

# **SUQUAMISH COMMUNITY ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

Thursday, March 6, 2024

In person only – Suquamish Police Classroom, 18490 Suquamish Way, Room 118B

## **Suquamish Board Members Present:**

Tom Curley  
Patty Charnas  
Steve Warnert  
Ed Mullaney  
Bruce McCain  
Erin Bischoff  
Carol Larsen

**Quorum:** Yes

**Kitsap County Staff:** County Commissioner Christine Rolfes; Haylee Anderson, Policy Analyst for Commissioner Rolfes; Alex Jarrett, Administrative Specialist

## **Community Members:**

Kevin McDonald  
Leanne Stevens  
Bethany McDonald  
Korum Bischoff  
Enn Bischoff  
Stewart Scadron-Wattles  
Cindy Logan  
Ace Haynes

**Meeting Called to Order:** 6:30 p.m.

## **Meeting Agenda**

### Opening Items

1. *Land Acknowledgement*

2. *Introductions:* The new member, Bruce McCain, introduced himself and gave some background, followed by all the other attendees. It's an interesting and diverse group.

3. *Approval of February meeting minutes. Motion by Ed M., second by Steve W.* The February minutes were approved unanimously.

4. *Public Comments:* Leanne Sparks remarked about speeding autos in town, on Division. With a speed limit of 25mph, going 35mph means the over-speed is a large percentage of that. She never has seen anyone pulled over for speeding. She suggested that police could station themselves on Fir Street coming down Suquamish Way. She suggested the digital speed signs were good, but not doing much to slow people down to the 25mph speed limit. Tom Curley said there were suggestions in the Comp Plan Update to improve traffic calming. The county Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) can address traffic calming. Steve Warnert suggested a parabolic mirror at Winfred Street. Tom

Curley queried if Winfred could be closed, similar to how Big Valley Road north of Bond Road in Poulsbo was closed for safety reasons. Residents living in that area use Winfred and didn't want it closed, but did want safety improved where it meets Augusta Avenue. Commissioner Rolfes suggested having a presentation on the current TIP at the May or June meeting. The Traffic Engineer will need to have a look at the situation and make recommendations.

Kevin McDonald said he has not heard back from See-Click-Fix regarding the asphalt path along Division that provides access to Pathway Park and Suquamish Elementary School – that tree roots have upheaved the asphalt making it impossible for mothers with strollers to use the pathway along Division, and instead have to divert onto the roadway. Hayley will check with Public Works on the idea of a mirror on Winfred, and how best to re-pave the walkway on Augusta to facilitate mothers and strollers.

Steve Warnert agreed about speeding and even racing in town, especially in the evening. Kevin McDonald confirmed that speeding in town has been an issue for a “very very long time” and the community has not had success in curtailing it. There are only two sheriff deputies in the entire north end of the county, so it falls on the Suquamish Police to monitor speeds, but they are very under-staffed. Carol Larsen asked about possible mitigations. Tom Curley suggested narrowing roadways with curbing as on Geneva, speed tables (not speed bumps) on Augusta and Columbia, and police emphasis patrols. Bethany McDonald suggested stop signs, say on Columbia at Brockton. Commissioner Rolfes described a town hall meeting in Indianola, attended by 200 people, in which the traffic engineer talked about the strict constraints they have operate under, and there's much they cannot do or they could lose their license. For instance, Indianola Road will never have speed humps due to the road classification, and likely the same would apply to Augusta. They'll lower speed limits, and Commissioners can order lower speed limits and speed humps, but the memory of former Commissioner Steve Bauer and the speed humps in Hansville and Hood Canal Drive was recalled as a reason why that won't happen. 75% of people along the road would have to request speed humps. A first effort would be to bring the traffic engineer in to hear public concerns. Orange reflectors on speed limit signs was also suggested. The SCAC was in favor of bringing in the traffic engineer to hear concerns and offer options.

