

Manchester Community Advisory Council Minutes

Nov. 7, 2023 Public Meeting

Manchester Library Meeting Room

Members in Attendance: Carol Malmquist (Chair & Northern Neighborhoods), Janelle Overton (California Neighborhood), Carrilu Thompson (Manchester Community Association), Susan Shaw (Port of Manchester), Sharon Holst (Colchester Neighborhood), Russ Higgins (Alaska Neighborhood), O Ray Pardo (Friends of the Manchester Library)

Excused Absence: Ana Langone

Absence: Amber Brown

Guests: Hella Johnson, Kathleen Wilson, Sandra Warner, Greg Warner, Reggie O'Brien, Tom O'Brien, Steve Pedersen, Dennis Matthews, Barbara Matthews, Jim Brewer, Brian Nielson, Gentry Brierly, Leslie Newman, Joe Newman

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

Guest Speakers:

A. Bill Bowman of the Kitsap Dept. of Emergency management spoke about the various local disasters that could befall the area - floods, fires, earthquakes, etc. - and how to plan for them:

1. Create your emergency communications plan
2. Make sure you keep important phone numbers somewhere in addition to your mobile phone
3. Talk with family/household/neighbors
4. Store important documents like passports, birth certificates, maps, and necessary electronics in a safe place
5. Build a go-bag
6. Prepare for up to 30 days without outside food, water, heat, or electricity
7. Sign up for emergency alerts:
 - a) <https://www.kitsapdem.com/programs/kitsapalert/>
 - b) <https://mil.wa.gov/alerts#shakealert>

More information can be found at:

<https://mil.wa.gov/asset/5f171cc0a935f>

<https://www.readyforwildfire.org/>

<https://www.dnr.wa.gov/programs-and-services/wildfire/wildfire-preparedness>
<https://mil.wa.gov/map-your-neighborhood>
<https://www.ready.gov/>
<https://www.fema.gov/>

B. Trace Richard of South Kitsap Fire and Rescue discussed fire prevention and mitigation. Fire doesn't burn houses down, embers do. So it is vital to get debris off the roof and from around the perimeter of a home. (SKFR has a long list of fire-resistant plants that can be used near dwellings.) For more information: <https://skfr.org/public-safety/>

I. Administrative Items

Approval of the minutes from the October 2023 meeting: Ray (motion), Carrilu (second); minutes approved.

II. Business Items

Janelle read out the report from Naval Base Kitsap stating that the local well water has tested PFAS levels within EPA limits.

III. Announcements and Public Comments

- A. Carrilu announced that this year's Christmas tree lighting will be held on Sunday, Dec. 3, at 5 pm at the stormwater park. Santa will be on hand. No Argosy boat is anticipated, once again.
- B. Ray noted that the Friends of the Manchester Library has a Board of Directors elections coming up and they want to encourage younger members of the community to get involved.
- C. The next meeting of the MCAC will be held December 5th.

There was a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:08 pm: Susan (motion), Sharon (second); meeting adjourned.