

VMICC Meeting Minutes

Feb 15, 2021

7:00-8:54 pm

Online, using WebEx

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

Meeting Chair: David

Minutes: Kyle Britz

Attendees: 45 people attended the meeting.

Adam Day	David Vogel	Kathleen Fitch
Amy Morrison	Diane Emerson	Kyle Britz
Arliene Wilkerson	Ed Norton	Major Jeffery Flohr
Armen Yousoufian	Ella Yarkin	Marcie Rubardt
Barbara Wells	Emily Scott	Melvin Mackey
Bernard OMalley	Eric Pryne	Michaela Olavarri
Beverly Skeffington	Evy Horton	Nicholas Simmons
Bill Moyer	Gavin Kovite	Peter Rubin
C. Hunter Davis	Jane Neubauer	Steve Bergman
Camille Reeves	Jean Berolzheimer	Steve Macdonald
Catherine Swearingen	Jill Janow	Steven Pennebaker
Caitlin Rothermel	Jim Diers	Sylvia Soholt
Charlotte Lubbert	Jim Garrison	Tanya Roberts
Dan Schueler	John Affolter	Wendy Noble
Dave Benham	Justin Hirsch	Yvonne Kuperberg

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 February 15th Meeting (1 hr 54 mins)

<https://carolinehdavis.my.webex.com/recordingservice/sites/carolinehdavis.my/recording/playback/bad10a63b12141048e28a14e417bfde1>

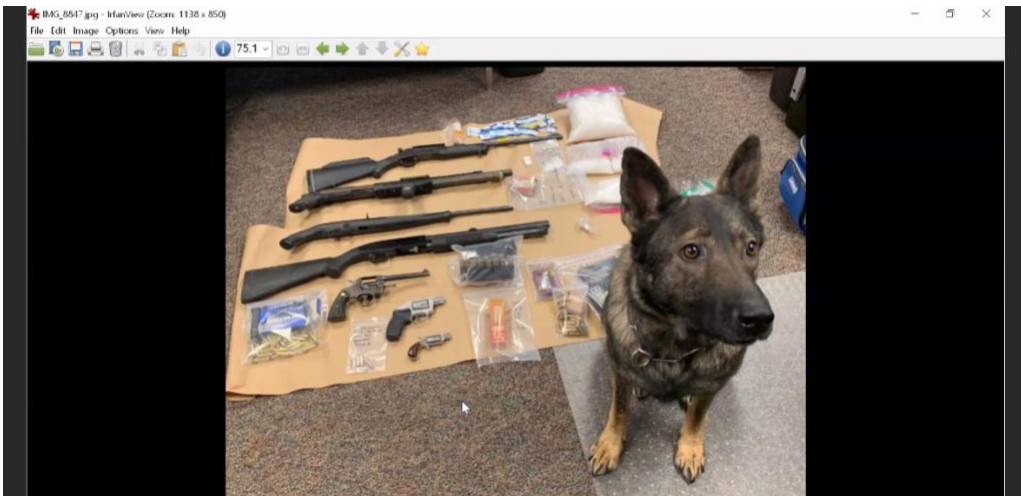
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We are working to have the videos archived on our website, www.vmicc.net

Minutes

- **Welcome and housekeeping: C. Hunter Davis and David Vogel**
- **Meeting agenda:** reviewed and approved.
- **January meeting minutes:** reviewed and approved.
- **Guest presentation: Major Jeffrey Flohr, KCSO precinct 4**
- Update that three days prior, in West Seattle with the help of a warrant seized sizeable amount of drugs and unregistered-firearms. County is supporting more healthcare, behavioral mental health, and chemical dependency rehab programs being available.
- Weight in pounds of drugs out of circulation; children and families impacted in protective care; animals at rescue shelter.

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- Pictured with Assistant Furry, one of King County's police dog members.
- Believed that some of these drugs made it to Vashon and West Seattle.
- In the Search warrant, they arrested 3 people, took one child into protective custody, 3 large birds in protective custody, as well as Dogs in protective custody.
- Huge problem with Fentanyl Overdoses.
- KCSO is not going after addicts, they are going after the serious bad business people.
- With 6.1 pounds of meth taken, fentanyl, opiates and others is going to create a vacuum. The 360 view of the vacuum to bring supplemental resource services in to help get/keep people off of drugs and dangerous behaviors.
- Special Detective team consists of 5 undercovers, for Vashon, Burien, Skyway.
- KCSO is meeting with more community service providers, such as recently with The Vashon DOVE Project talking about DV (domestic violence) support services for victims and survivors of coercive control and dangerous power and control dynamics that aren't just "black eyes and bruises", KCSO can also help with de-escalation.
- **Questions read by member David Vogel previous member of KC Prosecutors office:**
 - What kind of training is given to the officers for doing DV arrests or DV police visits; what kind of training do the officers get for that?

