

February 21st, 2022

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



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

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

Platform Host: Nicholas Simmons

Minutes: Kyle Britz

30 Attendees:

Amy Morrison
Armen Yousoufian
C. Hunter Davis -- board member
Camille Reeves
Christina Arthur
Danielle de Clercq -- King County,
Local Services
David Vogel – board member
Debby Jackson
Debra Gussin
Diane Emerson – board member

Douglas Ostrom
Evy Horton
Gavin Kovite – board member
Jane Piston
Jenna Riggs
Jim Garrison
John Affolter – board member
Kathy Ostrom
Kevin Jones
Kyle Britz – board member
Lorraine Chambers

Melvin Mackey (Sqababsh Land)
Michaela Olavarri – board member
Nicholas Simmons – board member
Rachel Rome
Rob Briggs
Robert Piston
Sue Shotridge
Virginia Lohr
Anonymous: Samsung Galaxy S7

Access to meeting recording:

All Video Meetings archived on <http://vmicc.net/meeting-minutes/> &
<https://www.youtube.com/“Vashon-Maury Island Community Council”>

Recording currently available to download & view for 60 days:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/fBLVRzk1qBI3Gy9dcjoLYqtqPJoxiL67weyisA3r-gjGWy74HOGO1S28vEoFQPeu.VPoP99DoptqTSDt>

Passcode: 1586HJT@

General housekeeping for the Zoom platform and our meeting:

- ❖ Please remain muted unless speaking.
- ❖ Try to limit one Computer login per household *or if multiple* to log in from different rooms to reduce static.
- ❖ If there are bandwidth connection issues, you may turn off your video.
- ❖ Raise your hand to be called upon by the chair, the “*Raise hand*” feature can be found in “Reactions” on this platform.
- ❖ If joining from a *phone*, press *6 to unmute to speak, 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.

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- ❖ We will hear first time speakers before second time speakers, so everyone has a chance to participate if they choose to.

Agenda: of Feb 21st meeting, reviewed without amendments.

- unable to 'approve', re-address when quorum of 25 members present.

Minutes: of January's meeting, referenced for comment and any amendments.

- unable to 'approve', re-address when quorum of 25 members present.

Quorum not reached: the 22 members present at this moment had no objection to continue the meeting as listed and when a quorum is reached to return to the items for a vote.

Old Business:

- 501c non-profit options for our Council status, research and information presented by Diane Emerson
- 501c4 status offers the ability to Lobby the County and State for issues that affect our island.
- Reviewing the impacts of the 2022 State updates to 501c's, and why we are pursuing 501c4 through a new organization:
 - A time limit of 60 days to fully register chosen 501c4 status *after existing as an organization*, after which every day without proper completed registration includes a penalty fee of \$20 per day up to \$5,000.
 - We have been acting as the named organization VMICC "Vashon Maury Island Community Council", though since initially filing the articles of incorporation with the Secretary of State there have been many holdups in the process –which have much exceeded the 60-day terms during covid restriction related issues, reaching the maximum penalty fees if we wish to apply now for 501c4 status and continue as the current organization named as VMICC "Vashon Maury Island Community Council".
 - Reviewing the updated 501c statutes and reflecting on the direction and growth that this organization of our community council has been developing, it has been recognized (thanks to the efforts and wisdom of Bill Lyell and the tireless work of Diane Emerson consulting with *501cCommons* and other *Corporate Law Attorneys*) that 501c4 is a better fit for this organization.
 - To adjust our 501c status, would include slightly renaming our organization, with an opportunity to assess our Policies, Procedures and Bylaws (*which Diane Emerson & C. Hunter Davis have been editing and rewriting to present at an upcoming general meeting*) for a 501c4 iteration of this organization.
 - This will save us a \$5,000 fine for a 501c4 status with the name of Vashon Maury Island Community Council or similar.

