

Manchester Community Advisory Council Minutes

June 3, 2025 Public Meeting

Manchester Library Meeting Room

Members in Attendance: Carol Malmquist (Chair & Northern Neighborhoods), Janelle Overton (Co-chair and California Neighborhood), Susan Shaw (Port of Manchester), Sharon Holst (Colchester Neighborhood), Gentri Brierly (At-Large), Janet Grimley (At-Large), Michael Harris (Business Representative), Patty Olson (At-Large), Chuck Williams (Friends of the Manchester Library)

Absences: Carrilu Thompson, Russ Higgins

Guests: Lourene Gibson, James Gibson, Spencer Gaskins, Callahan Gaskins, Kathleen Wilson, Melissa Mohr, David Forte, Alex Jarrett, Oran Root

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Carol at 6:30 pm.

Guest Speakers:

Commissioner Root spoke on the coming county hiring freeze meant to address an \$8 million budget shortfall. He also mentioned the efforts of Bainbridge Island resident Frank Cioffi in bringing together local officials and the USCG and maritime services to reduce the effects that anchored ships have on residents. In addition, there is a possible expansion of the county's "Drive Friendly" campaign to areas other than Manchester. Finally, the "Year of the Rural" is a focus of the Department of Community Development. To read more and subscribe to Commissioner Root's updates, please go to: [District #2 Update](#)

Kathleen Wilson, South Kitsap Library Manager, discussed the upcoming library levy vote. This, the first change since 2017, supports library operations at a rate, for a property valued at \$500,000, of approximately. \$60/year. (For more information: [KRL Levy](#)) She also noted the Passport Project of the Kitsap Regional Library, where there are 9 total stamps to achieve, one for each branch.

David Forte and Melissa Mohr of Kitsap County Public Works addressed the Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP), required by the state every 6 years to address road issues. 81% of funding for this comes from the federal government; with some uncertainty around that, the county is looking into grant money. Please see: [TIP Presentation](#)

I. Administrative Items

- A. Approval of the minutes from the March 2025 meeting: Janelle (motion), Gentri (second); minutes approved. (Sharon, Michael, and Janet abstained.)
- B. Approval of the minutes from the April 2025 meeting: Janelle (motion), Susan (second); minutes approved. (Gentri and Chuck abstained.)

II. Business Items

- A. Carol brought up the possibility of changing the annual open house to an earlier, less busy time of year. March was agreed to by the members.
- B. Janelle related her positive experience in attending the all-county Community Advisory Councils meeting. She noted that some groups have a high-school student representing a “Youth” position in the council, and wondered if the MCAC should pursue the same.

III. Announcements and Public Comments

- A. 16-year-old Callahan Gaskins announced that he is interested in doing a service project for the Manchester area. He has talked to the county about the “Drive Friendly” signs that they provided residents with; unfortunately the demand outstripped the supply. So Callahan is considering a fundraiser to acquire sufficient signs; the council really appreciated his taking this initiative.
- B. Gentri mentioned the Manchester Community Association Summerfest on August 2.
- C. The next meeting of the MCAC will be held August 5.
- D. There was a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:48 pm: Gentri (motion), Susan (second); meeting adjourned.