

VMICC Affordable Housing Committee

Draft Minutes 20 May 2021

The committee met via zoom at 7:00 on 20 May 2021. Present were: Claire Newman, Armen Yousouffian, David Vogel, Arliene, Coco Carson-Rohe, Tanya Roberts, Terry Sullivan, Rita Schenck, Kyle Britz, James Robinson and Michaela Ollavari.

The minutes and agenda were unanimously approved.

We discussed the portfolio of the committee. There were several potential groups that could benefit from the committee's work: Low income persons, seniors, homeless, those with mental health issues, renters, house owners.

There was discussion about the expressed desires of the community vis-à-vis housing, including: racial/ethnic diversity; economic diversity; water quality preservation (e.g. with respect to septic systems); and water availability. Past estimates of potential population capacity for the island as limited by water issues were about 20,000, about twice the current population.

There are several organizations on the island that we need to work with, including: Vashon Household, VMICC water protection committee; VMICC communication committee; Interfaith Council to prevent homelessness; the Methodist Church (which is currently feeding and supporting many homeless).

Both King County and the State have resources we can tap into. There are also regulations that present barriers to solving the problems.

We decided that we need to develop a coherent document laying out the scope of the problem, including available housing statistics, available resources, barriers, and the range of potential solutions.

Clair Newman agreed to coordinate the development of the document with assistance from all committee members. Each member should bring a one-page document to the group next week laying out the area of their interest, which individuals have volunteered to cover, as shown below:

- Coco: Outreach
- Michaela: communications (especially with the VMICC committee)
- Rita: Statistics
- Terry: Vashon Household (seeking what information they can share)
- Tanya: Options for housing
- Arliene: plan for outreach to seniors

Rita will set up a google docs and if people have completed their on-pager ahead of time, they can post it there. She will send the link.

Our next meeting will be in one week using the same login information as before. We will meet weekly until our work is clarified and the committee work becomes more standardized.

Prepared by Rita Schenck, Chair.