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- 501c4 status allows us to act in clear ways to leverage our voice and lobby.
- Our organization's name and logo must be modified a certain percentage to be eligible for re-application with the Secretary of State.
- Whereas 501c3's are tax deductible for donations, there are restrictions to the ability to lobby and it is classified as a "Charitable" organizations; Whereas 501c4's are classified as organizations for "Social Improvement and for Social Betterment".
 - *There are options to have a 501c4 primary status that umbrellas a 501c3 branch, that have been mentioned at previous meetings.*
- Our [Annual Budget \[presented at the October Meeting\]](#) and the previous iterations of this organization have always run on a shoestring budget of basic funding going towards:
 - Venue Rentals
 - Printing -agendas, minutes, flyers
 - Online Host portals: ex WebEx & Zoom
 - PO Box
 - WA SoS fees of 501c
 - Organization insurance
- Explored *Officers Insurance* options: receiving a few quotes for some policies (including one at \$95/month) and have consulted with other community councils for reference. John Affolter is exploring and negotiating quotes.
- A survey will circulate to everyone on our e-mail list to re-assess membership and query new council names to vote upon.
- Proposed names we are considering, but not limited to:
 - Vashon Community Council
 - Vashon-Maury Island Civic Council
 - Vashon-Maury Community Council
 - Vashon-Maury Island Council
 - Vashon Council
- *The Proposed motion tabled for review until Quorum is reached*

Guest Speakers: Updates from King County, presentation by Danielle de Clercq, [Local Service](#) –filling in for John Taylor & Bong Sto. Domingo, as this meeting falls on a federal holiday:

- Recommendations to sign up for the Local Services and Unincorporated Area Councils of King County newsletter: <https://kingcounty.gov/depts/local-services/newsletter.aspx>
- **Vashon Community Needs List** is accessible to prioritize needs, and address issues of importance: <https://publicinput.com/G3607>
 - **Flyers** should be arriving in peoples' physical Mailboxes soon with the Vashon Community Needs website link & list that you can log in to prioritize issues of need, and provide a method for islanders to help write and prioritize how the **budget is allocated for Vashon**, as well as offering a clear picture for the County to address the needs and influence their budget for Vashon services by Vashon residents.

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- King County Local Services will be holding a **“Your Voice, Your Choice” Vashon Town Hall on Thursday March 17th** to discuss and prioritize the budgetary items available for Vashon.
 - **The opportunity to rank-vote these items is not limited** to that evening --individuals can log into the website (presently) and place their votes, priorities, and any new ideas.
- The King County Town Halls with all UACs (unincorporated area councils) will be held in March to review each community’s priorities for what can be implemented and funded in this upcoming budget as well as the next biennium cycle.
- **Updates on KCSO (King County Sheriff's Office):** The Executive Council as per last year’s vote, has elected a temporary interim Sheriff *Patti Cole-Tindell* as of late 2021 who will be in that position until the final appointment.
 - It still stands that **we together as a County are “reimagining public safety”** and to ensure that there are collaborations and infrastructures for the right people to respond to situations, especially when there are mental health issues involved on incident responses to diversify the responders’ resources. –VMICC member Bailey de longh PSAC3@kingcounty.gov has a seat on the *King County Advisory Committee for Public Safety* and has spoken at previous meetings.
- Q&A with the VMICC members:
 - Q: Who do we contact about attending to and fixing Potholes in the roads?
 - A: Contact [King County Roads](http://KingCountyRoads.com) 1-800-527-6237, to address, assess and fill the potholes as soon as they can.
 - Q: Many of the physical offices of the County have been closed during Covid and people have been telecommuting –will those regional location offices re-open for in person assistance?
 - A: As many have discovered during this pandemic, the environment is benefitting from less traffic, from people not having to drive long distances unnecessarily also increase safety and unclogging the roadways; these departments have been working remotely and telecommuting still answering the same volume of calls; some of the physical locations will close down though there will be a physical location that people can go to in person that will include multiple UACs, there just won’t be multiple individual ones in as many areas, creating more satellite offices in a few locations.
 - Q: from Doug Olstrom: Where do we stand with the Firework bans and how they will be enforced – especially regarding public lands and public parks –before there are fires and injuries?
 - A: [FireWorks were banned in 2021 in King County](#). Department of Local Services is working on a plan of enforcement that they will present to the executive Council.

