

# January 17th, 2022

7:00-8:52 pm  
Online, using Zoom



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

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

**Platform Host:** Nicholas Simmons

**Minutes:** Kyle Britz

**35 Attendees:**

Armen Yousoufian  
Art Chippendale  
ASL Interpreter Suzanne  
Bill Lyell  
Bob Katica  
Camille Reeves – board member  
Dan Schueler  
David Vogel – board member  
Debra Gussin  
Diane Emerson – board member  
Emily Scott  
Evy Horton (MRH)  
Gavin Kovite – board member  
Heidi McWatters  
Hunter Davis (caroline hunter davis) board member  
Jan Stephens  
John Affolter – board member  
Justin Hirsch  
Kathleen Fitch  
Kevin Jones (he/him)  
Kyle Britz – board member  
Melvin Mackey (Sqababsh Land)  
Morgan Brown  
MRH  
Nicholas Simmons – board member  
Noah Roselander  
Rachel Rome  
Robert Piston  
Steven Bergman  
Suzanne Greenberg (ASL Interpreter Suzanne)  
Tanya Roberts  
Terry Sullivan  
Virginia Lohr  
Yvonne Kuperberg  
Phone In name unknown: 12064635355

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## **Meeting recording:**

Videos currently archived on our website [www.vmicc.net](http://www.vmicc.net)

Link available to view :

[https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/klyYaADJ40bkdc0QM2jaafRDMuSTbZ7UGkrK\\_QFEGnPzW\\_dJNtBiVm5kQKr4CXt5.qRVh-a4uAulPFaeS](https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/klyYaADJ40bkdc0QM2jaafRDMuSTbZ7UGkrK_QFEGnPzW_dJNtBiVm5kQKr4CXt5.qRVh-a4uAulPFaeS)

Passcode: 7eRV#gyB

**General housekeeping for the Zoom platform:** remember to stay muted unless speaking. If there are bandwidth connection issues, you may turn off your video when speaking. Raise your hand to be called upon by the chair, the “Raise hand” feature is can be found in “Reactions”. If on the phone, press \*6 to unmute, and the host can re-mute after. The Democratic Rules of Order are posted and available for reference at <https://www.democraticrules.com>

Speakers must be recognized by the chair before speaking. We will hear first time speakers before second time speakers so everyone has a chance to participate if they choose to.

**Quorum of 25:** reached prior to 7:06pm

**Special notice:** Tonight’s meeting is on Martin Luther King Jr’s birthday, a great hero in the civil rights movement, who gave his life to the good of the country, and our County was renamed in honor of his actions and living memory. Today is a national holiday in recognition of him, the movement, and an honor to be having a meeting to empower communities for civil rights.

**Meeting Agenda:** approved by the general committee present.

**Review December’s General Meeting Notes:** Correction to increase attendance by 1 and add Steven Bergman’s name, minutes adopted with that correction.

**Introducing Recognized Guests (non residents):** none recognized.

**Old Business:** There was a *previous motion* regarding “symbolic resolutions”; that motion has been withdrawn by the individual who presented the motion, to be taken up for discussion at a future meeting.

- Introduction and vote on filling the WSF [FAC] available Ferry Advisory Committee seat. After nearly a year of addressing this topic at the VMICC general meetings; at December’s meeting applicants were requested to send in their resumes. Reviewing the qualified and able applicants, the council reviewed the resume of and voted for Rachel Rome.
- A vote was called:

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## Ferry Advisory Committee

1. Should the VMICC appoint Rachel Rome to the FAC (Single Choice) \*

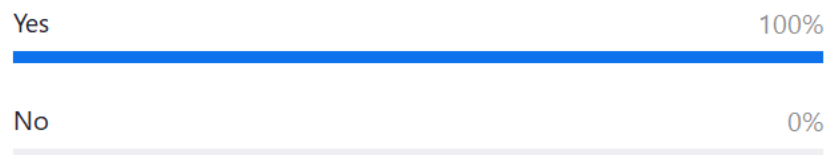
Yes

No

- 
- David will pass on the info to John Vezina with a letter to that fact.

## Ferry Advisory Committee

1. Should the VMICC appoint Rachel Rome to the FAC (Single Choice) \*



Your answer: Yes

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- 27 in favor and 0 vote against, everyone who can vote has voted.
- Representing the 3 seats for the **Vashon Ferry Advisory Committee**:
  - Emily Scott, FAC Vashon Chair
  - Justin Hirsch, FAC member and liaison
  - Rachel Rome, FAC newly appointed by VMICC
- Brief WSF FAC Update: See attached WSDOT and WSF slides and budget.
- <https://wsdot.wa.gov/construction-planning/major-projects/sr-160-fauntleroy-terminal-trestle-transfer-span-replacement>
- WSF is trying to dramatically reduce emissions of ferries and moving to hybrid electric and future plug-in electric ferries for the replacing the boats that are being retired.

**New Business:** 2022 brings the first major change and update to the nonprofit corporations act, with new rules and regulations changes. <https://app.leg.wa.gov/RCW/default.aspx?cite=24.03A>

- From a relatively small number of pages to something quite massive for nonprofits, there are strict notice requirements, such that we can no longer allow more than one member to vote from a single computer, if two or more people are at the same home, they need to have separate email addresses, one vote per email address.
- We need to redo the bylaws and policies, which provides us the opportunity to review them to what we would like, especially after experiencing these meetings virtually for the past year.

