



Approved Minutes for April 18, 2024

Vashon-Maury Community Council Meeting

Approved at the May 16, 2024 meeting

Last update: April 28, 2024

Location: Land Trust Building and on Zoom

Land Trust Building

10014 SW Bank Rd, Vashon, WA 98070, USA

Number of Attendees: 47: 30 on Zoom, 17 in person. Board members present: President: Diane Emerson, Vice-President: Debra Gussin, Corresponding Secretary: Jessica Anakar, Board Member: Ben Carr

Zoom Recording of the Meeting:

https://us06web.zoom.us/rec/share/ygbpoYup_Pjas7oAnhyexHHrp1YZIAD4ftIzfSFYJiM9NAC7OKFdKcr1DwGY0dK.X_7iA_D7SolxhCEJ

Passcode: s!+1ub85

Once the recording has been loaded onto our YouTube Channel, you will be able to see the recording here: <https://www.youtube.com/@vashon-maurycommunity3890>

Minutes taken by Jamilla Stigall, Secretary

Note: times are approximate, in case you wish to find the discussion on the recording.

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

7:01 **Formal Welcome** (call to order) – Diane Emerson.

7:03 **Land Acknowledgment:** Ben Carr

7:04 **Approved minutes** of the last meeting: [Minutes from March 21](#)

7:05 **Introduction of Guests** Anjilee Dodge, Economic Alliance Program Manager, King County, Bong Sto Domingo, David Daw, both from King County Dept of Local Services

7:06: **Community Happenings, Island Celebrations:** Earth Day is April 22. But Saturday, April 20 Dig Deep Gardens is hosting a celebration from 12:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. Activities include a terrarium building workshop, poetry readings, and storytelling, music and song offered by islander Michael Meade. Booths at the event will include the Whole Vashon Project, Vashon Heritage Museum, the Vashon Land Trust, Zero Waste Vashon, the Septic Sisters, the Mukai Food Hub, Vashon Nature Center and more. Moving into May, the Spring Vashon Island Visual Artists (VIVA) Studio Tour May 4-5, and May 11-12, from 10 am to 5pm.

7:07 **VIGA update: Catherine Johnson** - Update and questions. Click [here](#) to see the presentation

7:17 **PSE Advisory Committee update and motions.** Background: The PSE Activity Advisory Committee was initiated as a response to Puget Sound Energy (PSE) upgrading activities on island, impacting street frontage trees and vegetation that provide a buffer between private property and our roads. As part of our activities, it has been confirmed that every pole on island is currently on a 'clear zone' program with King County (KC) Roads, requiring infrastructure to be moved 10ft back from the 'fog line' (edge of the road). In general, this moves infrastructure off the public Right of Way (ROW) and onto private property and PSE's easement acquisition program has ensued, with utility easements involving rights to clear all trees and vegetation. This program has clear implications for street frontages, vegetation and property rights for the whole island.

The following motions were presented for discussion, moved and seconded. We will discuss them further and vote on them at the May 16th Community meeting. As usual, we give the community a full month to think about motions before we take a vote on them.

Motion 1: "The Vashon-Maury Community Council (V-MCC) calls upon PSE to restore property rights enshrined in statute into new easement agreements entered into with Islanders, including updating the language of PSE's Standard Overhead Easement Clause #4 to mirror the language of RCW 64.12.035(1)(c). In cases involving potential threats to PSE's systems by vegetation, RCW 64.12.035(1)(c) requires that PSE "attempts written notice by mail... indicating the intent to act or remove vegetation and secures agreement from the affected property owner of record for the cutting, removing, and disposition of the vegetation." Right now, PSE's Standard Overhead Easement Clause #4 eliminates the requirement that PSE obtain, or even attempt to obtain, a property owner's agreement. Out of respect for Islanders' property rights, that should change."

Motion 2: "The Vashon-Maury Community Council (V-MCC) calls on King County (KC) Department of Local Services (DLS) to present a community wide public briefing summarizing the KC Roads 'clear zone' program."

A third motion on this topic was moved and seconded, and will be voted on at the May 16th community meeting:

Motion 3: The V-MCC asks that KC not require PSE to “bring all non-compliant old poles into compliance” with the King County 'clear zone' program (which PSE is choosing to do through easement acquisition) until this issue has been through a thorough public consultation process, allowing Vashon-Maury islanders the opportunity to express their preferred options to address Vashon’s unique needs as an island.

7:35 **Unincorporated King County Economic Alliance program** - Anjilee Dodge click [here](#) to see the presentation

7:50 **Introduction and vote on new board member Tammy Dye**

8:10 **Trash Can Discussion-** Amy Drayer, Chamber of Commerce, Bong Sto Domingo, King County. The trash can idea was initially proposed by the Chamber of Commerce during COVID, and was worked on by Jim Marsh, who was then the Executive Director. When Jim left the Chamber, there was no one to champion the idea. The community council was asked to keep the idea going, and David Vogel continued discussions with King County to see if it was possible. Bong Sto Domingo worked to get a trial set up, to see if it would work for the community. Over the winter, there were times when the trash cans were not emptied in a timely manner. That took place during a transition from one group to a second group to pick up the trash. Those problems have been solved, and now the trash cans are emptied twice a week. Amy Drayer, current executive director of the Chamber of Commerce, interviewed a number of businesses that have the trash cans in front of their businesses, and recorded no complaints, now that the cans are being emptied more frequently. When opened for questions and comments, there were no complaints about the trash cans from any meeting attendees. The trial of the trash cans ends in June, 2024. There is funding from King County to keep them going.

