

AICAB SPECIAL MEETING SUMMARY MINUTES
March 5, 2014 @ Anderson Island Community Clubhouse
(AICAB Approved)

Present: Vice-Chair Carol Pascal (Acting Chair), Treasurer Rich Sullivan, Ann Dasch, Ed Stephenson, Dr. Charlene Holt, Pat Owen, Dave Albertson. **Absent and excused:** Joe Howells, Bobbi Sullivan, Dave Jacobsen.

Call to Order and Verification of Quorum: A quorum was confirmed and the Meeting was called to order by the Acting Chair at approximately 6:30 P.M. The Pledge of Allegiance to the flag was observed.

Adoption of Agenda. It was moved, seconded and agreed to approve the proposed agenda as written.

Statement of Purpose for Special Meeting and Adoption of Agenda. The Acting Chair stated that this is a Special Meeting for the primary purpose of discussion of updates to the Pierce County Community Plan which includes the Anderson-Ketron Islands Community Plan.

Introduction of Guests. Acting Chair Paschal welcomed and introduced Pierce County Planning and Land Services Department staff member Jeff Mann, who introduced fellow staff members Shaun Gaffney, Corry Regan and Toni Fairbanks.

Pierce County Comprehensive Plan Updates for 2014.

Mr. Mann noted that it has been 20 years since the Comprehensive Plan was adopted and State law requires that an update be completed at this point. He provided a Powerpoint overview summarizing the State's Growth Management Act history, the process for updating the County Comprehensive Plan, how the local Community Plans fit into the Comprehensive Plan, and the on-going public participation plan.

The Growth Management Act included 14 planning goals to guide the development of County-level comprehensive plans and development regulations. Pierce County must review and update (if necessary) the Comprehensive Plan, and implement any needed regulations by June 30, 2015. There are several mandatory elements that must be included in the Plan -- such as land use, housing, utilities and urban growth -- but it may also include "optional" elements such as historic preservation, park and recreation, and environment. Pierce County has opted to include the optional elements in its Plan. This review and update is in response to the many changes over the last 20 years including new laws, population growth, and legal cases that have affected the world of planning.

In addition to the various Community Plans within the County, the County Comprehensive Plan also includes a Capital Facilities Plan (e.g. roads), Transportation Plan, Park, Recreation and Open Space Plan and a Unified Sewer Plan -- as well as other plans. The Anderson-Ketron Islands Community Plan is just one of eleven Community Plans created since 2000 that will roll up into the Pierce County Comprehensive Plan. A number of areas originally identified in the various Community Plans like land use policies, wildlife and wetlands concerns, and building design standards, are now addressed by County-wide regulations and programs. In addition, some policies were so common among the Community Plans, that it makes sense to formally recognize them as County-wide policy in the Comprehensive Plan.

In the process of review, a number of policies were identified that are very specific or unique to a given community, and those will be retained in that appropriate Community Plan. Policies that are universal among the Community Plans will be moved to the Comprehensive Plan. Policies that are essentially regulatory in nature will be removed as they are too specific for a Community Plan, and they may already be addressed in County Code. Policies that are no longer relevant will be deleted.

The Anderson Island Citizens' Advisory Board (AICAB) is chartered with advising Pierce County on matters including land use, environmental regulations, transportation, infrastructure, etc. In other communities, specific Land Use Advisory Commissions (LUAC) were established to develop the Community Plans, and now are being called on to review and support the update process. In addition, public hearings will be held in late 2014 to take direct public input. The County Council will adopt the revised Comprehensive Plan in 2015.

Mr. Mann reviewed the information and resources available on the County's Comprehensive Plan update website (<http://www.piercecountywa.org/compplan>), including an opportunity to sign-up to receive ongoing information on the progress of the Comprehensive Plan update. And you can "like" them on Facebook to receive regular progress postings. In response to a question about "outreach" to community members, it was noted that a postcard will be sent to every mail address providing details on how information may be accessed and comments provided.

An information sheet on the County's "mark-up" method was provided to AICAB and the community members in attendance. Yellow highlighting indicates the item will remain in the Community Plan. A strike-out with notes in red indicate a move (if not covered already) to the Comprehensive Plan. Orange high-lighted items are considered "regulatory" in nature. A strike-out without notes indicates the item would simply be deleted. Mr. Mann shared several examples as to how that method is applied in the Anderson-Ketron Islands Community Plan. AICAB members did suggest that some explanation of why an item is being deleted would be very helpful. Much of the shoreline protection policy is now being superceded by the revisions to the County's Shoreline Master Program updates, which is "regulatory", so it will come out of the Community Plan. In response to a question about the strike-out of Community Plan Principal 25.3, "Work with WDFW to develop management recommendations that control nuisance animals such as raccoons and coyotes", it was noted that WDFW is a State agency and Pierce County has no "control" over them – therefore it is probably not appropriate for inclusion in the County's Comprehensive Plan. Acting Chair Paschal noted that because the Island has its own Park & Recreation District (e.g. local control), there are things in the "open space" section that might deserve inclusion in both the Comprehensive Plan and our local Community Plan.

If there are changes we would like to make to the County's first pass on the Anderson-Ketron Islands Community Plan, AICAB members and community members are encouraged to mark up the summary document and send that in to PALS – individually or as a group. They would like that feedback in the next "three or four weeks". They agreed to accumulate the comments and suggestions they receive from Anderson Island and get those back to AICAB (Joe). Mr. Mann clarified they are not really looking at creating "new" policies at this point, so comments should be on "existing" policies. This same team from Planning and Land Services will be back out to the Island again as the process of updates moves forward.

Announcements and Adjournment.

The Chair adjourned the meeting at approximately 7:33 p.m.