- Answer: The King County Sheriff’s department is one of the most progressive trainers on DV consciousness. Officers are dealing with victims that can’t always speak about their issues. KCSO Local Academy is 6 months, and they focus 3 weeks on dv interviewing and investigating, with ongoing training.
- Responding to a call, talking with people individually, separated, referencing what dispatch indicated from the original call, checking in with what neighbors are saying. Officers arrive going in observing what is going on, is *someone being threatened, is someone being oppressed?* (We) teach deputies to have open ended statements that often unfold long-term abuse.
 - Unfortunately, people are abused and do not always know how to articulate their experiences, and we have resources in our community, like DOVE, to help with communication support.
- The Major mentioned Mandatory Arrest policies for DV, depending on probable cause, including if someone prevented the 911 call or appears as a credible threat, they will have a mandatory arrest to protect others and deescalate the situation.
 - ❖ Major Jeffrey Flohr can be emailed: Jeffery.flohr@Kingcounty.gov
 - ❖ If people are concerned about things happening in the neighborhood, you can call the ten digit phone number 206-296-3311

Community Guest Speakers: Erik Pryne and Wendy Noble; two of five elected commissioners of Vashon Health District (some refer to it as “hospital district”) : Updates on SeaMar and access to Island health services www.vashonhealthcare.org How to make things more sustainable going forward.

- Vashon is within Washington hospital District number 5. A hospital district is a community owned/governed entity, initially set up in the 1940s to support rural and local communities to meet healthcare needs including Clinics and Rehab facilities. Washington has 58 public hospital districts, of which 31 have hospitals.
 - Mission of our Health District: to promote and maintain the health of the residents of Vashon and Maury Islands by supporting accessible quality healthcare through community partnerships, shared decision-making, transparency, and responsible stewardship of resources. (reducing the burden of the taxpayer)
 - With a focus on primary healthcare; care that is the first contact with the healthcare system: Family medicine, Internal Medicine and Pediatrics, advocate for patient wellness.
 - Focus on activities of wellness, and health promotion, identifying risk factors, acute health issues like lacerations and chronic health support.
 - The Hospital district is bigger than SeaMar, just focusing now to get that primary clinic established and stabilized.
 - Prenatal care to end of life.
 - ❖ Everyday ongoing primary care and triage to support our VIFR EMS to transport people to the mainland for urgent care.
- SeaMar has been running for 3 months now and feedback from the community is that customer services is good. Of the satisfaction survey’s 100% said overall satisfaction was good, 70% said excellent and 85% would recommend to friends and family.
- Health District has public meetings on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month, accessible through their website www.vashonhealthcare.org Ongoing feedback is welcome by their contact links.
- Forming a clinic relations committee, including Wendy and four members of the community of other providers groups, MRC, VYFS, VashonBePrepared, Vashon Community Care. To meet regularly to have updates and input to strengthen more connections with our island providers.

- Community Q&A:
 - There is an Xray at SeaMar
 - There is not currently a technician for a diagnostic Ultrasound as those are specialty services.
 - SeaMar Vashon is seeking a Lab Technician to join their team that can have a multi role.
 - To have “real urgent care” requires a population of 30k people. To run that parallel to the primary clinic is beyond our financial means. Most operate 7 days a week 12 hours a day, with enhanced services and additional providers, which would stretch us beyond what we can actually pay.
 - We do have a wonderful team of EMTs and Paramedics that can get people off the island
 - Providing a subsidy to fill in a gap from services and insurance to keep the entity going until they can gain long term stability.
 - In the future considering a foundation being established to have capitol fundraising. Contact with legislature to look at alternative sources of funding.
 - In 2020 they were facing a lot of the supplemental startup costs without the support of patients because of the impacts of the pandemic on healthcare systems and previous accessibility issues.
 - Local providers at SeaMar have no limit to what systems they can refer patients to. Whoever they refer you to will be in network so there won't be surprises. They are also collaborating with MultiCare.
 - There is an inpatient rehab facility and behavioral health services annexed on the mainland.
 - The number of patients needed and the types of insurance coverage compensation is still under question for the projected amount offset by future tax levy funding sources.
 - Universal Health Coverage, SB 1054, is advocating for Washington healthcare trust to provide financial means to everyone to have provided health care, community can write Senator Nguyen Washington to learn more about WA Health Care trust bill:
<https://app.leg.wa.gov/billsummary?BillNumber=5204&Year=2021>

Committee updates:

➤ **Transportation Committee Updates:**

Most recent committee meeting: “Active Transportation” focus for anything that is human powered, and includes electric bicycles; Walking, skateboards, bicycles, and usually mostly human powered.