8:25 **Community Meeting Chats** - A discussion was held about whether to include chat for the Zoom attendees, since the in-person attendees are not able to participate. The Zoom attendees want to keep the chat. That is a benefit to them. The in-person attendees benefit in other ways not available to the Zoom attendees: primarily through connection to each other before, during and after the meeting.

8:30 **Vote on Resolution Supporting Islanders for Ferry Action, IFA** - This motion, introduced at the March meeting, was read and passed.

Vashon Island residents have been burdened by a ferry transportation crisis that seriously affects our livelihoods, health access, and local small businesses.

Whereas, the Vashon Island Chamber of Commerce launched the Islanders for Ferry Action (IFA) initiative in 2023 to address the growing Washington State Ferries crisis through an advocacy campaign of educational outreach to state and county decision-makers.

Whereas, IFA has rallied islanders to inventory the effects of the crisis on our community and develop over 50 potential solutions that could help alleviate the crisis, published in the November, 2023 community report: "An Island in Crisis, Focused on Solutions."

Whereas, the Vashon-Maury Community Council is a vital community organization advancing community voice, empowerment, and action;

Therefore be it resolved that the board of directors and the Vashon-Maury Community Council joins the Islanders for Ferry Action campaign as a community partner in support of IFA's valuable work.

This resolution in no way commits the Council to a specific action or binds the organization financially in any way, but is a pledge to support the mission and goals of IFA to be expressed in manners suitable to the Vashon-Maury Community Council.

8:35 **Vote on Vashon Town Planning Committee Resolution**-David Vogel
Please go [here](#) to see the resolution which was passed at this meeting.

Vashon-Maury Community Council

Vashon Town Plan Committee Recommendation

Approved on March 7, 2024 by the board of directors for consideration by the members

Approved April 18, 2024 by the members of the Vashon-Maury Community Council

The Vashon Town Plan Committee recommends that the current Executive proposal, which gives density bonuses in Vashon Town exclusively to affordable housing be changed as below:

NEW SECTION. SECTION 23. There is hereby added to the chapter established in section 21 of this ordinance a new section to read as follows:

B. New or substantially improved residential or mixed-use developments shall provide affordable dwelling units, and may exceed the base density allowed in the zoning classification, in accordance with the standards listed below.

Mandatory Affordability Requirements		
Occupancy Type and AMI	Minimum Percentage of Total Units Required to be Affordable	Maximum Density (as percentage of base density)
Developments with 9 or fewer units DELETE	0%	100%
Rental at 60% AMI	100%	200%
	20%	150%
	10%	125%
Rental at 50% AMI	100%	200%
	15%	150%
	7%	125%
Owner Occupied 80-120% AMI	100%	200%
	30%	150%
	15%	125%
Any combination of 80-120% AMI (Owner) and 60% AMI (Rental)	100%	200%
	25%	150%
	12%	125%
Rental at 60% AMI	100%	200%
	20%	150%
	10%	125%
Rental at 50% AMI	100%	200%
	15%	150%
	7%	125%

The Committee further recommends that the height restriction be changed from 35 feet to three stories.

For more explanation of the approved recommended changes, please contact David S. Vogel, Attorney at Law

Chair, Vashon Town Plan Committee
 dsvogel.atty@gmail.com
 206-291-7494

8:45 **2024 Legislative Results:** Kevin Jones. The Community Council voted to support various environmental groups’ legislative priorities at the December 21 meeting. Here is a link to the collection of [motions passed at that meeting](#).

Kevin reported on the results of the State Legislative session, related to those motions. Few passed this year. [Link to his presentation](#)

8:50 Community Updates:

Omar Malik, Camp Sealth. Camp Sealth has 400 acres of pristine land, and is beginning an outreach program to connect more with the Island community. The Community Council board will be holding its board retreat there on June 9. Camp

Sealth is creating an Island pricing structure for the rental of its rooms, and has plenty of room in all of its day camps for children. <https://campfireseattle.org/>

Yve Susskind, Child Care Project and Survey

Vashon Youth and Family Services is conducting a study on child care on the Island. Vashon-Maury is a child care desert. Only 8% of childcare need is met on our Island. [click here](#) for her slides. Here are the links to the survey:

Child Care Survey

Parents, Guardians, Caregivers with children 0-14 please tell us about your child care needs.

This is Project Child Care's PHASE 2 Survey, moving into solutions.

English: <https://forms.office.com/r/MEpPJR8wy4>

Spanish: <https://forms.office.com/r/4nywNPt9h>

Yve's request to the community at large:

Everyone - Start thinking about how you can help

Employers can create family and childcare friendly workplaces

Businesses can invest in childcare on site or throughout the community

Philanthropic community can help raise funds to subsidize solutions

Collaborate to address training and bureaucratic obstacles that becoming a provider

Help find space for central location for child care

Advocate for policy change

9:00 Open Discussion

Steve Bergman: We need a new mechanism for the entire community to voice their opinions about decisions that are being advanced by the community council for the good of the community. This will be discussed at the upcoming board retreat. Kevin Jones will meet with Steve to discuss ideas.

March Twisdale: Recommended that King County set a minimum number of people to vote on issues before they take guidance from the Vashon-Maury Community Council, and that the V-MCC always find minority and contrary voices

before pursuing a goal. This will also be brought up at the board retreat.

9:10 **Next Meeting:** Thursday, May 16, 6:30 pm Mingle with refreshments. VIFR, Chief Vinci, on the Community risk reduction program. Further discussion and Vote on PSE Advisory Committee Motions, other topics that will arise between now and then.

Adjourn