

VMICC Meeting Minutes

December 21, 2020

7:00-8:23 pm
Online, using WebEx

Meeting called by: Vashon-Maury Island Community **Type of Meeting:** Virtual Council meeting

Meeting Chair: David Vogel **Meeting Co-Chair:** Diane Emerson

Note Taker: Meeting was transcribed by WebEx, summarized by Kyle Britz

Attendees: 48 people attended the meeting.

Call-in User_4	Erin Kieper	Kevin Jones
Call-in User_5	Evy Horton	Kyle Britz
Arliene Wilkerson	Holly Shull	Liz Illg
Kathleen Fitch	Gavin Kovite	Lisa Bruce
Will Lockwood	Richard Gordon	Louisa Eastman
Beverly Skeffington	Linda Fox	Maggie Aspland
Bong Sto. Domingo	Hilary Emmer	Mark Nassutti
Camille Reeves	Heidi McWatters	Mark McCulley
Adam Foster	C. Hunter Davis	Melvin Mackey
Dan Schueler	Michael Shomsky	Naomi Eshleman
Debby Jackson	Jackie O'Malley	Steve Macdonald
Jo Ann Herbert	Jeff Dunncliff	Bernard O'Malley
Diane Emerson	Major Jeffrey Flohr	Nicholas Simmons
Catherine Swearingen	Jim Garrison	John Osborne
David Vogel	Jill Diane Janow	
Peter Rubin	Jim Diers	
Erin Royal	John Taylor	

Those interested in watching the video of the meeting can do so for the next 4 months. The video of the meeting with transcription are available at this link: VMICC December 21 Meeting- (1 hr 27 mins)

<https://carolinehdavis.my.webex.com/recordingservice/sites/carolinehdavis.my/recording/playback/9cca36b1645949ba9cb155eef6cdaa65>

Password: YkmJT52P

We are working to have the videos archived on our website, www.vmicc.net

Minutes

1. **WebEx Instructions** – C. Hunter Davis
2. **Welcome** -David Vogel
3. **The meeting agenda** was reviewed and approved
4. **The November meeting minutes** were reviewed and approved.
5. **Introduction of all VMICC Board Members** –Formal introductions to the additional 2 board members selected by the appointed VMICC. Listed are the officer roles and sectors the board members are responsible for though not limited to:

President, David S. Vogel: Affordable Housing, Business, Culture (art) and history, Food

Vice President, Diane Emerson: Environment, Business

Secretary, Camille Reeves: Business, Culture and History, Environment, Faith, Food

Clerk, Kyle Britz: Education, Safety, Health and Human Services, LGBTQ, Youth

Treasurer, Nicholas Simmons: Environment, Recreation, Safety

Board Member, C. Hunter Davis: Culture (art) and history, Faith

Board Member, Mariela Franco: Affordable Housing, Business, Food, Latino Community Outreach

Board Member, Dawn Hylton: Affordable Housing, Health and Human Services

Board Member, Gavin Kovite: Education, Youth, Old Time Vashon

6. **Guest presentation: Major Jeffrey Flohr, King County Sheriff Office-**

Major Flohr is Vashon's KCSO precinct oversight commander, along with White Center and Skyway. Based on Vashon's isolation the County is not considering any budget cuts for Vashon's services and the rotation of officers will continue as they have with 2 deputies, the special emphasis teams and the detectives. All officers serving King County have additional training in de-escalation and crisis line resources. One of the focuses of the special emphasis team is combatting opiates, highlighting they recently confiscated half a pound of heroin. KCSO emphasizes they are not going out and arresting small time drug users, they are going after those that are bringing it in, though do provide help for those using to get linked with mental health, social workers and medical providers. Community members asked about Meth and were informed that this along with other drugs are being brought over to the island and there have not been recent reports of local labs. Community members asked about the additional training for Crisis Intervention Teams and multi-disciplinary efforts working in parallel with KCSO and were informed that County has been working on response programs including comprehensive training for expanding services. Council Board Member suggested community be informed about those opportunities so that those with backgrounds can train locally to participate as relief support for the first responders to specific circumstances. King County Rural Outreach John Taylor is participating in the special council to explore options for coordinated-care responses. Currently those participating reside off island and take a considerable amount of time to arrive across the waters and there may be opportunities for trained professionals on island to collaborate in the new programming. The annual crime statistics are still being compiled and should be available by the next general meeting.

King County Sheriff's Office Dashboard for Use of Force: <https://kingcounty.gov/depts/sheriff/online-reporting/dash-boards-use-of-force-analysis.aspx>

To report a crime not-in-progress: the non-emergency line for King County Sheriff's 206-296-3311.

For any complaints: Major Flohr can be emailed directly: Jeffrey.flohr@kingcounty.gov and his Captain Peter Horvath can be emailed directly: Peter.horvath@kingcounty.gov

7. **Traffic Safety Improvement Committee:**

Adam Foster is the temporary Chair for the VMICC Traffic Safety Improvement Committee, which began with emphasis on safety issues for bicycling and pedestrians. KCSO Deputy Gocke has been assigned to work with this committee. There was a recent tragedy resulting in the fatality of a pedestrian in a crosswalk from a car crash during the daytime, and prosecutors are still reviewing the case. Community notes that Vashon sidewalks and crosswalks should be generally reviewed for safety and usability especially for younger people, older people and those with seen or unseen disabilities.

Request of VMICC: Executive Director of the Senior Center, Catherine Swearingen, asks for expedited support from VMICC to prioritize the safety and address the series of car crashes notably in the crosswalks adjacent to the Senior Center and Co-op Preschool. There is currently a roads study being conducted via County to monitor the amount of traffic, with results hoping to be available in February, though it is noted these counts are being taken out of context due to the limited traffic because of Covid19 travel restrictions.

Proposal: Considering the recent and past automobile with pedestrian collisions, having illuminated crosswalks with activated flashing lights may prove to be an option, citing similar systems in Ruston and Burien. It is requested that VMICC bring this as a matter of importance to the Roads Department and make it a priority to come up with solutions.

To participate in the committee: Adam can be contacted directly: 541-603-6812 and emailed: dadamfo1@gmail.com

8. **High speed internet access & Telecommunication regulation:**

Jim Garrison is compiling stories of islanders dealing with internet access issues, including but not limited to service providers and connection issues such as lag time or access. It is speculated that some updates have not occurred as systems are preparing for infrastructure changes. Jim can be emailed directly: JGBurtonwater@gmail.com

Rural Utilities upgrades: There are local and federal funds available to use towards rural utilities that could be explored further.

9. **Open Discussion:**

Sewage disposal: County is still trying to tackle the issue of how RVs and temporary off grid Mobile homes can safely dispose of sewage. Vouchers have been proposed and The Eagles Club graciously have offered support, though assistance to connecting services are still needed. John Taylor with King County is still working on this.

Off leash dog parks: For County to make an official dog park, there needs to be a substantial plot of land dedicated for the dogs to run, meet and mingle. The Vashon Parks District was noted as exploring a few locations and considerations.

Vashon Climate Action group: Kevin Jones and the VCAG technical team are working on a draft proposal to bring to the VMICC including outlining supporting laws for renewable energy sources. 900 islanders and 108 businesses signed a petition for removing all carbon sources from our electrical grid by 2035. "For example, LPG causes as much damage as coal when it gets into the higher atmospheres." Vashon Climate Action Group currently has an active Facebook page.

10. **Next Meeting:** Monday, January 18th 2021 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm via WebEx

11. **Adjourn:** The meeting was adjourned at 8:20