



Vashon-Maury Community Council: Community Meeting Minutes for Nov 16, 2023

Link to Zoom Recording:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/rec/share/5oKGDIDiNjnincrCrijq2gWbpLqFhbKzZEdiTjh-qU6FsdfMQYq42cOHwqqo6l7rl.9UTdhITUj91erNbl>

Passcode: !e3LcH+5

If this link no longer works, go to our YouTube channel and you will find it there: <https://www.youtube.com/@vashon-maurycommunity3890/videos>

Board Members Present: Diane Emerson, Ben Carr, John Affolter, Debra Gussin, Jessica Anakar, and Jamilla Stigall

7:00 Meeting Called to order by Diane Emerson

7:05 Land Acknowledgement read by Debra Gussin

Member Quorum reached

Agenda for meeting reviewed and approved.

Minutes from previous meeting approved.

Guests include Teresa Mosqueda and Megan Jackson

Community Happenings

1. Halloween
2. Native American Heritage Month
 - a. Support indigenous tribes: CHUM CHUCK EVENT
Chum Chuck-<https://vashonnaturecenter.org/calendar/chum-chuck/>
If participating, folks need to register in advance.
When: November 29th from 1:30- 3 pm, we will get the 12:10 ferry off Tahlequah
Where: Clear Creek
Vashon Nature Center volunteers will help Puyallup Tribe Fisheries and Port of Tacoma replenish salmon nutrients in a tributary of the Puyallup by “chucking” spawned out chum carcasses from the Puyallup Tribe hatchery onto the stream banks.
 - b. Sunday November 19th at 5pm Seattle Indian Health Board will host a Native American Heritage Month Fundraiser at the Vashon Center for the Arts (VCA) located at 19600



Vashon Highway SW, Vashon WA 98070.

Tickets are available at the door by donation (\$15 suggested donation).

Programming will include:

- An art exhibit that highlights work from Abigail Echo-Hawk
 - SIHB residential treatment facility plans will be displayed.
 - Passed appetizers
 - Silent Auction
- c. Truth and reconciliation tribal advisory committee formed
 3. Turkey Trot November 23rd
 4. Art Studio Tour

7:15 Megan Jackson Interim Assistant Director for Environmental Health, on new WA state laws on Septic Systems

Here is a link to her presentation: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ey_F9eSQAkL1zNs93I1de8KCU6DikS0Y/view?usp=sharing

1. Proposed statewide changes to septic systems
 - a. Role of Septic Systems
 - b. Soil to treat wastewater
2. Advancements in Septic Systems
 - a. Newer OSS technologies provide higher wastewater treatment
 - b. Routine maintenance
3. State expectations
 - a. King county local code approved through board of health
 - b. More restrictive than state code
 - c. 12 months to incorporate codes at local level and meet state requirements
4. How state implements new codes
 - a. Established rule revision committee
 - b. Committee developed proposed changes
 - c. Covid affected states plans
 - d. Available for public review for 90 day period
5. Six Big topics changing at the state level
 - a. Beginning in 2027 all OSS must be inspected when property is sold or transferred
 - b. No permits needed for minor repairs
 - c. Review remediation policy
 - d. Increased minimum lot sizes
 - e. County required to update Local Management Plan Requirements
 - f. New requirement for people who work on septic systems

Learn more about septic systems www.kingcounty.gov/oss

Questions

1. Jenny Bell
 - a. Is drain field barrier considered new development?
 - i. no



- b. Laundry to landscape permits question for king county chief plumbing inspector, alleges oversights.
 - i. Further research needed
2. When will county adopt rules?
 - a. State to adopt rules in February or March
 - b. County has 12 months after state to adopt at local level
 - c. Storm water not included
3. Mark Mckallor
 - a. Is there alignment with other similar Puget Sound Counties?
 - i. Yes, there is regular discussion to address quality, consistency and implementation of regulations

7:35 Teresa Mosqueda District 8 Representative to King County Council

1. Grateful for Vashon's continuous support
2. Teresa@TeamTeresa.Org
3. Regulating short term rentals
4. Enhanced frequency of water taxi
5. Small Metro busses for Vashon
6. Work to enhance access to and from Vashon Island

Questions

1. Jeff Snells
 - a. Road maintenance and water taxi concerns
 - i. Reliable transportation needed for work force
2. Jenny Johnson (VYFS)
 - a. Invite to Vashon Social Service Network

7:50 Kevin Jones, 2024 Vashon-Maury Environment and Climate Agenda Motions

1. 2024 Vashon-Maury Environment & Climate Agenda Addendum:
https://docs.google.com/document/d/1hjh-wsXKnl0017qeJ-3DI-GoF4AsD89jBj9U-aE9ck/edit?usp=drive_link
2. Motions on the agenda for December council meeting for discussion to be accepted or rejected. All motions were seconded, and will be voted on at the December meeting.
 - a. **Motion #1:** Vashon-Maury islanders place a high priority on protecting the environment and addressing the climate crisis. The Vashon-Maury Community Council requests our WA State legislators approve legislation to urgently fund, plan and implement projects to replace the energy, transportation, and irrigation services currently provided by the lower Snake River dams as part of a comprehensive strategy to restore a healthy river; protect salmon and orcas from extinction, and uphold our nation's promises to Northwest tribes. This legislative action is a priority goal of Save our Wild Salmon.
 - b. **Motion #2:** Vashon-Maury islanders place a high priority on protecting the environment and addressing the climate crisis. The Vashon-Maury Community Council requests our



Washington State legislators approve legislation to achieve these outcomes. The following legislative actions are priority goals of the Vashon Climate Action Group:

- i. Remove specific impediments to community solar projects and assure new rooftop solar owners receive full credit for the energy they generate.
- ii. Establish a method for energy labeling of existing residential buildings which could be used as a condition of sale.
- iii. Major industry groups have stated their desire to weaken Washington's landmark cap and invest law (the Climate Commitment Act) in the 2024 legislative session. We urge our legislators to reject those proposals, as they will only serve to delay the ongoing transition to cleaner and less expensive transportation fuels based on renewable electricity. Any legislative relief from high fuel prices should focus on enhancing clean transportation options for those in our state with the greatest financial need.
- iv. Protect Washington State consumers from funding the political activities of their electric utilities

c. **Motion #3:** Vashon-Maury islanders place a high priority on protecting the environment and addressing the climate crisis. The Vashon-Maury Community Council requests our Washington State legislators approve legislation to achieve these outcomes. The following legislative actions are priority goals of Zero Waste Vashon and the Vashon Fix-it Café:

1. Assure producers are financially responsible for the lifecycle of their products and comply with minimum recycled content criteria.
2. Assure consumers have the right to fix their own devices by expanding access to manufacturers' parts, tools, and information.

d. **Motion #4:** Vashon-Maury islanders place a high priority on protecting the environment and addressing the climate crisis. The Vashon-Maury Community Council requests our Washington State legislators approve legislation to achieve the outcomes below. The following legislative actions are priority goals of Solutionary Rail, a project of Backbone Campaign, in coalition with other rail advocacy groups forming the Rail Can't Wait Campaign:

1. Redirect Climate Commitment Act funds for rail projects implemented by 2030-2035.
2. Revise the rail curve over I-5 near Dupont and build the 110 mph track for Amtrak Cascades.
3. Plan for barge replacement on the Lower Snake River in southeast Washington with a benefit cost analysis of short line rail between Pasco and Rosalia due in December 2024.
4. Revive passenger rail service from Seattle and Auburn to Ellensburg, Yakima, Tri-Cities, and Spokane.
5. Electrify rail yards - Replace dirty diesel locomotive engines.
6. Enhance Washington State's rail planning and management capacity: Create a Dedicated Rail Office and Rail Advisory Group.



8:00 Update on Fauntleroy Ferry terminal with Justin Hirsch

1. Washington State Ferries (WSF) is planning to replace existing terminal at Fauntleroy
2. Hoping for terminal that can hold 180 cars
3. Fauntleroy Terminal Project Website: <https://wsdot.wa.gov/construction-planning/major-projects/sr-160-fauntleroy-terminal-trestle-transfer-span-replacement>
4. Fauntleroy Terminal Project community engagement email: FauntleroyTermProj@wsdot.wa.gov
5. See Justin's presentation here: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Y81RRQcNnEiZD2oIgtzk1beZcDkZ7NdS/view?usp=sharing>

Questions

1. Additional Walking length
 - a. Roughly 300 additional feet
2. Why would there be objections from Fauntleroy community to expansion?
 - a. Fauntleroy Cove community may want to see less dock more water

8:20 Ben Carr presents V-MCC Accomplishments for 2023

1. Rallied record-breaking numbers for Community Needs List Survey
2. Succeeded in getting 6-month pilot program for garbage can installation
3. Cosponsored King County Candidates Forum
4. Hosted Seattle Indian Health Board Members
5. Increased traffic safety on island by persuading King County to make certain changes
6. Welcomed King County representatives from agencies throughout the county
7. Helped advise the county on Vashon Maury Sub Area Plan for 2024 pushing them to reject the implementation of fee in lieu proposal that will allow developers to get out of building affordable housing if they just pay a fee to the county
8. Resolution to protect environment and climate in Olympia, 5 recommended passed bills this last session
9. Grew membership and mailing list by 30%
10. Tabling around the island
11. Shortcake at festival
12. Became a member of a coalition unincorporated councils

8:23 John Affolter 2023 Budget Projections and 2024 Proposed Budget

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1qKI5LDOxUevUdXL-1tSoQ_M-TIOHcqPu/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=105837948183187539964&rtpof=true&sd=true

Motion to approve budget made by John Affolter, Second Debra Gussin

Vote will take place at the December meeting.

8:31 Lilian Abelha, new board member



Intro and vote postponed

8:32 Postal Update

1. We currently have Full capacity staff at post office
2. Amazon asked to not send packages to post office and use other methods per Erika Turnbull
 - a. [Article in Beachcomber](#)
3. Meal train for postal delivery workers or treats welcomed
4. Reflective address signs are available from Vashon Fire and Rescue
5. Melvin Mackey reported mail theft on Old Mill Road
 - a. Concern to be addressed at next meeting

8:35 Community Announcements

1. New board president at Mukai farm and garden
2. Dec 10 winter open house 4-7:30
Mukaifarmandgarden.org
3. James and the giant peach at Vashon Center for the Arts (VCA)

8: 37 Open Discussion – Jenny Bell, jennybell111@protonmail.com on Puget Sound Energy (PSE)

1. Save our trees
 - a. [ipetitions.com/petition/save-our-trees-no-to-pse-land-grab](https://www.ipetitions.com/petition/save-our-trees-no-to-pse-land-grab)
2. PSE
 - a. PSE cut down tree while homeowner out of town without notice
 - b. PSE contacted various homeowners to sign over rights of easement
 - i. PSE is asking for homeowner to give over private property
 - ii. Danger to trees
 - iii. Private property should be maintained and gain knowledge of easements
 - iv. PSE is a fully private company
 - c. Next Steps: Community Council to invite PSE to future meeting to explain their policy on trees and easements, answer questions.

8:56 Next meeting announcements

8:57 meeting adjourned

Minutes by Jamilla Stigall