



## Kingston Community Advisory Council (KCAC)

### Meeting Minutes

June 12, 2024

**Notes taken by:** Alena Wolotira

This meeting was held in person at the Village Green Community Center as well as via Zoom Video Conferencing.

**Present (in person—no Council attendees over zoom today):** Tim Davis (co-chair), Alena Wolotira, Kate Joncas (Co-chair), Chris Gilbreath, Glen Hutchinson, Dave Bomalaski, Kaili Roest, Shep Griswald, Cynthia Logan, Marla Powers, Beth Berglund

**Members on Zoom:** Steve Marchese, Beth Berglund

**Excused Absence:** Steve Heacock

**Absent:** Genevieve Upton, Breanne Martinez

**Also present:** Alex Jarrett, Rebecca Pirtle, Commissioner Rolfes

**Welcome & Call to Order:** *Co-chair Joncas called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.*

- Initial Public Comment (2-minute limit per person)
  - None
- Introduction of members
- Commissioner Remarks
  - New county administrator who is the chief of staff. Tori Brazitis.
  - [New mission, vision, and values statements for the county](#)
    - Added the word “responsive” to the mission and “responsiveness” to the values, demonstrating new collaborative approach
    - Welfare became “wellbeing” to incorporate public and community health
    - Changed citizens to “residents”

**Quorum:** Yes

- Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes: Amendment to include Kaili as present. Joncas motion, Glen seconded. All ayes. Minutes approved

**Ongoing or Unfinished Business**

- How to get a new high school representative? Ask a teacher, any kids we know, send them to Rebecca. One year terms, with the possibility of renewal.

**New Business:**

- Note from Andrew Nelson in response to the discussion at the May meeting. (Tim Davis)
  - Email sent to KCAC on May 16 from Andy Nelson
  - Includes addition of better version of some of the documents discussed in May



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- Transportation Committee bike safety letter
  - Transportation committee had a presentation from Bicycle club community member Lynn Shorn.
  - She asked for a letter endorsing changes in two areas: decreasing speed limits in areas where bikes are likely to travel. Also, adding signs in busy areas asking drivers to share the road.
  - Moved by Kate, seconded by Alena
  - Discussion: Chris believes it's a good first start and that there's lots more to do to increase the safety efforts for bike riders
  - All ayes, motion passed
- Discover Kingston (Tim Davis)
  - Gilbreath moved for the event to be supported. Joncas seconded.
  - Discussion: timing OK? Yes
  - All ayes, motion passed

#### Reports:

- **Council Announcements:**

- None.

- **Committee Reports**

- **Transportation:** (Tim Davis)
- **Community Services** (Chris Gilbreath), met June 7
  - Kaili came to last meeting to discuss what the Chamber is doing as well as their website. Website contains a calendar with events of interest to the committee
  - Committee supports bike letter
  - Committee supports Discover Kingston
  - Requesting health related speakers, pleased to see that Kari Hunter from KCPH is scheduled for the November 2024 KCAC meeting. Would still like to request that Harold Shea, Director of Ops for Pierce and Kitsap County YMCA come to our Jan or Feb 2025 meeting
  - August 9 Community Meal: final request for volunteers!
  - June 15 Mural Project–KHS Interact Key Club students will have a potluck and mural painting project with an underlying message of Kingston being a welcoming and inclusive community
  - Affordable Housing: meets once per month. Heard an overview of the two phases of the Warrior Ridge housing project.



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- Spring Hill project continues to move forward. Preliminary approval hoped for August or September. 288 to 230 reduction of total houses, with 100+ affordable units
- Barrett Bungallo project continues to move forward
- Seaside Kingston Cove has been sold to MTT homes
- Next meeting is Monday, 6/17 at VG or contact Chris to get a Zoom link
- **Environment & Land Use (Beth Berglund)**
  - Committee setting up a meeting with Arborwood developers to better understand the plans and ask questions. July TBD.
- **Parks, Trails, Open Spaces:**
  - Work party 6/22 at Eglon trails, 10:00 am
  - July 20, Port Gamble Heritage Park 9 am work party, local rotarians
  - King County allows e-bikes and scooters on trails. Is this something we would like to discuss as a committee? Could be PTOS or Transportation
- **Organization Reports:**
  - **Chamber (Kaili)**
    - 7/11 Fire Chief will be at VG at 11:30
    - Kingston wine and brew fest this Saturday. Looking for volunteers. <https://kingstonwineandbrewfest.com/>
    - Concerts at the Cove
    - Historical Society: meeting is 6/17 @ 11:30
    - 4th of July celebration: needs volunteers and donations. Relies on donations and scholarships
    - Chamber event calendar: <https://business.kingstonchamber.com/events>
  - **Kiwanis Club (Shep)**
    - Blueberry sales
    - Coho derby–july ticket sales, event is in September
  - **Rotary Club (Chris)**
    - 6/1 highway cleanup, 12 volunteers collected 23 bags of trash!
    - 6/2 baskets fundraiser started at the market. Will continue until 7/4 ball race.
    - Major grant awarded to the NK Soccer Club. \$25k awarded total this year
    - June \$22k in academic and trade scholarships to high school students
    - Rotary meetings: starting in July, meeting schedule is changing. First and 3rd Weds of month, 6:00 pm. 2nd and 4th meets at noon. If there's a 5th, they'll go to a local business "Wild Card Wednesday", also at 6 pm



