

GREATER MAPLE VALLEY UNINCORPORATED AREA COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING – July 6, 2020

The monthly regular meeting of the GMVUAC held virtually via Zoom due to the COVID-19 shut down was called to order by Chair Hiester at approximately 7:04 PM on Monday, July 6, 2020.

Roll Call: Present: Hiester, Rimbos, Neuner, Harvey, Hansen, Buchanan, Haynes, Iverson and McDonald.

Absent, But with Designated Proxy: N/A

Absent: N/A

Resignation: N/A

Logistics Note: Due to the COVID-19 shut down, the meeting was held virtually over Zoom.

Agenda Items

Addition agenda item:

Haynes: Bring up idea to discuss federal timeline for Queen City Farms- add to Council Business.

Motion: Iverson- Move to approve agenda with Haynes addition. Second: Rimbos, Approved – Unanimous.

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1. TSD Update-- Val Paganelli (TSD Board Member) (7:09):
 - School is out of session.
 - There are a number of taskforces to figure out how to reopen in the fall with Covid-19.
 - Working with other districts to figure out how to get the mandated hours of class.
 - Hybrid program, classes half full with remote/ online learning.
 - Currently working on the budget, budget hearing in early August, going to be adding to the General Fund

 2. Bill Ramos (5th District State Representative) (7:16):
 - Question and answer session:
 - Q. What were the major actions from the last session?
 - \$250M from Rainy Day Fund to be used to start addressing issues from the Virus, but it obviously is not enough. Major budget impacts over the two-year cycle. Looking to see what further support could come from the Federal Government.
 - Q. Climate Change?
 - Carbon sequestration, take advantage of our natural resources, plant trees to absorb carbon, working with foresters, timber companies, etc.
 - Q. Landfill and Composting?

- Trying to educate everyone that all of the County's garbage is sent to the Cedar Hills Regional Landfill. He wants to close the Landfill and find alternatives. He blocked Cedar Grove Compost from being exempted from nuisance lawsuits. Senator Mullet and Representative Calan both supported these efforts.
- Q. Will there be a special session?
 - Right now, not going to have a special session, maybe one in November, but likely not till June.
- Covid-19 impact on budget?
 - As an educated guess, there will be a \$4.5 billion shortfall this year and next. Hoping the Federal Government will come through to help with the big deficits (no state can deficit spend, only the Federal Government can do that). It has not been discussed where budget cuts might come from.
- Q. Gas Tax Allocation?
 - Nothing specific is currently being contemplated. Allocation is based on population. Since King County has a relatively small percentage (~11%) of residents who live in unincorporated areas as compared to 50% in most counties in the State, its allocation is small even though it has many miles of roads to maintain with many used by urban-based commuters. He is trying to encourage the cities and County to discuss how best to maintain their transportation infrastructure.
 - Looking into three options:
 - Gas tax, county gets some and city gets some, consumer pays twice.
 - Sales tax increase from .2% to .4%.
 - Utility tax for cities and counties to collect.
- Q. SR-18 / I-90 Interchange?
 - Expect construction to start next Spring. Completion would be in about 2 – 4 years starting in 2021. Design has started to expand the SR-18 segment over Tiger Mountain to 4 lanes. Completion could be in about 6 years. It is really two projects, but will be back to back and will look like one.
- Q. SR-169 Improvements?
 - Expanding to four lanes between Maple Valley and Jones Rd will be very tough to get through the Legislature, but improvements can be proposed, such as facilitating better intersection design along the way, e.g., roundabout at Cedar Grove Rd.
- Q. City-to-City Travel on County Roads through the Rural Area?
 - People can drive wherever they want, so he intends to concentrate on County road maintenance.
- Q. State Funding for School Districts?
 - State funding should stay consistent as in recent years.
- Q. Waste-to-Energy Plant in the Cedar River Valley?
 - There are no specific alternatives yet to replace the Landfill.
- Q. Tolling County Roads to Help Solve Road Funding Shortfall Issues?
 - That could start a race to the bottom where cities and counties start levying tolls on their own roads.
- Q. Cedar River Canyon Issues?
 - No easy answers, but he continues to protect our rural environment.
- Q. SB-6306 Clean Soils Act Including "Loop"?

- Will get back to the Area Council on this. Representative Ramos serves on the Natural Resources and Rural Development Committee. He urged the Area Council to prepare a set of priorities for the next Legislative Session and send it to him by the end of the year.

Council Business (8:36 PM)

1. Waste Water SEPA Response:
 - Buchanan:
 - The King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks (DNRP), Wastewater Treatment Division (WTD) has issued a Determination of Significance (DS) under the State's State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA).
 - Environment Committee had a meeting last Thursday and prepared a set of draft comments on the Scoping.
 - Should have a review every 5 years.
 - Do a complete analysis of environmental impacts with a 20-mile radius.
 - Review capacity, sewer treatment plants have failed.
 - Comments due July 19, 2020.
 - Motion: Haynes- Give Buchanan and Rimbos the freedom to correct and format for submission by the GMVUAC to the appropriate parties the environmental committee's comment letter. Second: Iverson, Approved – Unanimous.

2. KCCP 2020 Mid-Point update:
 - Rimbos:
 - Last Thursday KC put out 3rd Striker.
 - SEPA put details from Striker 2 and 3.
 - There is nothing to show tonight, just started the process.
 - Need to submit something next Monday, Executive Committee will vote next weekend to approve letter to KC.

3. Queen City Farms:
 - Haynes:
 - Jeremy Jennings EPA- Superfund Site at Queen City Farms applied to have Queen City removed from Superfund Site List.
 - Environmental committee to work on comments. Can review comments at August meeting.

Committee Reports

Economic: N/A

Environmental: N/A

Executive: N/A

Growth Management: N/A

Public Relations: N/A

Train Show:

- Have to be in Phase 4 of Covid-19 reopening to have Train Show, and even then, it would be questionable.
- Likely not going to have a Train Show, but it could still be possible.
- Not having the Train Show one year will not hurt GMVUAC.

Transportation: N/A

Chair Hiester Adjourned the Meeting at approximately 9:32 PM.

Minutes by Hansen.