

# Point Roberts Community Advisory Committee

(PRCAC)

## Regular Meeting of the Board Members

July 10th, 2018

### MINUTES

**In Attendance:**

Jeff Christopher, Chairperson (representing the Point Roberts Taxpayers Association)

David Gellatly, (representing Point Roberts Chamber of Commerce)

Keith Glading (at large)

Linda Hughes (at large)

Absent: Joel Lantz, Chairperson (representing Point Roberts Voters Association)

**Guests:**

Steve Woolf

Mark Robbins

Heidi Baxter

Alison Calder

Bill Meursing

Louise Cassidy

Annelle Norman

Annette Loewen

Bennett Blaustein

Judson Meraw

Jeff Butts

Kimberly Butts

Grant Heitman

Ken Calder

**Call to order**

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Chairman Jeff Christopher, who welcomed everyone and said that this meeting is being audio/visual recorded for posting on YouTube as has become the recent tradition of PRCAC, as a method of engaging more of the community who may not be able to attend in person. This is not obligatory but is done as a courtesy.

Chairman Christopher also stated that this meeting is held under the auspices of regulation 42.30 of the Washington State Public Meetings act. He stated that we do our best to follow Roberts Rules of Order, as we are compelled to do so under the Act. Additionally, this is consistent with our by-laws. He also pointed out that the videos and meeting minutes can be found at the PRCAC page of the Whatcom County website at

<http://www.whatcomcounty.us/563/Point-Roberts-Community-Advisory-Committee>

He advised the public that they only need to sign in if they care to speak, saying that your participation will be part of the public record.

He then announced that the next regular meeting of PRCAC will be held on July August 14<sup>th</sup>, 2018, at 6:00 pm.

Chairman Christopher took a moment to acknowledge the passing of local businessman Wayne Knowles, a fine person; one who contributed selflessly. He continued to say that every project

in this town has been touched by Wayne's vision. In honor of his quiet dignity, and gentle humor, he respectfully asked that all rise and join in a moment of silence, which all then did rise to honor the late Wayne Knowles. Once the moment was completed, Chairman Christopher continued with a wish for blessings to Linda and the family.

**MOTION:** David Gellatly moved that the Agenda be approved. Keith Glading seconded.

**MOTION PASSED 4-0**

**MOTION:** David Gellatly moved that the Minutes of the June 11<sup>th</sup> meeting be approved. Keith Glading seconded. **MOTION PASSED 4-0**

### **Old Business**

The reintroduction of the TBD funds 80/20 accrual proposal was discussed, including the current funds held in trust, the current accumulation rate, and the expectations of accumulation. The Motion, originally made at the June meeting has been amended:

**MOTION** Jeff Christopher moved that PRCAC establish an 80/20 accrual fund policy, whereby 80% of existing and forecasted TBD income be accrued and tracked for leveraging a large scale project or projects on the Point, and further, that these projects be identified and tracked whilst the balance of existing and forecasted funds be utilized on smaller-scale projects, each of which to come under the scrutiny and recommendations of PRCAC.

\*\*\*\* I did not obtain a copy of the Motion as amended, which included some language about keeping the County in check with projects that should or should not use TBD funds.

David Gellatly and Jeff Christopher reported on the discussions of this topic held at the Chamber of Commerce meeting and the Point Roberts Taxpayers' Association meeting, both reporting that the organizations are in favor of the 80/20 accrual/utilization proposal.

Keith Glading and Linda Hughes are also happy with the Motion as amended.

Discussion reviewed various projects that have previously been floored for discussion and Chairman Christopher reported that Brian Walker is working on some informal cost analysis for some of those projects.

Further discussion continued about how PRCAC could be more effective in getting information to the public.

Discussion of the proposed PRCAC Bylaws ensued.

Keith Glading opened discussion of the proposed PRCAC by-laws. Several sections of the draft by-laws were reviewed, changes were suggested and noted.

Keith Glading will draft a transcriber clause for the Bylaws.

