

KINGSTON CITIZENS ADVISORY COUNCIL
Meeting Summary
September 1, 2010

Present

Denise Lietz, Co-Chair, Member At Large
Walt Elliott, Parks Trails & Open Space and WSF Advisory subcommittees
Rick Lanning, Kingston Stakeholders
Rick Jones, North Kitsap School District
Dave Wetter, Village Green
Annie Humiston, At Large, Roads Subcommittee
Naomi Maasberg, Member at Large
Tom Waggoner, Kingston Chamber of Commerce
Alex Thomsen, Kingston Kiwanis
Clint Boxman, Kingston-North Kitsap Rotary
Betsy Cooper, Member At Large

Excused

Greg Platz, Co-Chair, School Parent
Steve Heacock, Carpenter Lake/Creek
Mary Ann Harris, Kingston Garden Club
Nancy Martin, Downtown Business Association

Not Present

Liz Henden, Kingston Farmer's Market
Jan Richards, Friends of the Kingston Library

Kitsap County Representatives

Rebecca Pirtle
Jeff Smith, DCD

Meeting called to order at 7:05 p.m.

Introductions were made.

Minutes

The September 2010 minutes were approved. MSP.

Correspondence: None.

Special Presentation – Kitsap Regional Library: Susan Lavin, librarian, and Jackie Aitchison, library trustee, presented information on current library events and the proposed library levy. Susan discussed the library's "One Book – One Community" event, which features the book "Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet" by Jamie Ford. Susan and Jackie presented information about the levy election, which will be on the November 2 ballot. They explained that the levy will increase the library's levy by 13.5

cents per \$1,000, resulting in the average homeowner's property tax increasing by \$2.70 per month. The request includes funds to build a new library in Kingston, as well as one in Silverdale. It also includes restoration of library hours and enhanced funding for library collections.

County Report: Jeff Smith discussed the changes to the County's parking ordinance applicable to Kingston. The Board of Commissioners remanded the previous revisions recommended by the Downtown Master Plan Subcommittee to the County staff. The staff has conducted additional research about the land supply in Kingston's Urban Village Core and the parking needs that would be associated with development of that **area** over time. Jeff hopes to discuss the results of this additional work with the Downtown Master Plan Subcommittee during the week of October 11. The staff is working to complete this effort prior to the end of this year.

Old Business:

CO-CHAIR POSITIONS: No council member volunteered to fill the two vacant co-chair positions. Walt Elliot suggested that, if the council continues to have difficulty in filling the co-chair position, the council amend the bylaws to have a rotating chair responsibility. The council also discussed the duties and responsibilities associated with the co-chair position. In order to more-smoothly transition to new co-chairs, Denise Lietz volunteered to serve an additional year as co-chair. The council will continue this discussion at the November meeting.

OPEN SECRETARY POSITION: Denise Lietz reminded members that the secretary position remains open and encouraged them to spread the word. The council discussed additional methods available to recruit a new secretary. There is a \$50 per month stipend associated with this position.

KINGSTON OPEN HOUSE PLANNING DISCUSSION: The 2010 Kingston Open House is set for Wednesday, October, 27, 2010 at 7 pm at the Kingston Middle School. Greg Platz and Steve Heacock report that the planning for this event is going well.

Subcommittee Reports:

Parks & Open Space – See attached written report provided by Walt Elliott.

WSF Committee – See attached written report provided by Walt Elliott.

Roads – Annie Humiston reported that there is not much going on with respect to roads in Kingston.

Downtown Kingston Master Plan – Presented as part of Kitsap County Report.

Community Reports

Kiwanis – Alex Thompson reported that the Kiwanis are getting ready for the fall food drive.

Village Green – See attached written report provided by Dave Wetter:

Friends of Library – No report.

Downtown Kingston Association – No report.

Rotary – The Rotary finished its budget through June 2011. There will be numerous community efforts supported by Rotary grants, including new blood drive signs (already being used), \$3,000 to improve the co-op preschool, \$2,000 to a local scholar and funding to support the Village Green.

Schools – Kingston High School will be celebrating Homecoming with events during the week on October 11. Rick Jones reported that enrollment in the district is down this year, which will have negative budget implications. In addition, state funding for schools is also down. As a result, Rick expects that class sizes in the district will remain high for the foreseeable future because of these funding challenges.

