



Approved Minutes of June 20, 2024 Vashon-Maury Community Council Meeting

Last update: August 17, 2024

Location: Land Trust Building and on Zoom

Land Trust Building

10014 SW Bank Rd, Vashon, WA 98070, USA

YouTube Recording of the Meeting: <https://youtu.be/qye844loU24>

Times are approximate.

Minutes taken by Jamilla Stigall, Secretary

6:30- 7:00. Refreshments at the Land Trust and Informal welcome to the meeting as people joined the meeting.

Meeting Attendees: 49 in person at the Land Trust, 58 on Zoom or phone, for a total of 107

7:01 **Formal Welcome** (call to order) – Diane Emerson. Acknowledge Board Members present: Ben Carr, Debra Gussin, Diane Emerson, Elena Camarillo, Milla Stigall, Jessica Anakar, and Tammy Dye.

7:03 **Land Acknowledgment:** Debra Gussin

7:04 **Approved minutes** of the last meeting: [Minutes from May 16](#)

7:05 **Introduction of Guests** (anyone from KC or off island) Meagan Jackson, Public Health Seattle & King County, Teresa Mosqueda, our 8th District Councilmember, and her staff member Chris Lampkin

7:06: **Community Happenings, Island Celebrations:**

Today is the longest day of the year! Dig Deep Solstice Celebration 5-10 pm both Friday and Saturday.

June 22:Fixit Cafe from 10-2 at the Eagles Club

June 22-23, Vashon Garden Tour, 10-5 both days. Tickets at Vashon Center for the Arts.

July 1, our [midday foot ferry runs](#) begin: Departing Vashon at 9:25 am, 12:00 noon, 1:30pm, 3:45pm, all summer, all this year. The new Mobile Integrated Health service of Vashon Fire and Rescue now provides taxi vouchers, so people can take the foot ferry to Seattle midday, and a taxi to their doctor's appt.

7:10 Open Discussion: What's On Your Mind? What Issues Do You Want Us To Cover?

1. Steve Bergman introduced a motion for the members to consider:

"Vashon Maury Islanders care about protecting the climate. Initiative 2117, which will appear on the November ballot, would allow climate polluters to resume polluting our air and water for free. The Vashon-Maury Community Council opposes initiative 2117 and commits to adding our name to the list of coalition partners on the No 2117 website in support of the motion: <https://no2117.com/>

The motion was seconded, and will be voted on at our August 15 Community meeting.

2. Katy Ballard made a statement about the Seattle Indian Health board not having permission to operate as they plan under the current zoning, and introduced a motion: "I move that our Vashon community council inform King County Councilmembers and the Executive that Vashon residents must be given their legal right to a public forum about this new zoning that would allow drug rehab and psychiatric hospitals in any residential neighborhood on Vashon." The motion was seconded, and will be voted on at the August 15 Community meeting. Several attendees contributed to the discussion which followed, and the members were informed that we are planning a full hour at the September 19th meeting for the community to discuss the Thunderbird Treatment Center.

3. Celina Yarkin announced that she is launching a monthly poll of the community regarding issues on Vashon Island. She will be tabling in various places, and on Facebook to gather answers to the polling questions, and she will post the answers on a website for the community council and others to use. She will take suggestions of issues to poll.

4. Jenny Bell announced the petition for undergrounding or on-grounding power lines on Vashon-Maury Island. Here is the link she provided in the chat for the petition: <https://chnq.it/rSdftvBKwD> One can also reach Jenny at jennybell111@protonmail.com

Note: The public comment was closed and at least 2 persons were unable to speak to the Council. They were Margaret Bickel and Carolina Nurik

7:30 Results of Board Retreat, Where To Next for Community Council

Debra Gussin summarized the retreat with the result that we really want this council a forum - a town hall where people can dialogue about issues of importance and agree and disagree with respect and civility. These changes are already being put in place. With elections of the new board taking place in October, it is time for people who want to help make this community council the best it can be to step forward and run for a position on the board of directors.

7:50 Health Care District Update, and Q and A, Tim Johnson

Tim gave an update on the background work done to come to a proposal accepted June 19 by the Health Care District commissioners. It's a proposal for a behavioral health program for children - a one year pilot project with ongoing commitments should it work out. It has 3 parts:

1. Adding a 1/2 time counselor in the elementary school
2. Working with DOVE fund a full time acute needs counselor in the high school
3. Adding a social worker who will be specializing in wrap services: things like case management and dealing with family issues. This social worker will also develop a needs assessment for the commissioners.
4. The last piece of the proposal is a part time data specialist to help us implement some family surveys and tying all of the surveys that we are already doing together to develop a strong database and some metrics about performance of therapy and needs.

Questions and discussion followed. Several people were in favor of having another vote by the public on the role and function of the Health Care District. Please see the video recording for an interesting and thoughtful discussion, and concerns raised.

8:20 Community Heritage Trails - Steve Bergman Discussion and vote

The motion was read:

“WHEREAS, Vashon-Maury Island heritage trail community groups installing interpretive signs celebrating local history are proposing a King County sign code exemption be added to King County sign code section 21A.20.030 to allow these signs on private properties and in non-obstructive road right of ways in our local communities;

THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Vashon-Maury Community Council support the efforts of Ellisport and Burton communities to seek exemptions to the King County sign code in order to move forward with their heritage trail projects.”

Steve Bergman opened the discussion of the motion and provided more background on it. Several people spoke in favor of the motion, and several spoke against the motion because of concerns over increased traffic and safety issues (Ellisport), no community input (Burton), and suggesting that the signs be available on a cell phone rather than physical.

After the discussion and questions, the vote was taken, and the motion passed: 76 yes, 19 no.

The motion will be sent to King County by our Corresponding Secretary.

8:40 **Community Updates** : Meagan Jackson of King County gave a [septic system announcement](#) of changes, and requested that attendees complete a survey about King County policies on septic system management in the following areas: **Certifications & Oversight, Land Use & Development, Design Specifications, Repairs & Remodeling, and Operation & Maintenance.** See this website for more info: <https://www.kingcountyoss.info/> Take the survey [here](#). It will be available through August.

9:00 **Next Meeting**: NOTE: WE WILL NOT BE MEETING IN JULY. Instead, we will be at the Strawberry Festival, with info on Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs), info on the PSE Activity, and a fundraising raffle! So our next meeting will be Thursday, August 15. Confirmed topics for August: Tricia Davis, King County Roads, on Clear Zone Road Standards, and call for nominations for the Community Council board (a new board will be elected in October).

Meeting Adjourned