

Present:

Ryan Wixson, Chair
Sarah Philley Obert, *Vice Chair*
Kristen Fabry, *Secretary*
Jay Christian
David Emmons
Brandon Meyers
Caleb Reese
Paula Wildes
Donna Hart
David Fergus
Kane Fenner
Garth Steadman

Kyle Bardwell

County Representatives:

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

Absent:

David Fergus
Neal Gaulden
Gretchen Ritter-Lopatowski

Meeting Called to Order:

- Ryan Wixson, Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:05pm. 34 people were in attendance.

Approval of the Agenda and the Minutes:

- Caleb Reese moved to adopt, and David Emmons seconded the October 1st Agenda.
Caleb Reese moved to approve, and Kane Fenner seconded, the September 3rd Minutes.
The Council voted and both motions passed unanimously.

Community Recognition:

- A small group of Scouts and their leaders were present at the Community Council meeting. They acknowledged they were working on their citizenship merit badge.

New Business:

- **Back Brief on KCAC Community Open House** - Katie Walters, Paula Wildes, and Kristen Fabry attended Kingston Community Advisory Council's "Discover Kingston." This was an annual Open House at the Village Green Community Center, Monday September 29th from 4-7pm. There were over 60 tables each with a different government or local non-profit organization providing information on services, projects, and things to do "for anything you could think of," shared Paula. The event was well attended and something CKCC may want to consider hosting in the future for the Silverdale area.
- **Review of CKCC Work Plan and start of CKCC 2026 Work Plan** - Ryan Wixson reviewed the 2025 Work Plan and kicked off a discussion on the 2026 Work Plan. He mentioned the topics we had teed up for 2025 and recognized several sessions we had not yet gotten to this year but would try to schedule in the remaining months. He also opened the floor to any feedback from the council and attendees on topics they would like to see included in 2026. Sarah Philley Obert shared numerous ideas from a brainstorming session a few weeks ago with Kristen Fabry. Amongst many other topics, Sarah mentioned an update on homelessness from Heart and the Sheriff's Office, Emergency Response Plan & Disaster Preparedness, Silverdale Businesses, CKSD, Port of Silverdale plans, and a Forestry

discussion. The council anticipates discussing feedback for the 2026 plan in more detail at a future meeting.

- In 2025, the council had three active subcommittees: Engagement, Silverdale Regional Plan, and the Community Center. Now that the Community Center Board has stood up and the paperwork has been filed, the Community Center subcommittee has been disbanded. There was discussion as to whether a new subcommittee should be formed to replace it, focused on Silverdale Business Owners updates, landscape maintenance, empty storefronts, FEFA, volunteer opportunities, or parks and recreation. Options are still being considered.

Committee Reports / Announcements:

- Kane Ferguson attended the Comprehensive Plan Meeting and shared an update. BERK is the Consulting firm, and this was the 2nd meeting held to collect feedback. Some other examples of communities working on significant comprehensive plans include Bothel, University Place, and Park City Way. There is a “complete street” plan. We may be eligible for financing by encouraging development in the urban Silverdale corridor. Our theme is “connection to nature.” There is a desire to connect Clear Creek Trail to the Old Town Waterfront area and maybe future ferry as well as adding parking garages, public transport, and park & rides. If high density housing is developed in the Ross Plaza area it would face outward toward the trails.
- Donna Hart provided an update on the Community Center. The 501.c.3 application has been submitted! The approval process is about 1 year behind but once approved, the designation will be retroactive to August 1st, 2025, so donors can take deductions from their income tax. They have formalized their board and have drafted a letter of intent for a local building to rent with the option to buy.
- Paula Wildes, Chair of the Community Engagement Committee, shared that there will be a daffodil bulb planting on October 18th in Old Town Silverdale. Kitsap Fairgrounds will be holding a Halloween Bash from 1-5pm in the Long Building on October 25th. Additionally on Saturday, October 25th, there will be a Strawberry Creek Salmon Splash from 11am-2pm at Lisa Sterret’s Gallery on Silverdale Way. All are welcome to come help and make a glass decoration. Handmade glass sea creatures and artwork will be affixed to the Old Town Fish Ladder and dedicated during a community event at 11am on November 1st.

Public Comment:

- Jim Aho provided an update on the Port of Illahee Forest Preserve. The old floats have been removed, avoiding the need to tear down the dock. Paving will start on October 23rd. Three grants have been submitted. They are targeting a 38-acre parcel with a dam and pond. Half of the parcel was purchased on July 11th. They are in process of raising \$730K to buy the other half. Jim said they are available to give tours!
- One gentleman stood up and expressed his opposition to making Silverdale a city
- A comment was made not to allow the Ridell Rd boundary move further North
- Mary Kunish from Kitsap Art Center provided an update on “Old Towne Silverdale Association” which is looking to become a 501.c.4 with a goal of revitalizing and beautifying

Old Towne Silverdale. They have already filed their paperwork. They have work boundaries but no membership boundaries.

- Veteran's Alliance collected 71 bags of food during their Spring Stand down
- Secretary of State has a 501 Website that explains the difference between 501.c.3,4, & 6.
Non-profit resources: Kitsap Community Foundation, The Great Give, and Lexus-Nexus.

Commissioner's Comments:

- Commissioner Walters explained that our Expenses are exceeding our Revenue. The County was able to balance this past year by using Reserve funds. Going forward the county may see a sacrifice in services paid to the schools, CKFD, and the library, for example. The results of the Community Survey were presented earlier today. The good news is that 7 out of 10 residents felt Central Kitsap is a good place to live, raise kids, and enjoy an overall quality of life and 8 out of 10 plan to remain here and would recommend it to others. The full results of the survey will be available at KITSAP.GOV. Other elements that were valued as important were the natural environment, parks & rec, safety, arts and culture, economy, and utilities (broadband).
- Good progress is being made with fiber optics connections. Seabeck can now hook up to Broadband with the addition of 21 nodes. \$6.6M is being invested to expand high speed internet across Kitsap County. Fiber networks are being co-located with utility sites so they can share generators. Currently they are working with CKFR to collocate sites whenever possible to utilize the existing infrastructure.

Council Announcements:

- Brandon Meyers shared that this Saturday kicks off the "Shop with a Cop" fundraiser via a catered dinner and silent auction. The shopping will take place in December. In the past the "cops" have been able to take 100-150 kids shopping for Christmas Gifts at Walmart.
- Paula Wildes mentioned the continuing work with the School District and Lauren McDaniels. There will be upcoming park/trail clean ups scheduled with the CKSD.
- Kristen Fabry announced that the CKSD Budget Advisory Committee is resuming for its second year. 40 members were selected as volunteers on the committee representing the various schools in the district, as well as local leadership and interest groups, and CKSD Staff, with many returning members from last year. The Committee plans to meet 5 times this school year with the first meeting tonight. Additionally, Kyle Johnson identified himself and mentioned that Dr. Erin Prince, Superintendent of CKSD, committed to having a representative at every CKCC meeting.
- Our next meeting will be Wednesday, November 5th. Possible HEART team and Human Services Update, Silverdale Center Plan Update, and continue 2026 Work Planning.

Meeting Adjourned

- Ryan Wixson, Chair, adjourned the meeting at 6:10pm.

Respectfully submitted by Kristen Fabry CKCC 2025 Secretary