## **New Business**

David Gellatly referred to a newspaper article wherein the City of Blaine derives tax revenues from the parcel service outlets within city limits, and wonders if Point Roberts is also entitled to tax revenue from such businesses. Apparently that tax revenue is distributed by the State of Washington to the zip code that the tax revenue is derived from. It may be that Whatcom County is collecting that tax revenue and we should determine whether our share is being credited to Point Roberts. Jeff Christopher offered to bring this question to the County Executive.

Jeff Christopher reviewed all of the upcoming presentations we are expecting in the next few PRCAC meetings, including Small Business Development, Washington State Department of Commerce with potential loan and grant opportunities, and also noted that he intends to visit Lopez Island later this month to learn what can be gleaned from their experiences regarding trash and waste management.

## **Open Session**

Samantha Scholfield addressed the Committee on her continued views of the garbage issue, and in particular her feelings about the dissolution of the PRCAC Sub Committee that she was a member of. Jeff Christopher thanked her for her service on that sub-committee and said he would love to see Samantha on the new version of the sub-committee.

Bill Meursing asked Jeff Christopher to indicate his sincerity about the apologies vocalized about how the sub-committee matters were handled, by please putting his apologies in writing to all members of the original sub-committee.

Alison Calder addressed the Committee on her continued opposition to the current mandated garbage collection initiative.

Heidi Baxter addressed the Committee with her thoughts on how the committee should be looking into alternatives to the current mandated garbage collection initiative.

Louise Cassidy addressed the Committee to review her opposition to the garbage collection initiative and in particular to admonish the At-Large members of the Committee because she felt our role is to be her voice, and therefore to reach out to the community to learn what they want and to be a representative.

Linda Hughes responded to say that she agreed that PRCAC's function is to be the "voice" of Point Roberts to County Council, but disagreed that the At-Large members have an obligation to reach out or to represent opinions of others. Linda Hughes said that she often reaches out to members of the community, and engages in free discussion with lots of people, but personally feels she was appointed to this position to represent her own positions, reminding everyone that they are absolutely free to apply for the At-Large positions and actually become part of the Committee themselves rather than criticize the members that have volunteered many hours on this and other issues on behalf of the community.

Judson Meraw spoke on his opinions about recycling and his concern that PRCAC members were holding “behind the scenes” conversations. All members of PRCAC responded with clarification that discussions between members are allowed, but in accordance with the Open Meetings Act, no quorum has ever been reached at any meeting outside of these regular meetings, nor has any action ever been undertaken outside these regular public, meetings. Judson apologized for his misunderstanding and misguided accusation.

Ken Calder presented a pile of litter that he claims he picked up from the roadway from behind the Cando recycling truck. He then offered his personal projections on possible income if his garbage plan had been implemented.

Jeff Butts addressed the Committee to demand an apology to his wife Kimberly who served on the original garbage sub-committee. He also commented that he felt it was threatening to have the local Sheriff in attendance at these meetings.

Linda Hughes responded that Sheriff McCarthy has attended 75 to 80% of PRCAC meetings, as he is absolutely entitled to do as a member of this community. A

Samantha Schofield spoke again to say that she still wants answers to her questions and further spoke about her frustration with the dissolution of the original sub-committee.

Ken Calder spoke again to address the rumors he has heard that some believe he has an “axe to grind” with the service provider, David Gellatly. He stated that the only axe he has to grind with David is over the issue of garbage service.

Kimberly Butts addressed the Committee to share information she pulled from the PRCAC October 10, 2017 meeting minutes wherein Jeff Hegedus said that 1 can per month would be a basic level, but apparently after talking with David Gellatly changed his position on basis service to 26 cans because it only cost \$4.00 more.

Louise Cassidy said that Whatcom County Solid Waste is aiming for zero waste and she feels the Point Roberts mandated garbage plan penalizes her for not filling 26 cans.

Pat Grubb responded to room discussion referring to the garbage “tax” and the references to the water fees, by clarifying the differences between the services.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.