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- For 2022 at a minimum the process will be: if you call in a complaint there will be a call and follow-up with a warning system as the current idea, with a clearer picture of methods for implementation of citations in the next year.
- [The King County Council](#) will need to approve the process, and the discussions are ongoing.
- Q: Will Vashon be formally invited to participate in the Comprehensive Plan update? Does King County want for the Community Council to have a committee to address this? Will this include the Town Plan, and its zoning for density?
 - A: A lot of outreach will happen nearer to 2024, and expect to hear about it slowly and incrementally. Some nearby localities, such as Skyline, North Highline and Snoqualmie are beginning to work on their [Sub Area plans](#), whereas [Vashon's](#) was adopted in 2020.
 - A: The County appreciates input coming from a thoughtful group.
 - A: The Vashon Town plan will not be revisited at this time, though if there are issues it is important to address them, whether it be for zoning or density or so forth. The town plan is more of a subarea plan, whereas the Comprehensive plan does affect the rural/urban boundaries. The Comprehensive plan is part of regional planning and based within the Executive Office.

Quorum: reached at 7:39pm.

Agenda approved.

Minutes approved.

Old Business: Motion:

- *"The Vashon-Maury Island Community Council is to begin the process to create a new community council with 501c4 status. The current board of directors shall act as the interim board of the new council, until elections are held for a new board in October of this year. Because of the importance of this action, this motion shall require a 2/3 affirmative vote to pass."*
- Discussion:
 - Summary of the benefits of 501c4: there will be no limits as to what laws we can support and lobby for at the county and state level that will benefit Vashon Maury Island residents. For example, we can present and lobby for changes with the WSF ferries; we can bring a motion to King County; we are unlimited in our ability to lobby for our community members; Whereas with 501c3 we would be limited for what we could say regarding different laws. 501c3 is a charitable organization established to give money to help people. That is not what this organization has set out to do. This organization better aligns with 501c4 for social improvement and social betterment, and

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that we can speak to other organizations in ways to help the people that live on Vashon Maury Island.

- Friendly amendment to the proposed Motion by Melvin Mackey and seconded by Kyle Britz, to read definitively as:
- “*The Vashon-Maury Island Community Council is to begin the process to create a new community council with 501c4 status. The current board of directors shall act as the interim board of the new council, until elections are held for a new board in **October of 2022**. Because of the importance of this action, this motion shall require a 2/3 affirmative vote to pass.*”
- Vote on Motion as written at 7:46pm:

Untitled Poll

1. Should the VMICC pursue 501 (c) (4) status? (Single Choice) *

Choice 1 Yes 100%

Choice 2 No 0%

Your answer: Choice 1 Yes

Committee updates:

- **Housing:** Michaella Olavarri speaking as board liaison and committee member (Chair absent) – The committee is gathering data and working in focus groups to present the data at next committee meeting, with hopes to present to the general council and request King County to allocate funds to implement an updated survey of the island’s Housing needs, as their [previous info was from 2018](#).
 - Michaella Olavarri, Tanya Roberts and Hunter Davis have composed extensive information on various demographics and details regarding housing related issues and will be sharing that information with the committee to address next steps.
 - Some theoretical solutions were mentioned to explore.
 - There are plans to request funding from King County to help facilitate crisis funds for doing a housing needs survey to residents of Vashon Island.
 - The committee meetings are generally the 2nd Mondays, though recent meeting fell upon Valentines Holiday, and was rescheduled to Monday February 29th, to be held over Zoom.

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- **Equity Committee:** Interim Chair Kevin Jones, Kevin@indivisiblevashon.org The first meeting will be held on ZOOM Wednesday March 2nd at 6pm.
 - To be included in the meeting please contact Kevin for the ZOOM address.
 - The agenda proposal is light, as 20 people have voiced interest at the initial meeting everyone will share what brought them to the table to bring humanity and passion to the committee efforts.
 - The committee is beginning to address the goals and objectives for creating an equity policy for the council.
 - The second meeting will have more structure based off the first meeting, and more logistics such as who would like to be a committee member and voting for the chair will commence.