- ❖ Focus of a recent WSDOT survey and there are potentials for grant monies to go towards local programs. Individual members participated in the survey and responded the survey which closed this day.
- ❖ Previous meeting with Tom Dean of the Land Trust, about the possibility of having a trail that goes from ferry dock to ferry dock, supportive of pedestrians and bicycles.
 - ✓ With increasing focus on non motorized transportation, the chances of getting a trail like that, will also include more enhancements and improvements, incremental improvements to those areas. And that is an exciting prospect to explore.
 - ✓ Can email Adam@vmicc.net to learn about or attend upcoming Transportation meeting

➤ **VMICC Communications Committee:**

Diane Emerson: [website team](#).

- Working on changing the home page to make it more of a landing page, so when someone shows up on the landing site get more information about what we are up to as a Community Council.

- Working on more quotes of important things to community members to show up on the site.

Camille Reeves: social media outreach team and publicity side of things.

- Has several people who are on social media, though looking for a volunteer who is on Instagram to help with more posts. Not a huge commitment, just once a month posting
- Would be helpful to have people on Facebook to like VMICC posts and repost to keep the feed post alive.

❖ To join the Instagram and Facebook team, email camille@vmicc.net to participate.

Things that don't fit neatly into those two sides of the communications, are the VMICC Logo and are working on that to share with the board and the community.

- **Ferry advisory committee:** a group of residents that act as a conduit between the community and the ferry system, a volunteer committee. VashonFAC@gmail.com

Justin Hirsch with updates:

- Service improvements, normally we would get our 3rd boat back with March 28 but that won't happen until May 9th, for an extended summer schedule to September 25th.
- Statistics in ridership: Declined 41%. The lowest since 1975.
- WSF started in 1951 with pedestrians, and likely because of Covid19 more cars. This is the first time that WSF carried more cars than people.
- WSF has a new secretary with a lot of WSDOT experience
- 1976 was ruled unconstitutional, which helped secure more funding for ferries for us.
 - ❖ The budget is funding for 5 new Hybrid Electric Olympic class ferries. Theoretically those would come online 2024 (at the earliest) if things go as planned.
 - ❖ Issaquah class ferries are in their 40s and they are aging and not going to live forever, working on a 6-year plan to fix as many issues on those boats as possible.
 - ❖ We know that Olympic class ferries can work on our triangle route.
- Fauntleroy dock project is still ongoing. There is a need to replace the aged pilings for seismic resilience. 3 keys of success for the island and for the triangle route in the Fauntleroy dock rebuild:
 - ❖ Dock capacity, sufficient to fill a boat.
 - ❖ Separated though not necessarily overhead passenger loading.
 - ❖ Traffic control on Fauntleroy Way.
- As the Issaquah class ferries suffer more with mechanical and maintenance repairs, we will likely need to advocate clearly for budget to support new ferries.
- Emily Scott also on the ferry advisory committee.
- Function of the ferry advisory committees' role is also to be a liaison between ferries and our community both ways.
- Personal goal to increase individual participation.
- Update when ferries are doing public outreach events, and outreach efforts.
- Bridging the voice for those who may not have access to the ferries with internet or language barriers.
- Inter community politics, coupled with multiple municipal governing bodies that deal with that one dock.

If folks want to give feedback to WSF, there is an email address. Helpful to reach out to legislatures directly, generally advocating for the governor's budget.

wsfcomms@wsdot.wa.gov

- **VMICC board updates:**

- Seeking to appoint 2 more board members.
 - We have some very good candidates, and would appreciate more candidates, in particular ones that can reach out to underrepresented communities of the island. We thought about appointing someone at the last meeting but didn't want to rush, so are holding it open for another month, and then to make a recommendation for approval at the next community council meeting.
 - Let us know if you have someone or are someone yourself, we have an application form, it is on the website you can fill it out there or email us.
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➤ **Community Announcements and Open Discussion:**

- As the previous housing committee became Vashon Household single handedly taking on the projects of low income housing issues, there is an interest in a VMICC Affordable Housing Committee to supplement the efforts and to lobby for more funding and fill in the need of support.
 - Tanya Roberts offered there are different ways that an Affordable Housing Committee can work with the county to lobby for code exemptions, Accessible Dwelling Unit permits and to change some zoning requirements for more housing to be built.
 - “We need housing for the people who work and live here”
 - Those interested to participate are encouraged to email info@VMICC.net
 - Another island issue is industrial and commercial zoning on the island and exploring appropriate locations. “There needs to be a sufficient amount of industrial zoning for the products that we need that are not appropriate in residential areas”
 - King County roads is doing repairs on the Judd Creek Bridge to include a detour for the month of March.
 - King County roads has a proposed speed revision from 45 to 35 or 45 to 25 for the road South of Burton toward s Inspiration point, comments and feedback can be filed online.
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- **Next Meeting:** Monday, March 15, 2021, from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm via WebEx
- **Adjourn:** The meeting was adjourned at 8:54 pm