

Meeting called by: Vashon Maury Islands' Community **Type of meeting:** Town Hall style Council Meeting
Facilitator: David Vogal **Note taker:** Kyle Britz
Timekeeper: Diane Emmerson
Attendees: See attached
Please read: Previous Bylaws of VMICC, Issues List (version.updated_Feb.17.2020) for Community Council, Summary of Democratic Rules of Order

Minutes

Agenda item: Request for Opening meeting **Presenter:** David V

Discussion:

- ❖ Request of someone to take minutes/notes. Request of community in attendance to sign-in, review minutes, address bylaws and to approve interim [Facilitator]. Previous "bylaws" are passed around for everyone to reference, as well an "issues list for community council" for talking points & "summary of the rules: democratic rules of order".
- ❖ Welcoming to the KC representatives and the islanders all community present. KC Reps, Joe M, Bong S, John., each give brief intros.
- ❖ Names to refer to these "VMICC" townhall gatherings, is the term VMICC okay with everybody, open discussion for alternatives. ----Those present acknowledge VMICC is recognizable as Vashon Maury Island Community Council.
- ❖ Question raised: "Does anyone here present think there shouldn't be a (Vashon-Maury) *council*?" ---Islanders Want a Council.
- ❖ 501c3 status addressed in reference to abilities to fund-raise for : eg. Operating funds, Insurance, Meeting space Rental, Hosting Website, Printing documents, Outreach Communications, Travel to other meetings, Events, Equipment for amplifying meetings [p.a., cameras, blog, vov-tv, vov-radio, remote interface] --also discussed that funds could be used for micro-loans, scholarship funds. ---tabling discussion, and notes to communicate with previous meeting attendee who was a tax person to explore more benefits --tabled
- ❖
- ❖ Melvin and Diane coordinated to bring an "Issues List" --copies distributed among attendees, with blank spaces for write-in issues.
- ❖ Questions raised about how to address who can vote on items/issues and who can bring things to meetings.
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- ❖ The Age of "voters" for community council in the past, were recognized as "age 18yrs and up or responsible adult". Is this still what community wants? Arguing that the people are getting older, and we need to invigorate highschool involvement in this process and intergenerational community collaborations. Taking note that age 16 is still reasonable, as this is for our community, no-age restrictions is also possible. Proposed for current age set at 16yrs initially, with incremental changes. ---- [Dan S] has records of previous Age Restrictions VMICC dialogues for review
- ❖
- ❖ High schoolers and youth interested, need to be asked if the time of our meetings works for their attendance. If the Youth do attend, does the meeting time need to be earlier, and if the Adults that attend work in the city, does it need to be later? --- [Deb T]
- ❖
- ❖ Proposed that we have a seasonal commitment to alternate the meeting times half of the year to be slightly earlier and half of the year slightly later. Noting daylight times, darkness, transportation and accessibility with other obligations. --- [Diane E] --tabled
- ❖

