

## Central Kitsap Community Council

### Town Hall Meeting 2/3/2021 – Virtual Meeting via Zoom

#### Meeting Minutes

#### Present:

##### **Council Members:**

Mark Hughes, Jim Aho, Annika Colliker, Monica Downen, Steve Fabry, Levi Holmes, Amy Lawrence, Brandon Myers, Doug Newell, Irene Overath, Angela Sell, Harold Shea, Jeremy Stitt, Peter Wimmer, Elizabeth Garrett, Rick Soper, and Dave Montoure

##### **Commissioner(s):**

Ed Wolfe

##### **County Staff:**

Angie Silva, Doug Washburn, Kirsten Jewell, Keith Grellner, Eric Baker, Katharine Shaffer, and Andy Nelson

Meeting called to order at 5:02 PM PST

Motion to approve minutes and agenda as presented.

Motioned by Jeremy Stitt

Seconded: Rick Soper

Motion carried

Motion to approved newly elected position: Mark Hughes as Chair and Angela Sell as Co-Chair

Motioned by Brandon Myers

Seconded: Steve Fabry

Motioned carried

#### **Commissioner Wolfe's 2021 Priorities:**

**COVID19 update:** 5,161 cases in our community since the pandemic began and 70 tragic deaths

**COVID Vaccine Update:** The state is in 1B of the vaccination progress. This includes anyone 65 and older adults 50 and older living in multigenerational households. The state will direct when future phases open. Kitsap County opened up a community vaccine clinic last week. It was operated by Kitsap Public Health District and partners. 2,070 were vaccinated at the old Bremerton Hospital site. Clinic will operate when vaccines are received from the state

**Reopening Phases:** Kitsap remains at Phase 1 of the Governor’s re-opening plan. Like most of our residents, I’m angry and frustrated with our relatively modest case count. On January 15th the Kitsap County Commissioners sent a letter to Governor Jay Inslee in response to the Healthy Washington reopening plan. The Commissioners have had enough with the state’s ever-changing plans – the first plan the governor introduced late last spring was the Safe Start Plan that had 4 phases and now it is Healthy Washington plan with only two phases.

An additional letter from the Board was sent on February 3rd to the Governor, Department of Health and our local legislators asking to be moved to Phase 2 immediately. Please know we are fighting hard and advocating for our constituents.

**CK Campus:** As Kitsap continues into 2021, the Board is interested in coming to a final resolution regarding the future of the CK Campus property including the Poplar's building. The Commissioners will be discussing this further on March 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Affordable Housing/Homelessness:** Before we had the COVID crisis, we already had a growing housing crisis. Property values have been on the rise in our county as well as costs to construct new houses making home prices too high for some. Affordable Housing is defined as housing costs not exceeding 30% of a household’s income, including utilities. We have not had a net increase in government subsidized housing or vouchers (other than for veterans) in Kitsap in the last decade.

On any given day, there are estimated to be more than 530 people in our community living on the streets, in vehicles, in the woods, in shelters, transitional housing, or with friends and family. During the COVID-19, the number of people experiencing homelessness increased, most often due to loss of income. Kitsap has provided additional shelter capacity at the Fairgrounds and Salvation Army for homeless families to socially distance to limit their exposure to COVID.

#### **Questions from the Public:**

- Pat Burch asked regarding traffic on the Ridgetop Corridor and the Light at Wagga Way. Public Works Director Andy Nelson answered the question stating additional phases of the project would remedy the situation.
- Cherron Papillion also asked a question about Ridgetop. Andy Nelson answered again with details of the stormwater plan for the area.
- Paula Wilders asked about RVs on private property. County Staff Kirsten Jewell and Angie Silva answered regarding the Boise decision. Human Services Director Doug Washburn also said there were “safe park” areas for these vehicles to park overnight.
- A question was asked in the Chat about if homeless at the fairgrounds had to pay. Dough Washburn answered no.
- Greg Jacobs with the sailing club asked about the Port of Silverdale. Port Commissioner Caleb Reese answered his inquiry about future Port Plans.

Meeting concluded at 6:32