

Present:

Sarah Philley Obert, *Vice Chair*
Kristen Fabry, *Secretary*
Jay Christian
David Emmons
Caleb Reese
Wendy Kyle
Paula Wildes
Donna Hart
David Fergus
Kane Fenner
Kate Lawrence
Garth Steadman

County Representatives

Katie Walters, *County Commissioner*
James Bunn, *Policy Analyst*

Absent:

Ryan Wixson, *Chair*
Neal Gaulden
Brandon Myers
Gretchen Ritter-Lapatowski
Lauren Heidt

Meeting Called to Order

- Sarah Philley Obert and Kristen Fabry co-chaired, calling the meeting to order at 5:02pm. In all, 27 people in attendance.

Approval of the Agenda and the Minutes:

- Caleb Reese moved to approve, and David Emmons seconded, the August 6th Agenda. Caleb Reese moved to approve, and Kane Fenner seconded, the May 7th and June 4th minutes. The Council voted and both motions passed unanimously.

Community Recognition:

- Commissioner Walters recognized the upcoming 250th Anniversary of the United States of America and our local 2nd place award winner of the “America 250” contest, Madeline Johnson. Madeline answered the question, “What does America Mean to You” by painting an impressive original art piece of the statue of liberty entitled “Life Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness.” She plans to use the award money she earned to create business cards, a web hosting name, and purchase more paint supplies! Madeline brought her art piece to share with the CKCC and Commissioner Walters presented her with her county commissioner’s coin.
- Commissioner Walters introduced our new High School council representative, Garth Steadman. Garth is a student at Klahowya Secondary School. She also recognized and thanked our outgoing High School representative, Katie Lawrence, who is planning to attend UC Davis this fall.

New Business

Sewer Presentation: Presented by **Nick Martin, Senior M & O Manager, Kitsap County Public Works.** Nick explained that KC Public Works has determined it need to raise \$600M of Capital to support major infrastructure improvements over the next 20 years. \$300M of those investments need to be made over the next 6 years. Raising this amount of capital will result in a 12.5% rate increase. The biggest expenditure is a new \$200M solid waste treatment facility. The General Plan explored 3 scenarios to raise the rates. One included an 8% increase across the board and another included a cost-of-service adjustment with different rate structures paid per gallon of waste. Slides available on line for specific rate structures and details. Kitsap has 84 pump stations, which is the second highest in the State. We have 250 miles of pipes and 4 treatment plants. For comparison Bellingham is also doing major capital improvements valued at 2 trillion dollars with estimated 20% rate increases.

Old Business

Committee Reports / Announcements

- Donna Hart provided an update on the Community Center. The 501c3 paperwork was officially approved! The goal is to convene as a community center in a physical location by July 4th, 2026. They have a lead on a potential meeting site and will discuss at the upcoming meeting on August 14th. The subcommittee meets the 4th Thursday of every month at 4pm via Zoom.
- Paula Wildes, Chair of the Community Engagement Committee, provided a debrief on the Engagement Plan for the upcoming year to potentially include increased waterfront holiday lighting. The County is applying for a grant to potentially secure funding to support increased lighting in the park. Current District 3 events include: 2nd Annual Old Town Daffodil Festival (date set for March 21st 2026, 1-4pm), Whaling Days (July), Silverdale Concert Series, Crosby Days, Kitsap County Fair, Silverdale Tree Lighting, Tracyton Tree lighting. Additionally, Illahee will be hosting a pier opening in October or November. Recommend checking the Kitsap County Parks Calendar for upcoming events in the area. At an Engagement Meeting earlier this month the committee discussed the need for a core theme for Old Town (whales, daffodils, former egg capital, etc...).
- Go to Kitsap.gov to sign up for newsletters and digests!

Commissioner update

Commissioner Walters announced the survey forthcoming on the Silverdale Regional Plan. There will be a workshop hosted this fall and all are encouraged to attend. She will provide more information in her Newsletter. Community members can also check the Department of Community Development website for more information and subscribe to the digest.

Public Comment

- During community discussion a point was brought up in line with America 250 award that we should challenge our local youth in contest to write or provide artwork on how they would like to see Silverdale in the next 40 years. Paula Wildes mentioned that the Engagement Committee would be meeting with Lauren Daniels from the Central Kitsap School District and would address this idea.
- Comment was made regarding Building height approval. Recently the Silverdale waterfront/urban growth area of Silverdale building height was amended to two or more levels from what was originally approved. There is a concern about how these heights can be changed after approval and concern for loss of waterfront views both from homeowners' perspectives and local feel of Silverdale.

Council Announcements

- David Emmons reminded everyone to keep an eye out for Port-to-Port Pop-Up Ferry opportunities to/from Silverdale and Bremerton. He passed around a sign up for Community Council members to support a booth at the landing area over Labor Day weekend and encouraged everyone to consider trying out the ferry over Labor Day weekend from Silverdale to Bremerton for the Blackberry Festival. Port to Port tickets can be purchased online from the GreaterChamber.com.
- Kristen Fabry provided an update on the Kitsap Transit Intracounty Passenger Only Ferry Advisory Group. The first meeting of this recently stood up advisory council convened last month. An overview was provided regarding the results of the community survey on which ports would be feasible and desirable to connect with an inter-transit passenger-only ferry system. Commuting, shopping and events, and decongesting road traffic were some of the key priorities the group discussed. The group plans to meet again to continue the discussion and feasibility.
- Caleb Reese gave a Port Commissioner update on the Old Town Pub tear down. Bids have been received, and a contract will be awarded shortly.
- Sarah Philley-Obert announced the opening of a new restaurant in Seabeck. Barbie's Café is now open on the Seabeck pier/deck Friday through Sunday.
- Wendy Kyle announced the recent passing of the Library Levy by over 60%. Library summer reading challenges and Library passports are still available celebrating the 80th anniversary of the Kitsap County Libraries (9 total).
- Our next meeting will be September 3rd.

Meeting Adjourned

- Sarah Philley-Obert, Vice President, adjourned the meeting at 6:02pm.

Respectfully submitted by Kristen Fabry CKCC 2025 Secretary