



November 15th, 2021

7:00-9:10 pm
Online, using Zoom

Meeting called by: Vashon-Maury Island Community meeting

Type of Meeting: Virtual Council

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

Platform Host: Nicholas Simmons

Minutes: Kyle Britz

Attendees: 67

David Vogel	Jill Janow	Armen Yousoufian
Diane Emerson	Mariel Thuraingham	Jean Berolzheimer
Nicholas Simmons	Yvonne Kuperberg	Steven Bergman
Douglas Ostrom	Douglas Ostrom	Steve Macdonald
Michael Laurie	Kristen Smith	Noah Roselander
Bong Sto Domingo	Chip Giller	Suzanne Roselander
Nicole Sanders	Kerstin Smith	Heidi McWatters
C. Hunter Davis	Fran Brooks	Stephanie Barbee
Camille Reeves	Rob Harmon	Lisa Chambers
Evy Horton	David Hoffman	John Taylor
Justin Hirsch	Sheila Brown	Kyle Britz
Melvin Mackey	Linda Moore	Terry Sullivan
Gavin Kovite	Mike Magrath	Peg Staeheli
Cherry Cham	Jane Piston	Seth Zuckerman
John Osborne (Oz)	Rob Piston	Ward Carson
Dr. Steve Nourse	Nancy O Connor	Bill Lyell
David Van Holde	Terry	Michaela Ollavari
Jo Ann Herbert	Mark	Kevin Jones
Peter Rubin	John Affolter	MRH
Will Lockwood	Debby Jackson	Phone anon 1
Ellen Kritzman	Virginia Lohr	Phone anon 2
Tag Gornall	Todd Myers	
Christina Aurther	Jim Diers	

Meeting recording:

Videos archived on our website and will be uploaded to a VMICC YouTube channel, www.vmicc.net

To view :

https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/9PKd7nE6kPDdrZqffzoWP8GBfTJr31IYhqWY4wk4Dt_3lZssgo7do2vlvNeZRzHO.N82WrW1GtwK0byWX

Passcode: 90D1&4df



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General housekeeping for the Zoom platform: You may turn-off your video, please rename your profile to your first and last name for attendance. Contact Diane Emerson or Nicholas Simmons if you have any technical assistance needs during the meeting. Reminded that when voting from the phone, the caller will need to unmute and identify themselves by name and vote verbally and audibly to be included in the count.

Quorum: reached at 7:02

Meeting Agenda: reviewed and a community member *requested that the agenda be amended to provide an additional 10 minutes for 2 specific individuals* he had invited to voice their opinions beyond the 2 minutes each that had been allotted to everyone who came prepared to speak. After much discussion and clarification for the process, the motion for *the amendment as proposed* was taken to a vote and was decided by a majority that each person wanting to speak on the motion would equally have 2 minutes each.

Review October's General Meeting Notes: Minutes Approved

Introducing Recognized Guests (non residents):

Bong Sto Domingo, KC Local Services

John Taylor, KC Local Services

Nicole Sanders, KC Green Building Principal Planner, Permitting Division

Todd Myers, Washingtonpolicy.org, Free-Market Environmental Policy

Old Business: Motion to Vote upon:

“The Vashon-Maury Island Community Council (VMICC) is concerned about the climate, and understands that greenhouse gas emissions from buildings is the number two source of climate pollution in Washington State. Because of this, the VMICC endorses approval of updated building codes being considered for approval by the King County Council. These new building codes would restrict most uses of fossil fuels in new commercial and large multifamily buildings in unincorporated King County.”

Motion: was reviewed with time for attendees to comment, 2 minutes each, a filibuster ensued, and the motion has been carried to the following general meeting of the community.

- Many informed speakers addressed positions and information both for and against the motion.
 - Majority of the commentors spoke in favor of the motion and some used their time to address the comments of other commentors.
 - Majority believe that the endorsement would encourage clean infrastructure going forward that did not rely on fossil fuels, which is in alignment with the County and State's goals.
 - Many of the speakers have experience in the field.
 - Key points:



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- Healthcare concerns of fossil fuels and the impact on humans and our environment, concerns of dangerous hazardous fossil fuel leaks, explosions, escaped emissions, and safe drinking water.
 - The economy, addressing concerns of equitable access, cost vs value, both short-term and long-term economics and human life.
 - Carbon trading vs Carbon neutrality vs Environmental welfare, and eco-gentrification.
 - Job creation, and maintenance.
 - The importance to know how the electricity is being generated as well as the fabrication components, not to be nimby and think holistically.
 - Thermo dynamics, engineering, and efficiencies of technologies for buildings.
 - How building codes impact a 20-to-50-year infrastructure, and the cost of future retrofits to meet the known new energy grid that PSE has informed us it is transitioning to, to build to meet those standards now.
 - Climate change, trauma, and community solidarity.
- All speakers, both invited and present, were requested to add any additional comments in writing to Board Vice President so that they could be added and available for later reading on the VMICC.NET website.
 - A community member voiced there was a bias of the topics presented at the meetings that have been presented, and the council responded that everyone is welcome to offer other topics for future meetings, through the proper channels at the Board meeting - where the agendas are set, or during the Open Discussion portion of the meeting.
 - A vote was called after all who wished to speak each had their 2 minutes and it was interrupted by a community member claiming that this council was not capable of making such a vote to represent the voice of the island.
 - Discussion was had regarding %s of voter turn-out in perspective of the island, and reference to the intention of the community council as a body.
 - Discussion was had regarding the meaning behind the process of voting and the intention of this topic.
 - Discussion was had posing the question if the Housing groups have had *adequate time* to weigh in on their thoughts for the impact of this endorsement.
 - Discussion was had regarding the articles of incorporation of VMICC and if the 501c status impacted the ability for the motion to move forward.
 - A response was resounded that: *“since [vmicc] doesn’t get any money from the govt, we are basically just expressing our freedom of speech, as a group or as an individual, we are just a group of people expressing our opinions.”*
 - And an echo of: *“we are not lobbying for politicians; we are trying to represent the voice of Vashon for issues that impact us”*
 - Many had to be reminded of the rules of attendance and decorum, or that they may be subject to being muted or asked to leave the meeting, as they were talking over the Chair and Secretary.



