

ORCAS VILLAGE PLAN – MEETING #2
MEETING NOTES – AUGUST 23, 2007

Attendees:

Francine Shaw, Elizabeth Waterman, Patrick Kirby, Savvy Sanders, Henry Parsons, Libby Blackwell, Alan Lichter, Mike Krieger, Dick and Ann Griot, Jim Forbes, Mamie Forbes, Ryan Forbes, Andrea Cohen, Patty Pirnack-Hamilton, John Mazzarella, Sara Jane Johnson, Lisa Byers, Barbara A. Jamieson, Barbara Brown, Ron Rebman, Bob Gamble, Barbara Fleming, Margaret Jonas, Lili Hein, Margie Doyle, Sean DeMeritt, Mike Jonas, Mike Powell, Dan Vekved, Phil Branch, Teresa Chocano, David Sowers, Peter C. Fisher, Rollie Sauer, Ed Sutton, Doug Tidwell, Louellen and Miles McCoy, Sam Walker, Robert S. Distler, and Libby Cook.

Staff and Consultant Present:

Colin Maycock, Senior Planner, San Juan County Community Development and Planning Dept.
Laura Arnold, Consultant
Notes Taker: Lynda Guernsey, San Juan County Community Development and Planning Dept.

Time and Location:

4:10 p.m. – 6:35 p.m.; West Sound Community Club, Orcas Island

Next Meeting(s):

September 12, 2007 and September 26, 2007; 5 p.m. – 7 p.m.; West Sound Community Club, Orcas Island

Meeting:

Colin Maycock introduced himself and Laura Arnold to the public and then went on to describe the Orcas Village Plan process to-date. Laura touched briefly on changes to address shoreline development. Discussion followed.

The topics discussed were:

- ❖ Moorage Development
 1. Control of Marinas -Colin
 - a. Kept to current scale, which means limited in size.
 - b. Some expansion at Jacobson's expected.
 - c. Residential docks to remain same as in current Shoreline Master Program .
 - d. Dock access to ferry landing is desirable in some manner by Jacobson's, perhaps by the County.

❖ Affordable Housing

1. Description of density bonuses.
2. Description of floating zones.
3. How market rate and density bonuses work.
4. Explanation of how Deer Harbor handled it.
5. Infrastructure concerns.
6. Traffic and parking issues will increase with higher density.

❖ Traffic

1. A major issue for all property owners.
2. It is dangerous now in regards to bicycles, people, cars, no parking, there should not be an increase in density.
3. Ticketing?
4. Need to clear a place for pedestrians as they are the biggest problem.
5. No one doing anything about traffic rerouting.
6. State Highway designation looked into?
7. Circulation Study will be put on County website.
8. A Public Works representative will be at the September 12, 2007 meeting to discuss present and future status.

❖ Parking

1. On the corner coming around the gift store from the ferry landing, people park in the bicycle lane, trucks can't make the corner without going in the other lane, there should be no parking on the side of the road there.
2. Something needs to be done about the turn around and parking in that area (by the store).
3. The ferry does impact this area greatly.
4. Enforcement issues.
5. Paid parking behind Post Office.

❖ Density

1. Request for 2 units per acre, with perhaps half affordable (with an incentive).
2. No increased density.
3. It is dangerous now in regards to bicycles, people, cars, no parking, there should not be an increase in density.
4. Explanation of how a density bonus might work will be done at the September 12, 2007 meeting.

❖ Ferry

1. Ed Sutton, from the Ferry Advisory Committee, stated that the state capital budget was frozen regarding the ferries and that there was no sign of a change in ferry funding for the next 10 years.
2. Bob Distler, Washington State Transportation Commissioner, disagreed. This plan could get a process started. The community could come up with ideas on funding support and let the powers that be know that we need the improvements now, or sooner than later. If nothing changes in the near future, Orcas could lose a ferry run.
3. David Sowers, Representative of WA State Ferries, stated that there were no capital improvement projects on the table for Orcas as there are no funding sources available. Something could perhaps get done if people would lobby the

legislature for it, and a representative would bring it forward. The ferry system would be open to partnering with the County to talk about the parking issues. The recommendations in the Washington State Ferries Orcas Terminal Preliminary Site Development Study, February 2006, are very preliminary.

4. Gridlock and congestion at the ferry landing.
 5. Ferry issues themselves need to be part of separate process, not tied into this one.
 6. No gridlock at ferry landing.
 7. Concern as to whatever is decided in the plan regarding traffic, etc., now, could be usurped when the ferry decides to make capital improvements.
 8. Clear demarcation of specific walkways for pedestrians around ferry.
 9. Overnight Ferry stay maybe alternative to address some problems.
 10. David Sowers will send .pdf reports on Ferry options when they become available so they can be put online.
- ❖ History of Plan
1. This is a draft document that has been developing since 1998.
 2. To some of the public this is a new concept.
 3. The plan shouldn't violate property owner's rights.
 4. We should go forward using this plan.
 5. Would like to know the reasons for the changes to the 1999 plan regarding allowable uses.
 6. The 1999 plan will be put on the web.
 7. The 1999 plan is beautiful.
- ❖ Process
1. Plan goes through Planning Commission then to County Council with input at both levels from public.
 2. Smaller groups to work on particular issues?
 3. Planning Commission tentatively set for a November hearing, the County Council in perhaps January.
- ❖ Environmental Concerns
1. Oil and water dripping down road, by the Orcas Hotel, and down into the water.
 2. Stormwater
 3. In regards to stormwater, the County-wide plan applies.
- ❖ Development Standards
1. Will be discussed at the September 12, 2007 meeting.
 2. Rural area.
 3. Large setbacks are critical.
 4. Open space should be designated.
- ❖ Land Use Tables
1. Will be discussed at the September 26, 2007 meeting.
 2. It looks like commercial use is prohibited in the Orcas Village Plan unless a conditional use permit is acquired. It should be broadened.
- ❖ Updated Maps
1. Would like to see parking, sidewalk improvement, pathway areas on a map.
 2. Would like to see updated map with red and orange areas combined.