

# School Board May Appoint New Member Tomorrow

By Sophie Braccini

The resignation of Dexter Louie shortly after his re-election to the Moraga School Board in November left a vacant seat at the table. On Dec. 11 the board decided to select a provisional appointee to serve until voters return to the polls in November 2014. The deadline for interested residents to apply for the seat was noon today. The selection process will be held during an open board meeting the evening of Dec. 20.

A few residents asked the board to appoint Parker Colvin, who was one of the candidates for a seat in November. Superintendent Bruce Burns said that the district could not have simply decided to appoint Colvin because the Education Code establishes

procedures that must be followed when a resignation occurs. The county superintendent or the board can call a special election, or the board can develop a process to make a provisional appointment.

At tomorrow night's meeting, applicants will be asked to give two-minute statements introducing themselves and suggesting strategies to address the important issues facing the Moraga School District. The Board will ask applicants a set of prepared questions and they will have two minutes to answer each question. The board president will then ask for nominations of candidates and the board will vote. If a candidate receives a majority of votes he or she

will be immediately sworn in.

If a clear majority cannot be found, the board can call an additional meeting and request a forum of finalists at a subsequent meeting. In the event a majority of the board still can't agree on an applicant, the board may call for an election.

The Education Code also provides for the community to petition the board's appointment if it doesn't agree with the appointment. If enough signatures of registered voters are collected and approved by the county superintendent, the appointment is ended and an election is called.

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## Town Trivia

Many were surprised at the Dec. 12 meeting of the Moraga Town Council to read county documents in which Moraga is listed as the City of Moraga and not the Town of Moraga. Town (or City) Manager Jill Keimach confirmed: "The legal status of Moraga is that of a city, not a town, however it has retained the 'Town' name, like Danville did, to emphasize its rural nature." So when

she and her staff need to refer to Moraga as a legal entity, it's a city; the rest of the time, it's a town. Council member Mike Metcalf wondered aloud if he should refer to it as "the city of the Town of Moraga."

Your *Lamorinda Weekly* staff wonders if it should now refer to "Lamorinda's three cities" rather than the slightly less graceful "two cities and a town..." *S. Braccini*

**Please submit Letters and Opinions:**  
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Many volunteer positions need to be filled on Moraga's different commissions, committees and boards that are essential to the civic process. Seats are up for grabs on the Planning Commission, Parks and Recreation Commission, Design Review Board, Traffic and Safety Advisory Committee, Audit and Finance Committee and ADA Advisory Committee. The deadline to apply is Jan. 11, 2013. Starting in January, the Council will define the charter for the new Citizens Oversight Committee for Measure K and volunteers will be needed to serve there as well. For more information on vacancies or to learn how to apply, go to [www.moraga.ca.us](http://www.moraga.ca.us).

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This year we worked with Oakland Dog, Point Isabel Dog owners group, Albany Dog, Crissy Field Dog Groups, "Save Off Leash", Animal Rescue Foundation, to protect, dog activity areas in Lamorinda and the East Bay

When friends lost their dogs, or dogs were found we helped coordinate resources to network the information to the community

Our contributions supported the Spirit Van with special thanks for the service they bring to the seniors in Lamorinda (and their dogs!)

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