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- A motion was called and seconded to **postpone the vote**. 30 voted to postpone and 4 voted to take a vote on the motion as written and published, at the meeting. Those that voted created a majority toward postponing the vote on the motion.

Committees:

- VMICC Annual Treasurer report:
 - \$600 was spent in the year of 2020 for the operations of VMICC, all of which was donated directly from the Board members. Included expenses towards: USPS post office box, previous WebEx accounts, paper fliers printed, articles of incorporation.
 - For 2021, budget proposed includes Zoom account which is currently being donated by the Chair, the USPS Post Office Box, printed paper fliers of the meetings, possibly recovering the 501c6 status, and if considering in-person meetings will include venue rentals, adding up to near \$1,000.
 - There are some ideas towards generating some revenue, otherwise it stands that the fees may come out of Board members pockets again.
 - Any questions, email to VMICC Treasurer **Nick@vmicc.net**

Presentation : *John Taylor, KC local services*

- The average numbers of Covid cases of 280/day are going down across the county, heading in the right direction.
- Mindful of the winter weather with prolonged rains and wet and the hydrologic river; be wary of more landslides –call KC Roads to report anything that needs attending to 24/7 Road Helpline 206-477-8100
- Vashon Community Van is for anyone who doesn't have a car but needs transportation support. A great service with not much cost, though you need to arrange in advance with another rider.
- Litter can receptacles and maintenance. The commercial core of Vashon is working on some collaborations with KC Local Services that seem manageable, working in earnest for finalizing of contracts; with 9 cans in total, 5 in upTown Center, 2 Town South (Roastery and VCA) and 2 in Burton Township.
 - Q: would they include recycle bins or all in one?
 - A: at this time just for garbage as Local Services. Past experience has been recycling cans generally become litter as people may contaminate them. We will start with Garbage bins and work towards recycling bins.
- New Pedestrian walkway at the intersection near the Preschool and Senior Center. Community members of all ages are asked to use them to remind and encourage drivers to slow down and be alert driving through the town.

New Business:

- *Kevin Jones*: A new motion was made to adopt the words written and signed by many Islanders in the recent Vashon Beachcomber article addressing recent racist language harmfully written on uptown structures, and islanders standing up for racial injustice and



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helping to cultivate an equity policy for VMICC that we will not stand for degradation of fellow people.

- “As Islanders who believe in the dignity and humanity of all, we are outraged by the racist language splattered across shelter tables and elsewhere at the Village Green and on an uptown building. This act was cowardly and anonymous, serving no purpose except to intimidate, wound and divide. We will not stand for this denigration of our fellow islanders. The Vashon-Maury Island Community Council celebrates our community’s increasing diversity and commits to address racial justice and equity issues that are brought to the Council.
- Much discussion was had on the topic, including if it should lend itself to be an Equity Committee of the VMICC (or a Harmony committee) and increase diversity of membership of our council, how we conduct ourselves and to reflect on the statement. Motion seconded by Justin Hirsch.
- *Armen Yousoufian*: A Motion was presented that the VMICC begins general monthly meetings with the “Pledge of Allegiance to the United States of America”, motion seconded by Michaella Olavarri to be discussed at the following meeting.

Ferry Advisory Committee: *Justin Hirsch*, daily ferry commuter, VashonFAC@gmail.com

- WSF decided with the uncertainty of how many staff employees would be available to regularly work, to provide a more reliable consistent service by keeping to the 2 boat schedule for our triangle route, rather than having to potentially cancel more sailings on the 3 boat schedule.
- Fauntleroy Dock Project has an advisory group with scheduled meetings, open attendance over Zoom, and minutes are posted on <https://wsdot.wa.gov/construction-planning/major-projects/sr-160-fauntleroy-terminal-trestle-transfer-span-replacement#Engagement>
- Fauntleroy traffic has been impacted, with ferry commuters, roads, and the detours including the West Seattle Bridge project.
- The Fauntleroy Dock, currently holds approx. 80 cars, while the Issaquah class ferries hold 120 cars. All three communities on the Triangle Route could be better served if the dock could hold the full capacity of the boat, to unclog Fauntleroy Way. Environmental concerns were mentioned for any dock adjustments for the impacts on the Eelgrass and Salmon. Neighbors residing near the dock may have issues themselves with any alterations.

Zero Waste Vashon Presentation: postponed to present at a later meeting with the time constraints of this meeting having gone longer than planned, as it was 9:03pm.

Open Discussion:

- A community member voiced their concern that a vote could not be taken as there was question to the status of the VMICC’s non-profit status, and a long discussion was had regarding 501 options, with strong opinions that maybe 501c4 would be a better fit in reflection to the direction the meetings had been going and what has been hosted on the VMICC website. Community member Bill Lyell offered to meet with Board President and others outside of the meeting so as to help better direct options for 501 status in relation to what the VMICC is and could be, as well as consideration if the articles of incorporation need amendment. Much reflection on what the previous VMICC iterations



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had been and which 501c status they had chosen, and what constitutes a Public Charity, Social Welfare, Lobbying, Endorsing, and coming together as a community in this open Town Hall model of a community council.

- “Special Interest virtue signaling”, members of this council should consider if these items brought before us have “any real connection to Vashon”.

Next month meeting Monday December 20th

Meeting adjourned 9:10pm.