

ISLAND COUNTY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

July 27, 2016

The Island County Council of Governments on July 27, 2016 met in the Commissioners' Hearing Room 102B, located at 1 NE 6th St., Coupeville.

The Council of Governments Minutes and recordings of meetings may be located at <https://www.islandcountywa.gov/Commissioners/Pages/COG.aspx>

Members Present: Curt Gordon, South Whidbey Port District Commissioner - Chair
Richard M. Hannold, Island County Commissioner
Helen Price Johnson, Island County Commissioner – Vice Chair
Bob Serverns, City of Oak Harbor, Mayor
Tim Callison, City of Langley, Mayor
Molly Hughes, Town of Coupeville, Mayor
Mike Diamanti, Port of Coupeville Commissioner

Also Present: Ron Nelson, EDC

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Gordon called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Commissioner Hannold and seconded by Port Commissioner Diamanti to approve the June 22, 2016 meeting minutes as presented.

CONTINUED DISCUSSION ON 2016 ISLAND COUNTY HOUSING PRIORITIES

Presentation by Teri Anania

Ms. Anania discussed what the Housing Authority does in and for Island County.

- Veteran Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH)
- Low Income Housing/Public Housing
- Section 8 Rental Assistance/Ownership
- Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) Program
- Transitional Housing (HOME-TBRA)
- Mental Health Housing

She is looking forward to the next project in Island County.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL 2016 GOALS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Presentation by Ron Nelson

Mr. Nelson provided a PowerPoint presentation with the Economic Development Goals.

- Team Members/Board of Directors
- Tourism – Increasing Tourism Return
- Off-Season Marketing – through policy the County can impact through the LTAC
- Business Climate
- Entrepreneurship/Biz Development Committee – how are all of the efforts brought together
- Affordable Housing
- NAS Whidbey Participation – how can NAS Whidbey to accentuate the various regions of the Island. *Get a group of small businesses meeting with government purchase card holders on the base that are local*
- Business Barriers – are there perceived barriers and how can they address them
- Rural Development Fund Process – setting up a broader review process
- Permit Processing – the County can apply for a .09 application for staffing
- Diversify the Local Economy – NAS, Building and Tourism; needs to see more diversification

- Port Authority – Recommendations for the Ports to get more creative
- Leadership Message – reach out to the various businesses
- Leadership Training – need to prepare future leaders by bringing business, community and workforce

There was further discussion on the following topics:

- Transportation limitations in South Whidbey and further research needed for solutions
- Island County becoming a food destination
- Need for EDC to do an Island County housing cost comparison to other areas
- VRBO and Airbnb impacts on housing availability

CITY OF LANGLEY - REVISED OF .09 RURAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUNDS APPLICATION

Presentation by Mayor Tim Callison

- **City of Langley, Mayor Tim Callison**
Project Title: Creating Attractive Infrastructure and Capabilities to Increase Visitor and Tourist Volumes to Langley and South Whidbey while targeting business relocation opportunities. (Grow Langley)
Requested Amount: \$137,205

Port Commissioner Diamanti moved to recommend to the Board of Commissioners the amended application submitted by the City of Langley for consideration of .09 Rural County Economic Development Funds, Chair Gordon seconded, motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION OF PERSONAL FIREWORKS USE IN ISLAND COUNTY

Chair Gordon provided a brief summary on the purpose for the need of a fireworks discussion and the ordinance that was approved by the Board of Commissioners.

Mayor Callison explained he wanted to find out what the County and other jurisdictions are doing to control the use of personal fireworks. He discussed the City of Langley's Council wanted to get more information in order to have uniformity throughout the island and avoid any conflicts.

Mayor Severns discussed the City of Oak Harbor's ordinance and experience with fireworks. He said there were a couple of citizen complaints of fireworks being lit outside of city limits, as well as two dumpster fires. The city is following what the county is doing.

Commissioner Price Johnson explained to the Council members what the county is doing and the ordinance that was recently passed by the Board. She informed them that the restrictions will not be in place until next year.

Mayor Hughes said there are not enough complaints to do a fireworks ban in the Town of Coupeville. Fireworks are only allowed on the fourth of July.

There was discussion of the definition of legal and illegal fireworks, firework trash and the impacts of noise.

OTHER ITEMS OF MUTUAL INTEREST

- Walt Blackburn, Puget Sound Energy
 - Don Amor will be focusing on King County; Lynn Murphy will be covering Whidbey Island as part of the local government affairs office.
 - He discussed the outage that will be occurring in Maxwelton Substation to increase the reliability in the south end. The outage is scheduled for 8/10 7am to 7pm. Maxwelton and Cultus Bay corridors will be the most impacted and a section of Kohls road. There is a full page add in the newspaper.

- Craw Road overhead power line update: the state has decided that it is a scenic corridor and they did not allow it. There will be a pole replacement on French Rd.

ITEMS TO DISCUSS IN AUGUST MEETING

- ILIO 10 a.m.
- Developers and incentives in affordable housing and get an in depth look at it
- Island County Legislative Agenda – possibly occur in October or November
 - Need call for topics in August – action item to have a list by September to present to Legislature – need to pare it down to a few specific items
 - Preliminary draft of legislative authorities

The meeting adjourned at 10:55 a.m.

The Council of Governments will meet next on August 24th, 2016 at 9:00 a.m.

Approved this 24th day of August, 2016.

Council of Governments,

Curt Gordon, Chair