MINUTES
KITSAP COUNTY REVIEW COMMITTEE MEETING
Administration Building - Commissioners Chambers
August 15, 2012 6:00 PM
These minutes are intended to provide a summary of meeting decisions and, except for motions
made, should not be relied upon for specific statements from individuals at the meeting. If the
reader would like to hear specific discussion, they should visit Kitsap County’s Website at
http://www.kitsapgov.com/dcd/community_plan/Gun_range_ordinance/grosp.htm and listen to
the audio file (to assist in locating information, time-stamps are provided below)

The Kitsap County Review Committee Meeting KCC 10.24 met on the above-stated date at
the Kitsap County Administrative Building Commissioner's Chambers, 619 Division Street,
Port Orchard, WA

Members present: Larry Keeton, Linda Paralez, Karanne Gonzalez-Harless, Jim Sommerhauser, Brad
Smith, Doug O’Connor

Staff present: Heather Adams and Committee Secretary Karen Ashcraft

6:04:55
Larry Keeton, Director of KC Department of Community Development stated Committee Chairman
Simpson is attending a funeral. He suggested the Committee designate or appoint a temporary
Chairperson for this meeting.

6:05:49
Brad Smith extended condolences to sheriff’s deputy and family. KCC Ordinance 10.24.105 states
County’s Sheriff or designee will chair this Committee.

6:06:20
A motion is made by Brad Smith to suspend the regular agenda and just carry on for public
comment. Legally we don’t have a Chair and nothing in the Ordinance regarding a quorum.

Discussion is held regarding this motion.
Motion fails for lack of a second.

The intent of a temporary Chairperson for this meeting is to take public testimony.

6:11:33
A motion is made by Linda Paralez and seconded by Jim Sommerhauser to suspend the items on the
agenda and simply have a public hearing. I will be happy to run the meeting for the purpose of just
having the public hearing. Simply having a public hearing this evening is my intent. We will suspend
the rest of the agenda until our next meeting with Gary (Simpson). That’s the proposal on the table.
Sound sufficient?

6:12:25
Doug O’Connor wants to amend the motion. There are outstanding motions on the floor. If there
are additional motions, the Committee should be able to hear them and postpone them to the next
meeting, but to get them on the agenda now.
Brad Smith disagrees with the amended motion.

6:13:08
A motion is made by Doug O'Connor that we are going to be postponed because just for the issues about the legality which may or may not be there's no point in feeding into a problem to start with.

Doug O'Connor amends the motion to suspend the rest of the agenda other than taking testimony to the next meeting. The Committee will take the motions and seconds, but voting on them will be postponed until the next meeting.

6:16:10
Linda Paralez stated we are proposing to move forward with this meeting revised so we will have just a public testimony and capture public testimony in respect to those people who have come here this evening and we will accept motions without voting on them. We will hold those over until our next meeting. We will capture them in the record but we will not vote on them, if there are motions.

Brad Smith objects to the motion. Public comment is one thing, but getting motions read into the public record is another. If the Committee is going to suspend the agenda, suspend the agenda.

Brad Smith stated there is no authority in the Ordinance to give someone the Chairman of this Committee and move forward. I object.

The Vote:
Yes: 2
No: 3
The motion falls.

6:17:38
The main motion is to modify our agenda for this evening and accept public hearing from these folks and get that in the record for this meeting.

The Vote:
Yes: 5
No: 1
The motion carries.

6:18:06
Linda Paralez gave an explanation of the procedure for public testimony. The Committee may ask clarifying questions only.

6:20:50
Wilhelm Spicker is a residence of Kitsap County and a member of the Kitsap Revolver and Rifle Club since 1985. He is concern about the legal aspects of this meeting.

6:21:54
Randall Bragge is a resident of Belfair, a retired Naval Petty Officer and a former licensed fire arms dealer involved in shooting sports since 1990. He has concerns about the Staff Report. Brad Smith – Do you think the Staff Report has numerous errors. Yes. Jim Sommerhauser - Did you submit written comments. No

6:25:20
Michael Overfield is US Navy Marksmen Team, Firearms instructor, Safety Officer at the Kitsap Revolver and Rifle Club and resident of Kitsap County. He is concerned about the need for updating the Ordinance and the Staff Report mistakes. Brad Smith – Do you think the Staff Report is incompetent. Yes. Larry Keeton – Do you have any issue with safe containment of ranges. No need to change current Ordinance. The change in hours, etc. will cause ranges to have to close. Jim Sommerhauser – Do you think urbanization has caused issues, since the creation of gun ranges. Yes, the encroachment on gun range properties is a problem throughout the country.

6:34:39
Martin Harris is a resident of Seabeck. The box on the floor represents six years and $30,000 for a private shooting range in Kitsap County. He is concerned that he hasn’t received any notification of this proposed Ordinance. Brad Smith – You spent six years and $30,000 for a gun permit. Correct. Larry Keeton - Who uses your gun range? The only ones using the range are family and friends.