Chamber of Commerce – Tom Waggoner reported that the Chamber and the Kingston Stakeholders are getting ready to install a trails map on the opposite side of the sign in downtown with the Kingston map. On October 23, from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m., the Chamber and local community churches are sponsoring a First Responders Tribute at the Bayside Community Church. Kingston Country Christmas is planned for December 11.

Carpenter Lake/Creek – Naomi Maasberg reported that a rowboat has been found in Carpenter Creek and that the County plans to remove it. On Monday, October 4, the Board of County Commissioners announced that the new bridge will be named the “Stillwaters Fish Passage.”

Stakeholders – Rick Lanning had nothing additional to report.

Kingston Farmers Market – No report.

Garden club – No report.

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 pm.

Next meeting: November 3, 2010.

Additional Reports:

KCAC Ferry Advisory Committee and Parks Trails and Open space Sub-committee Report October 6, 2010

Ferry Report

Kingston Ferry Meeting

23 Kingstonians showed up for a briefing and discussion with WSF on the ferry schedule. It was recognized that the schedule change has significantly improved on time performance. Afternoon summer commute periods still have unacceptable on-time performance. Addressing this OTP issue should be done by improving operations and not reducing runs.. The priorities of those present were:

- Increasing the number of runs in the summer and on holidays. Eventually assigning a summer third boat to address the large Edmonds back-ups.
- Improving of the on time performance of afternoon commute's sailings. Getting terminal and boat crews to take ownership for having good on-time performance
- Restoration of a third boat sailing between 5 and 6:30 PM on the weekdays
- Restoration of the late (10:35PM) Mon thru Thur and Saturday sailings.
- Restoration of the holiday ferry schedule
- Improvement the Saturday PM capacity to reduce back-us in Kingston

(see me for detailed meeting notes)

Washington Transportation Plan

The FAC made the following comments on the draft Washington State Transportation Plan (WTP) The comment period is open until October 15th.

- The Plan should avoid demand management strategies that would raise the cost, or reduce service for ferry dependant commuters and businesses. To raise the costs for these riders would have a significant negative economic impact on west Sound communities
- The 144-car building program should be included in the Plan. With the current lack of back-up boats it is essential to start building boats that can be effectively used throughout the system.
- A statement should be included that WSF capital funding should prioritize ferry construction over terminal capital projects. While some terminal projects may be needed to sustain service over the next decade the critical need is to rebuild the fleet and sustain its reliability.
- There should be a goal of finding innovative ways to increase capacity on high demand ferry runs. For example:

When not needed elsewhere use the back-up ferry to provide for summer overflow capacity on Kingston-Edmonds. This would both improve service and increase positive net revenue

Enclose the upper deck of the Bainbridge boats for more passenger capacity.

Build lower cost ferries to meet demand. The growing gap between demand and capacity continues to negatively impact Kitsap county's economic development and quality of life.

- The plan should acknowledge the need for the development of regionally run passenger ferry services. This need for passenger ferry service in west Sound communities was well established by the PSRC's passenger ferry study.

Passenger Vessel Association (PVA) Expert Panel Report

The PVA completed an extensive study of Washington Ferries and delivered a report with 36 recommendations. Many will likely drive legislation in the 2011 session. The FAC has prepared comments on the report and recommendations and will e-mail them out to KCAC if desired.

Parks Trails and Open Space Report

The committee suggested several projects to Scout Troop 1555 as potential Eagle Scout projects/ We will be staffing a table at the Open House with maps and photos; we will also display NKTA materials at our table.

Our November 1 meeting will be a pizza and planning session; we hope to attract some new volunteers and plan for 2011.

Village Green Report

- 1) The Foundation Board hosted a visit from Washington House Speaker Frank Chopp, last at the site in April 2008. He was appropriately impressed by what the community has accomplished. The Board's application for \$1M in state grant funds earned as status of #12 out of 22 projects to be recommended for funding to the legislature in January. The Speaker said that this standing was very favorable for our success.
- 2) Board members are supporting the library levy – its passage will mean the library begins work on a new branch facility in Kingston soon. We have begun the process of site coordination with the library and the senior housing partnership (Martha & Mary and Shelter Resources, Inc.). We are also applying to Kitsap County for access to the RCO funds committed to the Village Green. These funds will help us launch site engineering work – very soon.
- 3) The Board plans a joint presence at the KCAC Open House with the newly elected MPD commissioners to thank the voters and share status of capital fund-raising. Four Commissioners will be sworn in that evening. Pat Pearson was sworn in by Speaker Chopp.