### New Business

1. Presentation on Puget Sound to Pacific (PS2P) grant, and the Suquamish Tribe Long Range Transportation Plan by Tom Curley.
  - Suquamish Way/Augusta/Miller Bay Road is the main north-south transportation and freight corridor through Suquamish, and the 'spine' that connects the Suquamish and Indianola halves of the Port Madison Indian Reservation. Thus, it has high importance to the Tribe. Columbia/Port Gamble-Suquamish Road is a secondary corridor. SR305 carries the most traffic.
  - PS2P is a planning grant, not implementation, and will look at both SR305 and Suquamish Way/Augusta/Miller Bay Road to attempt to determine the best and safest ways to allow pedestrian/bike travel to coexist with autos. Commissioner Rolfes pointed out that on Bainbridge the PS2P is being constructed with each new bridge and roundabout project. Seven to ten years to complete.
  - Bruce McClain described the concerns of the trail within North Kitsap Heritage Park.
  - E-bikes and e-scooters have become important transportation tools and need to be accommodated safely.
  - Build it where you can, with what you have, when you can – which is the reason there are 'islands' of sidewalks that were constructed as part of a development project.

- The Suquamish Tribe is a participant in acquiring Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) road monies. It's a very bureaucratic process, and very constrained by that process, but it can provide funds for Tribal road projects – which can also benefit the wider community.
  - Roads need to be in the BIA Long Range Transportation Plan to allow BIA road funds to be expended, either for new projects or for maintenance.
  - There could be coordination between BIA Bridge Fund planning dollars and PS2P Miller Bay Road planning in the next several years. There are good shoulders on much of Miller Bay Road. There is an existing study on Miller Bay Road.
  - A TIP application was submitted by SCAC pre-COVID for Division from Suquamish Way to Old Man House Park, and could be resurrected.
  - BIA road funds might be able to be added to assist maintenance along the asphalt trail on Division.
  - Commissioner Rolfes suggested using the April SCAC meeting to brainstorm projects around town, then have a presentation in May on the TIP program and how to get a few small projects in the TIP.
2. *Tribal Housing overview:*
- Enetai townhomes (20 units) on Kaleetan Lane and Division Avenue. Duplexes on Parkway and Geneva, planned on 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue.
  - BRIC grant for a new firehouse on Suquamish Way has been submitted.

3. *County Comprehensive Plan Update subcommittee report:*

Patty Charnas gave an overview of the subcommittee review:

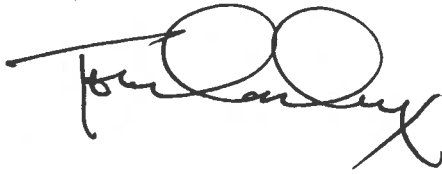
- Asked that the prohibition on lot consolidation to be an option rather than a requirement – so property owners could choose to aggregate lots into a single buildable lot, rather than be forced to build on very small lots (especially those still with septic rather than sewer).
- Requested a hard look at up-zoning outside the Urban Growth Areas in the north of the county, that could have significant traffic inputs through Suquamish.
- Work on tree retention and keep existing forestland intact.
- Patty said it was hard, but a good effort and we did it.
- Commissioner Rolfes suggested there may be more work to do. Planning Commission has a hearing coming up, open to anyone, then planning staff will get a resolution to the Commissioners (a preferred alternative). There will be a comment period on the preferred alternative.

Public Comment & Good of the Order

- Suquamish Cleanup is set for 9am on April 20<sup>th</sup> at the UCC Church.
- Ace Haynes is the Republican Precinct Committee Officer for Suquamish, and related how at the Kitsap County Republican Convention at the Fairgrounds on February 10th he was tackled to the ground and beaten by insurrectionists, and was unable to fulfill his elected duties. Commissioner Rolfes suggested that Mr. Haynes speak with her after the meeting.
- Commissioner Rolfes reminded that there are two open SCAC positions, with Laurie Kadet's resignation.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:10pm.

The next meeting will be April 4th at 6:30 at the Police Classroom.  
Minutes submitted by Tom Curley.

APPROVED:  6 June 2024