- **FAC Ferry Advisory Committee:** Information shared by Rachel Rome, WSF FAC.
 - There has not been a FAC meeting since the last VMICC meeting.
 - The Attorney General is having a briefing with the FAC members March 3rd to address their interpretations of the Public Records Act and how it pertains to the FAC. Furthermore, due to those interpretations there has been some confusion with WSF and a lack of coordination among the various FACs that they are eager to address and move forward with more collaborations among the Ferry Advisory Councils across the Salish Sea.
 - After that meeting, they will be able to schedule more meetings.
 - Q: are there any updates on the 3 hour waits between ferries?
 - Q: are they addressing: Improving Loading, Ticketing, and community relations for the WSF Triangle Route?
 - A: https://wsdot.wa.gov/sites/default/files/2021-11/evans_school_fauntleroy_study_12_20_18.pdf
 - Islanders wishing to directly voice their thoughts and dreams of the Ferries are encouraged to sign up with the Ferry Riders' Opinion Group, FROG, established by www.WSTC.WA.GOV
<https://wstc.wa.gov/programs/ferry-riders-opinion-group/>

New Business:

- One of our board members Camille Reeves, who has been a very participative and active Secretary for this organization, has submitted her resignation from the board because she felt her limited volunteer time could be spent elsewhere. Her resignation letter was read at the meeting.
 - Those interested in applying for the vacant board seat for the remainder of the board term Feb-Oct, can do so via email by contacting Diane@vmicc.net
- Chair David Vogel voiced that Co-Chair Diane Emerson is being supported in transitioning to lead this and the new organization.

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- For the 501c4 iteration, the Articles of Incorporation, and the draft of the new bylaws and standing rules will be shared in a GoogleDoc for the community to read and provide input and thoughts. People will have plenty of time to read and provide input.
 - The basic requirement for being a member of the VMICC is being: 1. A resident, and 2. Being 16 yrs old.
 - Having a minor on a committee as a committee member or on the board is something not recommended, can be discussed further.

Open Discussion and Updates:

- Kevin Jones: King County Land Use will be hearing Unincorporated King County Building updates, which the VMICC has voted on, Feb 22nd, and several VMICC members will be speaking at the meeting.
- Amy Morrison: Saturday March 19th there is a Lamp-O-Rama, where Islanders can get broken lamps fixed -for Free! Sign up at <https://vashonfixit.com/>
- Debby Jackson: Asks when the King County Sherrif's Office (KCSO) will speak again, stating in many corners of the Island there have been multiple car thefts and prowling around homes for months. What is suggested by KCSO for what to do before this problem gets out of hand?
 - Other members echo lots of car break-ins happening as well as prowling around people's homes
 - Clerk reminds members that if KCSO is not responding how you would like, that our Precinct Major joseph.hodgson@kingcounty.gov 206-263-2102 and our Precinct Captain peter.horvath@kingcounty.gov are receptive to feedback and direct communications to help explore options to address these issues and what resources they may need to do so.
 - Chair and Co-Chair share the *Local Services and KCSO alternating schedule* for the ability to speak with them during the VMICC meetings.
 - March 21 - Major Hodgson or Captain Horvath—KCSO
 - April 18 - John Taylor –he is on vacation. May be a substitute –Local Services
 - May 16 - Major Hodgson—KCSO
 - June 20 - John Taylor - holiday for John Taylor. May be a substitute—Local Serices
 - July 18 - Major Hodgson—KCSO
 - August 15 - John Taylor –Local Services
 - September 19 - Major Hodgson—KCSO
 - October 17 - John Taylor –Local Services
 - November 21 - Major Hodgson—KCSO
 - December 19 - John Taylor –Local Services

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Extra acknowledgement and thank-yous to Diane Emerson for taking this council forward.

Next meeting March 21st .

Meeting adjourned 8:23pm