

SUQUAMISH COMMUNITY ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

May 7, 2026 (first Thursday of the month)

In person only – Suquamish UCC Church

18732 Division Avenue NE, Suquamish

Meeting called to order at 6:30 PM

Land Acknowledgement was read.

Suquamish Council Members Present: Ed Mullaney, Stuart Scadron-Wattles, Bruce McCain, Steve Warnert, Tom Curley, Brian Hegre, Joe Picuch, Martha Burke, Korum Bischoff, and Elliot Moss

Suquamish Council Members Absent: None

Quorum: Yes/No (10 TOTAL members, 6 for quorum)

Kitsap County Staff: Christine Rolfes and James Bunn, Kitsap County Commissioner's Office

Community Members: Twelve were present

■ **Introductions were made by Council members.**

- New Council member, Joe Picuch, was welcomed; Eliot Moss was welcomed as the new Youth member of the SCAC, and he is in the 11th grade at North Kitsap Highschool

■ **Initial Public Comments:** The question was asked as to how the SCAC relates to the Suquamish Tribe? The answer was that the SCAC is a community group sponsored by the Kitsap County Commissioners, and the Tribe has connections with the County.

■ **Commissioner's Comments:** Commissioner Rolfes introduced Richard Velazquez, Chair of the Bainbridge Island Ferry Advisory Committee (BIFAC). He invited us to the BIFAC's next meeting on Thursday, May 14 at 6:30 PM to be held at the Senior Center on Bainbridge Island. There was also a discussion about local roundabouts.

■ **Guest Presentations**

- **Ross Lytle, with the Kitsap Health Department, summarized the 2025 Water Quality Report.** His group assesses water quality in the County's streams and shorelines by collecting water samples from 150 sites and measuring fecal contamination. Their primary goal is to keep the waters and shellfish of the County safe. Most waters in the County meet State water quality standards. They also try to educate the public with educational events and they work with property owners to correct contamination problems. With respect the Suquamish area, its sites meet water quality standards, and the discharge from the new surface water treatment system flows by pipe to Old Man Park and is released through an outfall in Port Madison.

■ Ongoing or Old Business

- No adjustments to the agenda were made.
- Minutes from the April SCAC meeting were moved/seconded/approved.
- The 2026 Work Plan Status: Within the Parks and Trails Development/Maintenance Focus Area, they are concentrating on publicizing needed improvements to the Suquamish Nature Preserve (SNP) by producing a new poster, making a presentation at the Community Picnic, and using social media to spread the word about the SNP. Other parts of their effort will include recruiting volunteers to improve the trails and remove invasive species, and asking for input from the community. With regards to the Community Outreach and Sponsored Events Focus area, they see a need for sending out postcards to Suquamish residents about the Community Picnic. Thus, they need a mailing list. Also, the picnic would be a good opportunity to summarize the planned road improvements in Suquamish. We need to identify volunteers to help with the picnic (this will be done at our June meeting). The progress of the Traffic Calming Focus area will be presented at the September meeting
- The Suquamish Cleanup Day had 33 volunteers who collected 53 bags of trash.

■ **New Business** --- The Community Summer Picnic would be held in Legacy Park and will take place on August 8. Steve will submit a proposal to the County Commissioners for their approval. Martha suggested that Elliot might provide the Council with highlights of things that are going on at North Kitsap Highschool. Commissioner Rolfes stated that the Council will be welcoming two new members at our June meeting. There was a discussion led by Tom about how the community members found out about the SCAC meeting. Lastly, the need for a large venue for holding SCAC functions in Suquamish was discussed. There have been previous discussions with the Kitsap Regional Library system about opening up a branch in Suquamish which could provide such a venue, but they were not fruitful. Another possibility might be the now closed plumbing company across the street from the UCC Church.

■ **Public Comments** -- The effects no traffic of the new construction on Highway 305 between the Casino and Poulsbo was mentioned.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:00 PM.

The next meeting will be on June 4 at 6:30pm at the UCC Church, 18732 Division Ave. NE. The presentation at the June meeting will be determined.

Minutes submitted by Bruce McCain