

# SUQUAMISH COMMUNITY ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

December 5, 2024 (first Thursday of the month)

In person only – Suquamish UCC Church

18732 Division Avenue NE, Suquamish

## **Suquamish Board Members Present:**

Ed Mullaney, Tom Curley, Stuart Scadron-Wattles, Martha Burke, Hanna Moss, Bruce McCain.

## **Suquamish Board Members Absent:**

Kristan Webster, Steve Warnert, Faith Williams, Patty Charnas

**Quorum:** Yes

**Kitsap County Staff:** Rebecca Pirtle, Kitsap County Volunteer Services  
James Bunn, Commissioner Office Policy Analyst

**Community Members:** Kimi Kinoshita, Devin Trueman, Kevin McDonald.

**Meeting Called to Order:** 6:35 p.m.

## **Meeting Agenda:**

- **Opening Items**

- *Land Acknowledgement*

- *Initial Public Comment*

Rebecca Pirtle noted that the Kitsap County Comprehensive Plan was approved by the county commissioners, and she thanked everyone for their input in that two-year process that will inform the next 40 years in Kitsap County. The 2025 county budget was also approved. Commissioner Garrido is retiring, replaced by Orin Root.

Commissioner Rolfes would like to arrange a north-end meeting regarding parks, possibly by the end of January. Martha Burke brought up this coming year as the 'Year of the Rural', an initiative that pulls out some Comp Plan rural elements, such as maintaining rural character, ag land, supporting agri-tourism, rural land use ...the Comp Plan is often about growth and development, and 'Year of the Rural' will look at preserving rural character, rather than development.

Ed Mullaney noted that Carol Larsen resigned December 1 from the SCAC, but will be active as a citizen volunteer. There are now two openings on the SCAC. Applicants need to be from within the Tribal reservation boundary.

Rebecca said there is an all-CAC meeting in February, to talk about issues and the ability to interact with other CAC's and the Commissioners.

- **Ongoing or Old Business:**

- The SCAC will continue to meet at the UCC until June 2025, when it can be renewed.
- Kitsap Transit has (re)started Route 391, which runs from the Kingston ferry to the Bainbridge ferry.

- Motion to approve the November meeting minutes (with one correction), motion by Tom Curley, seconded by Ed Mullaney, unanimously approved.
- Tom Curley nominated Stuart Scadron-Wattles and Steve Warnert for Co-Chairs for 2025, second by Martha Burke. Unanimously approved. Ed Mullaney offered to run the January 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting.
- There were no nominees for the Secretary position. Rebecca Pirtle offered to send an email out to the group soliciting for the position.

- **New Business**

Workplan discussion: Stuart Scadron-Wattles built on last-month's discussion. Focus areas were determined from a survey in November. Results are in, for 2025:

- Traffic Calming including pedestrian safety, sidewalks, and street lighting
- Public broadband/WiFi access
- Parks and Trails development and maintenance
- Expanding public transportation options

Stuart noted that there needs to be more public input. This process will happen again next year to provide a new ranked list. The next step will be to develop a strategy for each item.

Somebody needs to take responsibility for each item. A meeting could be set up around each item. The Suquamish Facebook page, and the Next Door page is also very popular. Rebecca offered to interface with those two groups. Kevin McDonald is the liaison to the school Parent Teacher Organization (PTO), and commented that walkability is compromised by cars parked in the street, in the public right of way, unlicensed, forcing children out into the street. He also commented on the lack of maintenance on sidewalks. Buses aren't well-utilized, due to parents dropping off kids in personal vehicles. Stuart suggested getting on social media and soliciting input on projects they would like to see done, and bring them into the SCAC that way.

Rebecca suggesting doing what Kingston did, and have a moderated forum on transportation issues hosted by the Council. Martha suggested advertising such meetings so there is a good size audience. Hot button issues generate an interested crowd. Tom suggested getting the State DoT to get a schedule and perhaps a presentation on upcoming roundabouts on SR305. The workplan should be a working document. Rebecca talked about the format, and said to include the Chair, when the groups meet as headers.

Stuart Scadron-Wattles made a motion to approve the four focus areas for the workplan, Tom Curley seconded, unanimous approval. A strategic statement for each item needs to be done next. The final submission to the county will need to be voted on in January.

Discussion touched on the county Transportation Improvement Plan and SCAC putting items on it. Devin Trueman commented that by adding restrictions and slowing traffic can be difficult for commuters and added time – that everyone's in a hurry and we all share the roads. That was a perspective the group hadn't heard before.

Upcoming meeting topics from online survey (5 voted):

- Suquamish Tribe's Community Development Department to give an update on tribal housing and other development that might be coming up, including Suquamish Shore property development.
- Kitsap County Division of Aging and Long-Term Care with a presentation by Mark Doty to share information on the services offered.
- Engage with Suquamish Museum to hear about their exhibits, their archive and public events, and to learn more about volunteer opportunities within the community.

- Engage community for comments regarding the Sports Court Park and Angeline Park for future maintenance and/or improvements.
- Suquamish Department of Emergency Management and Kitsap Department of Emergency Management presentation about coordinated neighborhood emergency planning efforts.
- Kitsap County Noxious Weed Program – what are the noxious weeds and how can the community assist in their removal or abatement?
- Kitsap County Short-term Vacation Rental policy and potential ordinance regarding short-term vacation rentals and how that affects the housing market.
- Kitsap County Public Works and/or WashDoT on future SR305 roundabouts – what is next and anticipated timing of construction.
- Traffic calming measures in Suquamish – how SCAC may work with KC Public Works for implementation of SCAC recommendations.
- Orientation session regarding the laws, land status and how the US Constitution applies to the Port Madison Indian Reservation.
- Other topics also suggested:
  - community cleanup of Suquamish Nature Preserve and more parking;
  - downtown business development;
  - county government priorities; Suquamish Tribe representative to Kitsap Coordinating Council on transportation and land-use;
  - PTSA and Suquamish Elementary principal to talk about volunteering opportunities at Suquamish Elementary;
  - Miller Bay Road history trying to make it safer for bikes and pedestrians
  - Rebecca suggested that having a firm list of topics and dates ahead of time is a way to encourage public participation.

- **Public Comment & Good of the Order**

Meeting was adjourned at 8:02pm.

**The next meeting will be January 2nd at 6:30pm at the UCC Church, 18732 Division Ave. NE.**  
Minutes submitted by Tom Curley.