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- 6/21 Swing for Rotary Golf Tourney
- **Village Green Foundation** (Beth Berglund)
  - Pie in the park! August 8.
- **North Kitsap School District** (Breanne Martinez)
  - Board has appointed Edward Wright to Director District 1, sworn in
  - June 4 celebration honoring the resilience and achievements of Native American graduating seniors. At House of Awakened Culture hosted by the Suquamish Tribe and NKSD. 33 graduates from 13 different tribes.
  - June 17 6pm-7pm facilities advisory committee
  - Last day of school is 6/17
  - <https://www.nkschools.org/>
  - <https://www.facebook.com/nksd400>
  - <https://www.nkschools.org/about-us/departments/communications/parentsquare-for-families>
- **Port Gamble S’Klallam Tribe** (Marla)
  - Construction on Little Boston Road pedestrian trail next week
  - Restoration at former mill site started last week
  - Fish passage barrier removal projects. “Bundle 29”--construction to start in 2026. 3 on SR 104
  - Elections for tribal council are July 8. 3/6 positions are up, elections every 2 years.

#### **Guest Speaker Presentation: Rick LaGrandeur, Fire Chief at NK Fire and Rescue**

- Protecting people and property
- Mission: prevention
- Average response time—under 7 minutes for emergencies
- All are both firefighters and EMTs. Volunteers are tender operators and chaplains
- Funding—EMS and Fire levies (property taxes)
- 60% of activities is emergency medical related. 2023 was the busiest year. 2024 on track to be busiest year yet.
- Emergency preparedness:
  - County Department of Emergency Management: <https://www.kitsapdem.com/>
    - Learn about your hazards (wildfire, earthquake, tsunami)
    - Make a plan and share with your family and household
    - Sign up for Kitsap Alerts: <https://www.kitsapdem.com/programs/kitsapalert/>



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- Build a kit to be self-sufficient. Be 2 weeks ready with food, water, and medicine. Smaller kits in your car or office
- Meet your street: <https://www.kitsapdem.com/meet-your-street-plan/>
- Wildfire: predicted to be a busy season. Preparing:
  - In general, we don't see extremes such as in CA or Eastern Wa
  - If you're burning outside, monitor it at all times. When you put it out, make sure it's cool to the touch
  - Monitor the burn ban status
  - Get a burn permit
  - Create a defensible space around your house. If there's a fire, the barrier should help stop spread
  - Request a home wildfire assessment
  - If something is on fire, call 911 AS SOON AS YOU CAN to help prevent more major events
- Sign up for community connect: <https://www.nkfr.org/community-connect/>
  - Lets you enter the info you need the fire department to know if they're on their way to your home
  - Use to acquire a burn permit. Print a copy for your burn location
- Evacuation levels for Kitsap Co
- Partnering with Kitsap Regional Libraries for a fire safety scavenger hunt: <https://www.nkfr.org/summer-safety-scavenger-hunt/>

#### Questions:

1. Who sets the burn ban and does it affect fireworks?
  - a. Burn ban put into effect by KC Fire Marshall. Affects all non-city area fire districts
  - b. Fireworks are not impacted by a burn ban—ongoing discussion among fire chiefs and the fire marshall. In our district, property and bodily damage has typically been pretty low.
    - i. Rolfes: Fire Marshall won't call a burn ban until the weather is drought conditions. Scientifically based. Fireworks could be banned. Fireworks are completely legal on tribal property. Banned on Bainbridge, Bremerton. Banned in the County except for July 4.
2. When a burn ban is not in effect, is a burn permit required?
  - a. For everything that isn't in a container 2 x 2
  - b. No penalty, except they'll put your fire out for you and show you how to get a permit



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3. On South Kingston and Indianola, there was a Tsunami Evacuation sign put up. Do you know anything about that and what is our evacuation route?
  - a. Fire Chief didn't know, will follow up
4. Where does NK stand for EMS calls in our district—is 60% high or low? About in line with national averages
5. If there is a medical emergency, NKFD EMS will find a facility for you to receive emergency medical services, even if St. Michaels' is full

#### Audience questions:

1. Cliffside emergency preparedness strategy plan—working with PGS Tribe about their foresters and their assessment about what's happening is that they are seeing humidity go down a lot in the forests. Evacuation plans for folks who live north of 288. How do we get out of that area with only one way to egress?
  - a. Answer: no knowledge of efforts to build additional roads. You're right, north end of the peninsula would be completely cut off.
  - b. Notification strategy? Telling everyone at once could create a big problem. Could it be more strategic?
    - i. Rolfes: DEM was supposed to come up with a draft plan. Will bring the issue back to the county. Audience member will provide Alex with his info.
2. 72 homes down Country Woods Lane (south of Eglon past the Casino)—big forests in there with marshes that get dry in the summer. 4th of July neighbor set the marsh on fire, then set his roof on fire an hour later. Could you please advertise the fireworks ban?
  - a. Also, community meeting once per year. Could the Fire Department come talk to us?
    - i. Yes. He will give her his business card
  - b. Do you have a contact with other fire stations?
    - i. Yes. KC has an automatic aid agreement county-wide

#### Remaining Public Comments

#### Closing Items:

- July - KCAC doesn't meet in July
- August 14—Parks, Recreation, and Open Spaces Plan
- September 11—Commissioner Rolfes Town Hall Meeting
- October 9—Parks, Trails, and Open Spaces Update
- November 13—Community Services Committee—"Latest data from the Kitsap Community Health Assessment—what it tells us about North Kitsap"



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- December–KCAC 2025 Planning Session

**Adjourn:** *Chris motion to adjourn. Glen seconded. Meeting adjourned at 8:02.*