6:37:48
Loran Todd is an archer by trade and a Forensic Examiner. He has lived in Kitsap County for 35 years. My children and grandchildren have used the range for over 32 years. They have been taught safety in handling firearms and hunter education for my friends and family. The gun range is a benefit to the community; and the members are great people. The cost of the improvements required in the new Ordinance will be prohibitive in bringing the ranges up to these standards. Linda Paralez - What needs to be done to bring the ranges up to standards. The overhead things make it impossible for projectiles to leave the range.

6:41:44
Kevin Magnuson has own guns since he was sixteen. We purchased our home off Newberry Hill in 2001; I was unaware that there is a gun range in the area. The noise from the gun range has increased over the past several years; I can hear them inside my home with the windows closed. Jim Sommerhauser – Where does he live? I live in Whisper Ridge community. Brad Smith - How far away from the gun range do you live? I think approximately 1.2/1.3 miles away. This past year it has been quieter.

6:45:22
Gary Curran is a member of the Poulsbo Sportsman Club and the NRA. My concerns regard the restriction of operating hours, restriction on calibers and noise levels. He suggested modification of sound barriers from concrete walls to two rows of fencing. The new Ordinance would close Bremerton Trap and Skeet Club (except 410 shoot gun) and Poulsbo Gun Club shoot gun shooting. Karanne Gonzalez-Harless – Did you submit written comments. Yes. Jim Sommerhauser - Did you give any other caliber explanations in your written comments. Yes, there is a chart attached to my letter.
Brad Smith – What is the muzzle velocity for a .22 caliber. I am commenting on damage to the ranges and the surrounding community.
Doug O’Connor – Are you aware that the Poulsbo Sportsman Club doesn’t allow 50 bmg. Yes, a 50 bmg could cause a lot of damage to the berm.

6:52:62
Zeb Breuckman is a member of the Bremerton Trap and Skeet Club. He has concerns regarding the restrictions of the Ordinance for all gun ranges, i.e. the use of a 20 gauge shot gun with bird shot weighting fractions of an ounce and not traveling miles shouldn’t be a part of this Ordinance. He is also concerned about the time restraints.
Larry Keeton - What hours of operation would be good for that range. I don’t think the 5:00pm to 7:00pm would work for people who have a 9-5 job.
Brad Smith – Do you think the Ordinance is grossly overreaching. I do think so.
Jim Sommerhauser - What about the boundary line between the City of Bremerton and unincorporated Kitsap County. I hope I don’t have to stop shooting at either area.

6:58:25
Merton Cooper is concerned the new Ordinance is unnecessary and not well written.

7:00:57
Erik Nervik is from Port Orchard. During a Kitsap Revolver and Rifle Gun Club competition, he went to Eldorado Hills (Whisper Ridge) area and just listened. He didn’t hear any noise from the gun range. He has been able to have a normal conversation at the parking lot or club house at the Kitsap Revolver and Rifle Gun Club.

7:02:36
Charles Ely is a resident of Central Kitsap. He explained the various types of target shooting (it isn’t just standing in one position and punching holes in a piece of paper) it is from rapid fire shooting targets and surprise target shooting, running deer target matches. In 1950, John Dean Cooper taught the modern technique of the pistol. Military and law enforcement agencies adopted the technique of civilian shooters.

7:07:00
Matt Sroka is a resident of Central Kitsap and Vice-President of Kitsap Revolver and Rifle Club. The Staff Report indicates that the public is in danger from the area gun ranges. Between Kitsap Revolver and Rifle Club, Poulsbo Sportsman Club and Bremerton Trap and Skeet Club have over 200 years of safety records. He read a thank you letter from a Tukwila Police Officer.
Karanne Gonzalez-Harless - What is the name of the club. The name of the club is Paul Bunyan Sportsman Club located in Pullayup.
Brad Smith stated Paul Bunyan Sportsman Club is similar to KRRC.
Jim Sommerhauser - Is the Paul Bunyan fenced. Yes, it is.

7:14:19
Dan Daniels is a resident of Mason County and a Range Officer at Kitsap Revolver and Rifle Club. He is the Chair of the Environmental Stewardship Committee. He examined the north end berm of KRRC range for projectiles; at 100 feet line (high powered rifle are shot) the first 12 inches there were several projectiles, at 18 inches a few fragments beyond 18 inches there was nothing at all.
Larry Keeton - Where would the bullet go if shot over the berm. I thought the question was through
the berm not over.

7:20:05
Bonnie Beke is representing the member of CK Safe and Quiet group. This Ordinance is about
property rights issues. There are two objectives: Projectiles containment and noise mitigation.
Brad Smith - Has any round ever left any of these three gun ranges and struck any home or person to
cause harm or damage. Pierce County Superior Court found that to be so.

7:23:26
Shaun Lane is a resident of Lake Symington area. He is concerned about the Ordinance (including the
committee members) since Washington State RCW 941 governs gun ranges. A noise survey has not
been done by Kitsap County in relation to the gun ranges. No round from a gun range has ever been
found outside of the gun range.

