SUQUAMISH COMMUNITY ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES September 4, 2025 (first Thursday of the month)
In person only – Suquamish UCC Church
18732 Division Avenue NE, Suquamish

Meeting called to order at 6:35 PM

Land Acknowledgement was read.

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

Suquamish Council Members Absent: Faith Williams and Patty Charnas

Quorum: Yes/No (8 TOTAL members, 6 for quorum)

Kitsap County Staff: James Bunn, Kitsap County Commissioner's Office

Community Members: Ten were present, as well as Deputy Police Chief Nance

- Introductions were made by Council members
- **Initial Public Comments**: There were none.
- **Commissioner's Comments**: Commissioner Rolfes was not present.
- **Guest Presentations**

  - Quarterly Report by Deputy Police Chief Nance: Crime rates in the previous quarter were at normal levels; he doesn't see major effects of the construction of the new Stormwater Treatment System on Suquamish traffic, and speed cameras and red light cameras are under discussion.
  - Update on sewer rate changes by Nick Martin, Division Manager, with Kitsap County's Department of Public Works: The mission of the department is to plan, operate, maintain and construct public work facilities. The department is moving towards a cost-of-service model because it is facing an expenditure of $600 million over the next 20 years to pay for aging infrastructure, population growth, and changing permit conditions. This model will allow a more equitable way for rate payers to contribute to these costs. They initially estimated a 12.75% rate increase, and spent a year reevaluating every capital improvement project. He presented three scenarios for determining the rate increases. He assured the audience that each scenario will achieve the same level of treatment. Public comments: some of the community member voiced displeasure with the rate increases; one felt that there should be an audit of the department; and there was a question about how the department deals with the number of septic systems vs. sewers.

- Sea Level Rise Vulnerability and Risk Assessment in Kitsap County by Jim Rogers: He described the results of a study funded in part by a grant from the Washington State Department of Ecology. The goals of the study were to identify which properties have the highest potentials for damage due to sea level rise, and to propose protective actions to address this damage. He described how sea level rise and floods were estimated by a Technical Advisory Committee. Some of the types of properties and structures analyzed included roads and transportation, buildings, historic and cultural sites, marinas, wetlands, sewer facilities, and parks. Some of the most vulnerable were wetlands, marinas, parks and sewer facilities. He listed a number of strategies for minimizing these damages.

Ongoing or Old Business

- Minutes from the August SCAC meeting were approved.
- Debriefing of public picnic: it was a success! Approximately 50 people attended, the invitation postcards helped, and there were lots of volunteers. Suggestions for next year's picnic included having music and a microphone.
- Martha stated the Stormwater Treatment System construction was on schedule.
- SCAC Workplan: Tom said his grant proposal for $17K to the Suquamish Public Works Director about traffic calming was approved. Bruce said he talked to Scott Crowell, Director of the Suquamish Tribe Department of Community Development, about discussing the possibility of using the Suquamish dock for a passenger only ferry, he said the Tribe would support such a discussion. Bruce also spoke with Stephani Lillie, Kitsap Transit's Service and Capital Development Director, about a passenger only ferry for Suquamish. She said that there hasn't been much support for it, and that the passenger ferry for Kingston was currently underutilized.

New Business ---SCAC Working Session

- Discover Kingston will be held on September 29, and SCAC could be involved.
- SCAC needs to plan for future presentations

Public Comments

- Tom asked James if there was any progress at the County level about short-term rental policies. James thought that those discussions may have to wait until after the World Soccer games.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:05 PM.

The next meeting will be October 2 at 6:30pm at the UCC Church, 18732 Division Ave. NE. Increases in KPUD WiFi will be discussed.

Minutes submitted by Bruce McCain