code(s), fire district, school district, self-identified? Include Eldridge?)
- Would applicants have to apply individually or could the Forum pick or recommend Council members?
- As a non-profit, how much involvement/influence is the Forum allowed with the Council, which is a type of political body?
- What would be the process for removal of a Council member? Would there be public recourse if our Supervisor is proposing removal to the rest of the Board of Supervisors (who must approve by majority)?
- Could the Forum recommend removal of a Council member?
- How would the Council make official requests for services from the County? Is this different than one coming from a private citizen or the Forum?
- What is the separation between the roles of the Council and the Forum? Can a small body of citizens bring forward issues with the County that the Council does not take up? Would they be recognized differently, by the County, than the Council?
- What is the Council's eligibility for grants and funding? How is this different than the Forum non-profit?
- How would the relationship between the Council and the Sonoma Valley Advisory Council (SVAC) be structured? What role would the Glen Ellen representative on the SVAC play? Could they serve on both?
- How would the Council get information to, and feedback from, Glen Ellen's approximately 4000 residents and avoid small groups being railroaded?
- What unit [meaning Council or Forum] would work best with the County bureaucracy?
- Voice vs. All of Glen Ellen?
- What structure will remain relevant well into the future? What happens when Gorin leaves? How would the roles and responsibility of the Council change if the Forum were no longer in place?
- Could the SVAC serve as a model?
- What is the financial support mechanism for the Council? For the Forum?
- Specify an entity to collaborate with? Bad idea?
- Does the Forum already serve the purpose of a Council? Would it create an unnecessary extra layer of bureaucracy?
- Is there a difference in the constituencies of the Council and the Forum, in the people they are serving?
- How does a VOTE work Council & Forum?
- Supervisors are a wild card. [Could the bylaws be structured in a way that minimizes that concern?]

- Present something as a test? Talk to other CACs? [Test=issue, such as Marty Winter development? Set up a pseudo-Council for practice?]
- Could the Council potentially become a puppet of the Supervisor and/or the County? [What could prevent this?]
- How could the Council be structured so that it functioned as a conduit for the 'Voice of Glen Ellen' to the County over a decade or more?

Step 3 below: Meetings dedicated to the question of forming a Council. Propose three or more:

- Supervisor Susan Gorin and/or her staff (focused on structure? functioning in theory and practice from the county's point of view?)
- Member(s) of other Councils (functioning in practice, benefits and pitfalls from the community's point of view?)
- Debate/discussion among Glen Ellen residents and other stakeholders. Best to have later, after bylaws are fully drafted? Then vote (Step #8)

#### **DRAFT ROADMAP FOR EXPLORING THE FORMATION OF A GLEN ELLEN ADVISORY COUNCIL**

1. Forum Steering Committee agrees to support the process of exploring formation of an independent Advisory Council (AC)
2. Reconvene the Forum Governance Committee to fully plan and implement this process
3. Hold meetings to educate and inform the community about the AC. Speakers would include Supervisor Gorin and at least one member of another Advisory Committee (Sonoma Valley, Dry Creek etc.)
4. Revise the draft AC bylaws (Revision reviewed and OK'd by Steering Committee)
5. Vet draft bylaws with Supervisor Gorin, revise if needed.
6. Post draft bylaws online, invite feedback online and at a (special?) Forum meeting
7. Supervisor Gorin reviews and OKs proposed changes
8. Community discussion and vote on adopting the bylaws, probably at a Forum meeting.
9. Submit bylaws to the Board of Supervisors for formal approval and adoption.
10. Put out a press release inviting community members to apply for AC positions (even if they're not active in the Forum)
11. Community vote for AC members.
12. Request Supervisor Gorin appoint winners of vote to AC.

There's of course many more details. Parts of this are out of our hands--the Board of Supervisors has been planning to review Advisory Council guidelines and creation since last summer. However many of these steps can be taken without any action from the county.