

# CLINTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

## **Who is in attendance:**

Kristina Hines (speaking guest)  
Max Foster - community member  
Doug Hofies - community member  
Carol Flax  
Shauna Causey  
Doug Brand  
Joe Greenheron  
Don Simmons  
Phyllis Alexander  
Curt Gordon

Not in attendance: Mike Clyburn, Emily Switzer, Jon Forbes, Mike Gerhardt, Dave Hoogerwerf

## **Kristina Hines (special guest speaker)**

- They are an ADO via the Dept of Commerce - perform work of a specific region
- tasked with creating jobs and ensuring business thrive
- privately funded, nonprofit, a C6 (memberships not fundraising)
- Opting for business friendly policies

## **Their Goals:**

1. Business retention and expansion: businesses open, stay and grow (affordable housing, workforce development, educating small businesses and more is part of this)
2. Recruitment / Investment for new businesses that fit needs of area, bring higher wage jobs

- Traditionally EDC has taken a high level approach to the community.
- Focused on more partnerships now to support goals (ie: Goosefoot for training and not competing on plans)
- Comprehensive Economic Strategy (CEDS) is their part that is going into the long range comp plan
- Each year they product a progress report on this and how it's going
- 91% of businesses in Island Co have less than 10 employees
- 94% of WA businesses in WA are less than 10 employees
- Right now they are focused on helping with tariffs and understanding that
- All programs are open to everyone
- Annual budget is \$350K this year
- Idea they are considering: being a connector of real estate spaces to potential entrepreneurs

## **Upcoming presentations at our meetings:**

- Island Transit is an upcoming one
- May 19 is May meeting - farming might be topic for May, Island County Health Dept, water topic

## **Emily Neff**

- subarea plan moratorium to preserve
- taking longer for next version of plan, alternate release schedule - going longer than May or June

**A development representative from the area with an ask:**

Ask to support to develop the area near the library and post office into housing, which could end up being luxury condos if approved. They are asking for our support

- Making the case for his development proposition: Clinton is ripe for transit oriented housing (bus and ferry hub), some lots are too small
  - Specific property they want to develop: 12 acre property - some is wetlands but 3-4 acres is usable and they'd use that and use the wetlands for open area/possible play area?
  - advocate for state to sell some land to developer?
  - Griffith property not included in RAID because of wetlands on property but the case could be made for zoning to be different now
  - Even Griffith (spelling?) is the one who wants to develop the property
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- Right now, part of it is a wetland and this development would not be legal. They want to change that and make building on the site allowable.
  - Question raised from the group: what's the benefit to support this big development?
  - Max is 12 per acre, could we ask for less, could we ask for certain amount of space that's not a wetland, could we ask for wetland to be treated in some way, drain field left.
  - Group discussion: What does WEAN think? We would like to look at all options before agreeing to either support this or not support it.

**We need 3 new board members**

- need committee, 2 new at large members
- Committee is Jon, Christina, and Carol