

## **Central Kitsap Community Council**

**July 6, 2022 Kitsap Regional Library - Silverdale**

### **Meeting Minutes**

**Present: Commissioner Ed Wolfe, Jeremy Stitt, Jim Aho, Irene Overath, Brandon Myers, Amy Lawrence, Steve Fabry, David Emmons, Harold Shea**

#### **Council Members:**

Council announcements:

Jim Aho – Illahee preserve is negotiating on another property. This would take it to over 600 acres for the preserve. There is a pond and beavers and bear. Oh my... They were going to buy a portion 2/3 but now the owner wants to sell the entire thing. We have been raising money for said purchase. ¼ mile of illahee creek.

Steve Fabey – Great problems on clear creek trail behind Ross plaza. People continue to live under there. No trespassing signs are being put up attorneys and being consulted.

There are no rights to property nearby Marcowick property. GPC (Great Peninsula Conservatory) possibility of a relocation for the group.

Meeting called to order at 1702 Irene Overath

Motion to approve agenda as presented.

Motioned by: Jeremy Stitt

Seconded: Jim Aho

Motion carried

Motion to approve minutes as presented.

Motioned by: Amy Lawrence

Seconded: Jeremy Stitt

Motion carried

#### **Commissioner Wolfe's Update –**

This afternoon Silverdale Encampment was contacted. Dates have been set for relocation. Deputy Schon Montague has been doing a great job. July 13 signs are being posted. Aug 3<sup>rd</sup> vacating will occur.

## **Presentation #1: Kitsap County Sheriff's Office, Sheriff John Gese**

Covid had a great impact on our jail with a population for over 450. We dropped it to 150 to keep COVID at bay. This was left that way for close to a year.

Penny Sapp and staff did amazing work. At one point 100 inmates infected worked with health department. Offered vaccine to staff and inmates.

Patrol had to cut back on contacts a dramatic reduction on the amount of work. Office was remote and closed down. Courts and jury trials closed down and large backup for those right now

We're trying public events again

Staffing: everyone is having issues. It's an incredible time. We knew there was a demographic wave of retirees going to happen. We're seeing a large amount. 130 years collective experience left the road this month.

Just to keep even we have to hire 50 people. We've never seen this before. A lot of resources put into hiring and recruiting and retention bonuses. We're running about 35 openings in the agency. Some are leaving for fear of lack of support for community. 1/3 of the agency in a couple of years.

Overloaded with training. Fewer cops on the road, we're trying to catch up

Police reform: we saw protests, rally's violence across the country. Kitsap was peaceful and communicated rally's. We never had any problems and got through it fine. We saw a wave calling for police reform. 2020 13 major police reform legislation was passed. Hiring, firing, use of force, training

3 months to develop new polices, procedures, training etc. Some of these laws created problems. Unintended consequences. This last session the legislators were asked to make realistic and practical changes.

Crime – WASPC: auto theft, retail theft, stats will be up aggravated assault, robberies, some people don't believe it.

About 80% of budget is people

How are we going to be prepared for the future

Homelessness: encampments are a huge issue – police are part of, but not the complete solution. We want to get kids and such in stable housing. This doesn't belong in parks, trails, sidewalks. We don't have a safe park location. We're talking about shelters, but nobody wants it in their backyard. We're one of several in a team to solve these issues.

Of 470million for the county 72% goes to law and justice. Courts, Law Enforcement, the county is stretched and cannot do much more. If more money cannot go into it, if crime continues. What can be done.

This month and next is festival season: with what happened this week is there talk about increasing presence at these events.

**Presentation #2: Central Kitsap Fire and Rescue, Chief Jason Christian**

Jay Christian day 6 of being the fire Chief and honor to lead such a talented team of professionals. Born and raised in San Diego, went into the coast guard, after 5 years plan was to return and join FD when enlistment expired came here and working CKFR in 2000.

Live down in Tracyton with wife and kids. Philosophy – fast, reliable and efficient fire and rescue. Service to others 100% of the time. We need to be out earning the trust every day. We need to make sure we're in the community and demonstrating that value. Fire service has to be an appropriate balance of equipment, staffing and low risk tolerance. Want to be financially stable. Aware what is happening in the economy to provide high service levels.

Joint Hazard Assessment Team – pre plan for events. EMS, LE, Fire, Hazmat, etc to develop plan and walk the events. 2<sup>nd</sup> year in a row more firefighter suicides vs line of duty deaths.

Capitol facilities bond: in 2020 voters approved 53.8 million capital facilities bond to replace and remodel 9 fire stations. 3 are currently under way 52(oly view) 45(Trent on contract), 57 (NEW) lake Symington area. Plan will be to staff station 52 and 57 with career fire fighters. This will grow from 5/7 career stations.

2019 – 8,409, 8700 2021 10,283 on pace for a higher

**Public Comments:**

Silverdale Port Commissioner Caleb Reese - Homeless – derelict boats in the bay also people living on boats in violation of the law. Only anchored within a 5 miles radius for 30 days. We can tag for DNR. 3 or 4 in dyes inlet which have been there over a year. These have people living on them.

Meeting concluded at around 1830 hours.