- ❖ Referenced past “process” and of “timelines” for issues at VMICC meetings: having ranked choice voting [re process: Melvin M, Dan S, Roger F], or if there are rules for ability to “vote”, does one has to be present at meetings to vote, are there age restriction for ability of Vashon Maury islanders for participation?
- ❖ .
- ❖ Previously quorum of meetings was 25 people to vote on issues, whereas sometimes the attendance was only 10 people who showed up so that sometimes issues are raised and discussed though nothing could be voted upon.
- ❖ .
- ❖ Some of the VMICC meetings should be input discussion, without quorum requirements, and some should be based around decisions to be voted upon. Both are open to the public, though the meetings where Decisions are voted upon has less open-public-speaking time –[Melvin M, previous bylaws committee chair]
- ❖ .
- ❖ Previously, first we would have a meeting of sub-committees, at which a chair would be elected for each sub-committee, to be the voice of the sub-committee at the council meeting.
- ❖ .
- ❖ Bylaws committee called to reference, along with other standing committees. What sub-committees do we want? When do those sub-committees want to meet and where? These meetings should be publicized for our community’s awareness to be able to attend.
- ❖ .
- ❖ What subcommittees are of interest to folks here? Do people want to sign up for committees now? Where will they meet? --- Locations for meetings are discussed and tabled
- ❖ .
- ❖ What does the “Public Safety” committee discuss, and who participates? In the past “Public Safety” included First Responders, VIFR, KCSO. ---[Heidi J] Notes that it should also include those in Human Health Services, the Social Service Network VSSN, Mental Health Care, Social Welfare, and the new Health Care Committee, as well as environmental issues.
- ❖ .
- ❖ We discuss that we have no government power, but island connections are to gather around passionate local issues, and our power-role is to connect community rather than be the voice of the community
- ❖ What are the intentions of having a VMICC? ----[Joe U] stands to ask us all, what do we want and what do we perceive we have by having a VMICC?
- ❖ .
- ❖ Philosophical question. This is a community forum. We have an opportunity to represent our community to the KC. How they blend this isn’t to vent, we need to decide are we having a community forum to vent our issues and thoughts, or are we representing this island <but not land issues?> If we have these meetings and only certain people show up, then are we representing the island, or are only those people who show up to raise their hands to vote being represented?--- [Joe U]
- ❖ .
- ❖ Interested in the structure and what we’re communicating. People who are vocal about certain issues, do the work. That is how we formed sub-committees and chairs before. We need to start the process, what is the structure we want, how we communicate. Maybe our only agenda is to listen and to encourage Vashon islanders to listen and answer eachother. To address our needs and desires as an island community. And to share with county, state and federal representatives, whoever we may choose to converse with or invite. --- [Joe U]
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- ❖ We have a lot of organizations currently working on issues on the island, suggesting that we fold those existing into VMICC, to help with sub-committees, awareness and participation.
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- ❖ We would like to know about the Council Roads Levy impact upcoming. ---it will be on the 2020 August ballot, stating a cap for a few years for family incomes at a levy rate to be discussed more.
- ❖ .
- ❖ We should share this meeting on tomorrows VOV broadcast, that committees are starting to form, and are still open for participation. We agree that the 3rd Monday of the month at 7-9pm at the Landtrust works for most people ongoing and that the Landtrust can continue to calendar that as far as we know.
- ❖ .
- ❖ If we have expenses we have no way to get an income to pay for things, so we will pass the hat if we need monies for tasks. ---- [Melvin M]
- ❖ .
- ❖ What kind of representation are we hoping for having a VMICC? Is it open to all islanders? Does it feel inclusive or does it feel “home/landowners vs renters”, will we have dedicated seats for young voices, we need to have a council that looks like all of our island, not just old why guy speaking for all, we need our POC, our intergenerational ---references to [Jim D’s] recent article in the Beachcomber, and references the white center community development process
- ❖ .

- ❖ Articles should be written in the Riptide, and encourage kids to bring their parents to the meetings, and parents to encourage their kids to attend the meetings. It is important for everyone to feel included and accepted to participate. ---- [Devin A]
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- ❖ Instead of being reactive, VMICC is to be a place to gather to be proactive
- ❖
- ❖ Address ways to work better across organizations and individuals and community, to connect.
- ❖
- ❖ Not to be a representative body, but a town forum. We shouldn't expect small group of people to speak for many. How do we reach the people of all our corners in our community for participation. It may be issues' based for their participation, though we need to always be welcoming and inviting with our outreach. It's how we structure our consistency.
- ❖
- ❖ Issues brought up should and would bring people from different focus groups, and some people may not feel included or welcomed otherwise, and feel passionate about certain issues or perspectives. The purpose to having community events around a topic/issue is important – [Ellen K]
- ❖
- ❖ The Governance may be boring, but constructive for ongoing discourse, tracking engagement on issues all the way along. We elect Bong S to do everything he can for us for good communications between island and county.
- ❖
- ❖ Issues raised around awareness to the Status of Utilities franchise fees, for those with \$1,000 vs \$20,000 for water customers and the recent court issues. Use of "right of way" built into the budget of next September..
- ❖
- ❖ KC would share and propose ideas to VMICC to see if Vashon islanders want what the KC Government is offering --- [Dan S]
- ❖
- ❖ Motion to hear from our KC reps present. When we had a council before the termination of the UACs which were a formal recognized tie to the county, would give cause for KC not to ignore us. Any Vashonian requesting a representative, including Sherriff or government reps, have and will show up. ---KC reps in attendance attest that they still will, and will especially when we request for them to [Joe M].
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- ❖ We should have a rules committee, governance committee and present it to the VMICC then present it to the community to see if that's what we VMICC want.
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- ❖ Do we need more social media presence? Do you have to be present at an "official" event or meeting to be recognized and issues acknowledged?
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- ❖ Does VMICC want televised meetings? Are there concerns of individuals using the TV-VOV to grandstand facetime which may poorly impact the productivity of the intent to share information.
- ❖
- ❖ Shall we go through the Bylaws line by line? We could skim and review comments together. In light of time and passion to those present, we propose a bylaws committee and set out for the community to reflect. To have a VMICC is a deliberate body that wouldn't rush to judgements, so bylaws are to figure out what format we are going to convene with for framework structure.
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- ❖ It should be by the who or what the community elects, not by those who attend and bring their input it needs to be open to the island. – [Melvin M]
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- ❖ Elections can make for diversity ---process and inquiry, KC cannot fund this
- ❖
- ❖ The structure should have consistent regular meetings, ones where no decisions are made, just for listening to input and issues, and followup meetings where votes are made.
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- ❖ Incentivize people to participate in the democratic process. What is our purpose? Why are we here congregating. What does island governance mean? A place for government officials to present information to us in attendance, and a way to lobby government entities to affect issues. –example given for governance and public safety as "lighted crosswalks on Vashon"
- ❖
- ❖ VMICC a forum to address, share, and strategize as an island community around issues, and a way for the county to hear our constituency to commiserate.
- ❖