7:29:15
Michael House is a resident of Bremerton. He is a member of the Kitsap Revolver and Rifle Club and
Kitsap Alliance of Property Owners. He has concerns regarding the Ordinance and people’s property
rights. This Staff Report and Ordinance should be disregarded.

Break 7:35:40

Reconvene 7:47:33

7:47:55
Doc Collins is concerned about private property rights and grandfathering. The new Ordinance has a
statement that grandfather rights will be preserved. A noise study should be done. In the new
Ordinance, the definition section needs to be review.
Larry Keeton -- Did your “grandfather” statement come from KCC Title 17. Yes.

7:56:54
Rul Fidalgo is a resident of Kitsap County. He was in the Marines for almost 10 years and understands
the need for safety. He read a letter from Bruce Gary sent to KRRC.

7:59:56
George Voss is a Range Officer of Poulsbo Sportsman Club. He has concerns about the Staff Report.
In 74 years of operation there have been no safety issues at the Bremerton Trap & Skeet Club. All
three clubs operate on a volunteer basis, without the volunteers the clubs wouldn’t exist (do have two
paid employees). We pay property taxes, sales taxes, personnel taxes. Fire Department inspects us
every year for free.
Karanne Gonzalez-Harless – the BTSC property is half in the county and half in the city and the
Bremerton Police Range is SKIA property. I believe it’s in the watershed, I don’t know where the exact
property lines are. Does the Police Range have set hours? I don’t know. How many nights do you
shoot? We only open on Wednesday nights.
Jim Sommerhauser – Are you open to the public? Yes.

8:06:17
Mike Crouch has concerns about the Staff Report. We shoot firearms at our range, rifles, pistols and revolvers. Noise isn’t an issue.

8:08:35

Jayson Gould has concerns about the new Ordinance. He would like both groups to work together to reach a conclusion.

8:13:16

Dave Osborn is a retired naval officer, living in the area for over 30 years. He requested background information and experience from Larry Keeton regarding running a gun range. As an Army Colonel in Fort Jackson, South Carolina, he had the operations responsibility for the construction and maintenance of ranges. My Public Works Department would build and inspect those ranges. I was the Safety Officer, when I ran the ranges.

8:18:03

Rob Potter has concerns regarding the new Ordinance.

8:19:18

Mark Miller is a retired law enforcement officer with 17 years of firearms instructor experience. He would like to see each individual range have engineering and sound abatement studies done instead of one Ordinance for all ranges.

Linda Paralez – Other than weapon type; do you have any other issues with the Ordinance. Review the entire Ordinance for connectivity throughout the document.

Jim Sommerhauser – Do you think a sound test should be done. Yes. In order to have a sound study standard, a sound test needs to be done.

Should there be muzzle energy restrictions. That’s based on range design.

Brad Smith – Do you think this is arbitrary and capricious. One size Ordinance doesn’t fit all ranges.

An actual study needs to be done showing what type of munitions, weapons each range can handle. If there are restrictions on weapons at the ranges where military and law enforcement personnel practice, this will cause issues in their ability to train to protect the public.

Larry Keeton — In the Ordinance, the military Regional Command has to certify the range. Yes, if a captain takes his troop to an uncertified range and something happens, he will be court marshaled.

8:33:47

Ron Barlow is a resident of Port Orchard. He has concerns with the Staff Report for justification for an Ordinance. There is no documented case of any projectile leaving our range or injury to anyone off our range. We have had rapid fire weapons for years.

Brad Smith – Are there any newer or more modern weapons that you are aware of those. There is AR 2 South and or 223’s. Platform was invented 1950’s by Eugene Stoner. It is false that the rounds travel further.

Larry Keeton – What is the maximum range of the 5.53 round. I don’t know. Maximum horizontal distance is 4100 feet. Discussion is held regarding distance of rounds.

8:44:58

Marcus Carter is the Executive Officer of Kitsap Revolver and Rifle Club. He is requesting that the Committee re-open public comment since the Staff Report came out so late. He has concerns about the Staff Report. The use and training of fire arms goes from civilian sector to the military sector.

KRRC was founded for sport and national defense.
Bruce Gergen has 27 years in the military as a heavy arms instructor. He is the ICP FOP secretary for Lodge 1 in Silverdale for Fraternal Order of Police. He suggested noise studies be done at the single family residences of those concerned about the gun range noise. Also let’s find proof of any safety violation have occurred. It is necessary to get the facts. He wants the ranges to remain open so area law enforcement and military have a place to practice.

Linda Parazel closed the Public Hearing.

A motion was made by Jim Sommerhauser and seconded by Brad Smith to close the meeting.

Adjourned: 8:58:15

Upcoming Review Committee Meetings
- September 26, 2012 6:00 PM
- October 10, 2012 6:00 PM
Kitsap County Review Committee Meeting KCC 10.24 – August 15, 2012

8:57
CLOSED

The Vote:
Yes:
No:
Motion carries.

Time of Adjournment:

EXHIBITS:

MINUTES approved this _______ day of _______ 2012.

__________________________________________
Gary Simpson Committee Chair

__________________________________________
Karen Ashcraft, Secretary

Upcoming Review Committee Meeting

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