

Greater Kingston Community Conversation ~ October 21, 2023

Discussion Report Outline

Report on **specific actionable items** to implement.

1. **Topic Area: Parks and Rec**
2. **Session 1**

Facilitator Michele Laboda

Scribe Stan Mack

3. **List of Participants:** Ron Carter, Clint Boxman, Kris Libby, Mary Jane Gilbreath, Beverly Parsons, Craig Smith, (Steve Heacock sat in late)

Discussion Questions

4. **Descriptions of the issues, problems, or challenges facing our community. (Briefly describe the issues shared by each individual.)**

A perceived lack of coordinated recreational facilities

Trails and parks are plentiful and good. There is a lack of facilities for organized outdoor sports, especially needed for youth, but also for adults. There is an economic development aspect to be considered. Recreation should be considered for all kids including those who are not into sports. Consider the well being of all kids (Arts, STEM, etc.) as well as sports. There is a lack of leadership to work on all of these. There is a shortage of playing fields. Would be nice to have local control of facilities. (County controls bathrooms at Kole Kole park and keep them locked.) How many fields are lighted? (?)

5. What is the group's identified main issue or a prioritized list of the group's three top issues.

- A. Lack of facilities and need to travel to access**
- B. Inadequate attention to non traditional sports activities**
- C. Lack of representation and leadership**

6. What are some possible short-term solutions (1-3 years) to the problem(s)?

Bring these issues to our legislators. (Including School Board.)

We need to get the facts in front of the general public. Educating the public. Holding a mediated conversation just around this specific topic to allow people to be heard and express their concerns and be able to receive factual information, with stakeholders and concerned citizens. North Kitsap Council? KCAC (?) has significant limitations in what they can do. Commissioner Rolfe has a lot on her plate and could use input from topic

specific groups like recreation. It could be a short term group for a specific issue. We need to have representation from all of North Kitsap.

Solution: Facilitated and focused conversation. How defined? Who would do it.

Solution: A recreation committee under county auspices (Commissioner, not Kitsap Parks and Rec)

7. What are some possible long term solutions (4-10 years) to the problem(s)?

Solution: facilitated/focused conversation such as this meeting....led possibly by County Commissioner with all possible stakeholders. For education, not siloed, information.

Put together by a neutral party. Three commissioners, not just Commissioner Rolfes

Bring in state and federal representatives. This community has done amazing things in the past. We can build on a strong community foundation.

8. How will the people and organizations represented here be involved in working on these solutions in 2023-2024?

Beverly, Clint, Mary Jane, Craig, Kris will advise Kingston Cares about hosting above.

Review how the VG came about. Kingston Cares as a conduit to organize a conversation about this. Beverly and Craig will put together a proposal to Kingston Cares.