- ❖ If we accept monies from King County, are we subject to the public records disclosure act or any other implications?
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- ❖ KC will not pay for a formal ballot process for VMICC. We don't need them to. Reminder that at the previous meeting it was discussed that VMICC has also considered the tribal council model of local regional Salish Tribes of the PNW for how we hold council, and those records of reference are accessible ---[Bong S, Dan S, Melvin M]
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- ❖ Consensus that intentions of VMICC and "votes" are by and for Vashon Maury islanders, and Vashon Maury community members.
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- ❖ Request review of Bylaws. Bylaws committee sets rules for subcommittees and general meetings. IF date is not set, if we haven't met before the next meeting then the next meeting will be the general bylaws meeting.
- ❖ Let it be known we are starting a committee and 7 people here have raised their hands to participate.
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- ❖ Bylaws committee forms by raise-of-hands to convene, to address issues raised and continue discussions. Motion to start bylaws committee now. Enter into minutes that all committees are still open to new members. It doesn't feel right to elect anyone at this point, just to do a temperature check for interests.
- ❖ KC Rep Bong Santo Domingo volunteers to share all the bylaws of other community councils in the greater region and send them to David V to share with us for review and access. Melvin M and Dan S also volunteer to share past VMICC bylaws and related notes, with group.
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- ❖ Suggest to start other sub-committees after we have structure from Bylaws and Communications. Consensus vote to break-up general meeting into subcommittees at 8:15pm
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- ❖ Bylaws goal and mission nitty gritty. Next meeting to be held, open, before the next monthly VMICC meeting, at Café Luna, Monday March 2nd at 5pm-6pm. [current members bylaw sub-committee: Melvin M, David V, Diane E, Kyle B, Jim G, Jeff D, Ryan M, Deb T, Jeff Dclff]
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- ❖ What other committees do we need to start now? A Communications Committee. For how people get information. We can reboot the Website with the capacity of a blog space for people to comment. It can't be on a platform like facebook or otherwise that excludes people, it needs to be open to only islanders though. Referenced that there is still a VMICC inactive facebook page from 2013. We don't want to force people to use Facebook or anything else, so the effort will be towards a website. [current members of Communications sub-committee by raise-of-hand: Diane E, Ryan M, Jeff Dclff, Dan S]
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Conclusions: Sub committees are forming to have rules and format for our community town-hall forums VMICC, and communications methods for the community

Action items	Person responsible	Outcome
✓ Clerk volunteered	Kyle B	Volunteered for mtg.
✓ Motion to approve Temp [facilitator] interim until otherwise	David V	Can revisit next mtg
✓ Motion to approve minutes from previous meeting 1/2020	Diane E	Community approves