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- Info will be posted on VMICC.net that has been compiled and composed by Diane Emerson and Bill Lyell.
  - Being a 501c3 doesn't really fit what we want to do as an organization. We want to be able to lobby the county and the state, and a 501c4 enables us to do that work.
    - 501c4 is definition as: an organization is operated exclusively for the promotion of social welfare if it is primarily engaged in promoting in some way the common good and general welfare of the people of the community. An organization embraced within this section is one which is operated primarily for the purpose of bringing about civic betterments and social improvements.
    - We cannot simply change the wording of our Articles of Incorporation and file for 501c4 status with the IRS. They require a nonprofit to file for 501c4 within 60 days of incorporating, or pay fines of \$20 a day, up to a max of \$5000. Because we incorporated in June of 2020, our late 501c4 filing fees are now up to the max. It is much cheaper to start over with a new organization, and file for 501c4 status quickly after incorporation.
  - The 501Commons Project have experts to help us with this System Reboot and explained the situation, including much dialogue in this meeting by the membership present.
  - Why be a nonprofit at all? Organizing as a nonprofit, instead of simply a group of interested people supports the ability for insurance and support to those that gather, so that members are protected from any actions by the part of the whole.
  - Donations will still be able to be received, with the major difference being that they will not be tax deductible. We have kept our operations budget low.
    - Discussion of the council included: 501c4 status facilitates the opportunity for unlimited lobbying for rights, bills and other things that affect our island, and provide more power. As a council we can lobby at the capitol with a stronger unified voice and message for things that impact our community. We can have a community lobby day for important issues, and enhance our ability to help the island.
  - We will need to re-apply articles of incorporation and for a period of time have 2 council organizations on paper while we make the transition, but not to dissolve one before fully creating the re-iteration. This could take several months to a year, there is no strict time limit. The board would split monthly meetings in two, existing board can act as an interim board, so board meetings would also be split into focusing on both the old and new organizations.
  - At some point membership will be invited from the current mailing list as well as open to all Vashon residents to participate (we can collectively review eligible ages).
  - We all get to decide upon the new bylaws.
  - And we are not officially a 501c3, as we were still going through the legal process of that. While we had previously intended to be a 501c3, we were acting as a nonprofit corporation while we had been waiting for that approval process.
  - More information will be published in the Beachcomber.
- Motion made by Diane Emerson and seconded by Justin Hirsch:

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“I move that we begin the process to create a new community council with 501c4 status, and that the current board of directors act as the interim board of the new council, until elections are held for a new board in October of this year.”

- This will be voted upon in February.
- First step will be choosing a new name that cannot be too close to our existing name as we are currently registered for articles of incorporation we need to select a new name for the new organization we are hoping to be.
  - A few names proposed and with a brief straw poll as follows: 16 for Vashon Maury Council, 9 for Vashon-Maury Civic Council, 5 for Vashon Council, 4 for Vashon Council of the Community, 3 for Vashon Town Hall.
  - Discussion: should “Maury” be included in the title, would it feel strange if it wasn’t? Does “Town Hall” have a different context for conduct?

**New Business:** With tonight’s meeting being on the day honoring our community’s Civil Rights, and with our previous meetings’ discussing hate crimes and forming an equity council, we have the opportunity to host the King County Deputy Prosecuting Attorney’s on Hate Crimes community education outreach team to inform us what the laws are, what support is available and facilitate a Q&A.

- Would we like to invite speakers to discuss this at a future general meeting?

## **Straw Poll Regarding Hate Crime Presentation**

1. Should the VMICC host a presentation by KCDPA Bannick on Hate Crimes (Single Choice) \*

Yes

No

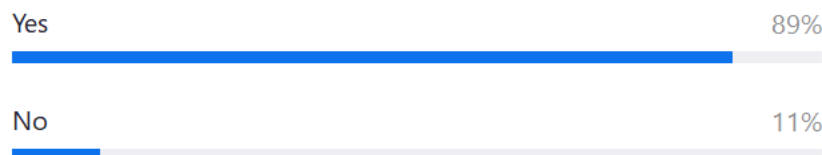
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## Straw Poll Regarding Hate Crime Presentation

1. Should the VMICC host a presentation by KCDPA Bannick on Hate Crimes (Single Choice) \*



Your answer: Yes

- We will invite them to speak at a future general meeting.

### Open Discussion:

- Evy Horton: Vashon Senior Villages <https://vashon.helpfulvillage.com/> is formally launching mid-February with a ceremonial ribbon cutting planned for February 15<sup>th</sup>, with a shared experience as the first national villages day and the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Village in Boston that ours is inspired by, may we plan to have a 20<sup>th</sup> celebration in 2042.
- John Affolter: Vashon Island School District performance study recap. An extensive PDF will be made available to review the content of the results. The whole process was brought on by the community and organizations of the community including the school district personnel. The results are a summary of statistics, broken out in various categories talking about performance areas of our island children, continued struggles for the disenfranchised, and those with challenges in learning and various other aspects, which are all available in the PDF.
- Hunter C. Davis: Several months ago Jo Ann Herbert spoke for the trees of the island on multiple occasions, and she has been connected with the Legacy of Trees project being facilitated by Hans Youngmann, and we are looking forward to getting updates on that. Hans can be reached by telephone 206-463-1718, or on the Facebook page “Big Ol’ Vashon Tree Love Society”.
- Steve Bergman: Reminder of the plethora of handy tools available to rent and borrow at the Vashon Tool Library. <https://vashontools.org/memberships/> With the recent weather and heavy rains, one family whose basement was flooding was able to borrow a sump pump from the library to pump out their basement! The Tool Library is open

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Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday, 3 days a week, and all tools are available online, with reservations available.

**Next month meeting** Next meeting is Monday Feb 21<sup>st</sup>.

Meeting adjourned 8:52pm.