

Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting

Tuesday, February 18, 2025 – 5:00 pm

In-Person: Percival Plaza – Olympics Room, 626 Columbia Street NW, Suite 1B, Olympia
Zoom (Public Link): <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89536706052?pwd=QfbrwbdkXbSsLNgJfLkacaauMAMhbz.1>
Meeting ID: 895 3670 6052 | Passcode: 401977 | Or Telephone: 1 253 215 8782

AGENDA

5:00 – 5:05 p.m.	Welcome and Call to Order	5 min	Joel Hansen, Chair
5:05 – 5:10 p.m.	Approval of Agenda and January 21, 2025 Minutes	5 min	Joel Hansen
5:10 – 5:30 p.m.	Public Comment – 20 minutes – Citizens may address the POCAC/ Commission with any items related to the agenda. Limit comments to 3 minutes per person. Members of the public may comment on agenda items and other port business. NOTE: Guidelines for public comment can be found in the Commission Rules in Resolution 2025-03 Article VI. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>Comments should be directed to POCAC/Commission</u>: Comments should be directed to the POCAC/ Commission as a whole and should not include comments about individual Port staff or members of the public.• <u>Courtesy</u>: All speakers (members of the public, Port staff, the POCAC and Commissioners) shall be courteous in language and demeanor and shall confine remarks to those facts that are germane and relevant to the question or issue under discussion.	20 min	
5:30 – 5:40 p.m.	Chair Update	10 min	Joel Hansen
5:40 – 6:40 p.m.	Workplan Discussions <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Budd Inlet Subcommittee• Port of Olympia Citizens Advisory Committee	60 min	Bob Wubbena, Chair and Jim Thornton, Vice Chair Joel Hansen, Chair
6:40 – 7:00 p.m.	Subcommittee Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Economic Development Subcommittee• Destination Waterfront Subcommittee	20 min	Anthony Hemstad, Chair Quentin Phillips, Chair
7:00 p.m.	Adjourn		

<http://www.portolympia.com/commission>

Written public comments may be submitted to commissioncoordinator@portolympia.com by 12:00 p.m. on the date of the meeting.

All written comments will be compiled and sent to the POCAC Chair and Commissioners prior to the meeting.

Verbal public comment is accepted in person at the meeting.

If you are attending the meeting via Zoom, you may raise your hand during the meeting to give public comment.

For those listening by phone, press *9 if you wish to raise your hand and provide comment.

Individual public comments are limited to 3 minutes per person.

Port of Olympia Mission

Creating economic opportunities and building community for all of Thurston County through responsible resource use.



**Citizens Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, January 21, 2025**

Port of Olympia Citizens Advisory Committee Chair, Joel Hansen, called the Citizens Advisory Committee meeting of January 21, 2025, to order at 5:31 p.m. at the Percival Plaza at 626 Columbia Street NW, Suite 1B, Olympics Room, in Olympia, Washington.

Present

Members: Joel Hansen – Chair, Jack Havens, Anthony Hemstad, Darlene Kemery, Don Krug – Vice Chair, Sue Patnude, Quentin Phillips, Sheila Wilson, and Bob Wubbena.

Attended Virtually: Debby Pattin.

Excused Absence: Jim Thornton and Dave Wheeler.

Staff: Alex Smith, Executive Director; Mike Reid, Director of Community and Economic Development; and Missy Goodell, Executive and Commission Coordinator.

Approval of Agenda

Joel Hansen moved to update the agenda to allow Port Executive Director Alex Smith, and Mike Reid, Director of Community and Economic Development, to say a few words. Don Krug seconded the motion. Motion to amend the agenda passed unanimously.

Alex introduced herself and indicated that she would attend POCAC meetings if her schedule allowed.

Mike Reid introduced himself and indicated that he would support both the Destination Waterfront Subcommittee and the Economic Development Subcommittee. Mike shared his background which includes real estate, communications, marketing and outreach.

Approval of November 19, 2024 Minutes

Bob Wubbena moved to approve the November 19, 2024, minutes; Jim Thornton seconded the motion. Joel Hansen proposed a few edits to the November 19, 2024 meeting minutes and moved to approve the November 19, 2024 minutes with his amendments; amended motion seconded. Motion to approve the amended November 19, 2024 minutes passed unanimously.

Public Comment

No public comment was provided.

Chair Update

Joel reported that he attended the Washington Public Ports Association (WPPA) Annual Meeting in December which was held at the Hyatt Regency in Bellevue from December 11 to December 13.

It was shared that Port of Olympia Commissioners are always welcome to attend the POCAC meetings.

Subcommittee Reports

Destination Waterfront Subcommittee

Quentin Phillips, Destination Waterfront Subcommittee Chair, reported that the Destination Waterfront Subcommittee met with Alex Smith, Port of Olympia Executive Director, a few weeks ago and discussed the information that was gathered in the past which contributed to the Destination Waterfront plan.

The Subcommittee is interested in improving public access, improving the caps and irrigation.

It was shared that Black Hills Audubon Society posted an interpreter sign at NorthPoint by KGY in the park.

A community center and its potential use was discussed. It was suggested that each room in the center could be a point of interest, such as wildlife, port/marina, Indian heritage, museum, etc. A maritime center – something to promote the port and for the public to understand the history and importance of this area/project – was also discussed.

A timeline for the peninsula Master Plan was shared. Alex Smith reported that the goal is to complete the Master Plan by the end of 2025. Active cleanup is expected in the 2028 to 2029 time period. Sampling has just begun in West Bay with the results expected in approximately one year.

Budd Inlet Subcommittee

Bob Wubbena, Budd Inlet Subcommittee Chair, reported that their committee of five integrated their opinions into an 8-page report. At their January meeting they agreed to narrow down some suggested basic policies to present to the Commissioners. February 6 is the next meeting where they will work to complete a working draft of their plan. Working with the City of Olympia was also discussed.

Economic Development Subcommittee

Anthony Hemstad, Chair of the Economic Development Subcommittee, reported that their subcommittee is looking at big picture items – what items offer true economic development opportunities to the port?

On November 1, the POCAC Economic Development Subcommittee hosted Peter Phillips, a consultant in the maritime world, who works with manufacturers of electric ferries. At this meeting a discussion was held regarding the possibility of an electric ferry manufacturer looking at Port properties as a potential site to build ferries. The possibility of facilitating an electric ferry service from Olympia to Tacoma or Seattle was also discussed.

Afsin Yilmaz presented at the last Economic Development Subcommittee meeting regarding the Marine Terminal. He has some great ideas to produce more revenue for the Port of Olympia.

POCAC Member Terms Extended

Joel reported that thanks to the work of POCAC members Quentin Phillips and Debby Pattin, a suggestion to the commission was made to extend terms of many POCAC members.

Quentin Phillips submitted a written proposal to Port of Olympia Commissioners requesting extensions to POCAC terms. A Resolution will be brought forward for Commission approval at their January 2025 meeting.

Name	Current Term Ends	Suggested Term Extension
Bob Wubbena	December 2024	December 2027
Joel Hansen	December 2024	December 2027
Sue Patnude	December 2024	December 2027
Jim Thornton	December 2024	December 2027
Quentin Phillips	December 2024	December 2027
Debby Pattin	December 2024	December 2025

The term limit will be changed to allow serving 4 terms. 3-year terms are suggested with the Port of Olympia Commission having the authority to appoint and re-appoint POCAC members as needed.

Old Business

Recruiting new POCAC members was discussed as the POCAC currently has six unfilled positions. Joel Hansen, Commissioner Sanders and Alex Smith will meet to discuss potential new members. The importance of diversification and representation from all five districts was discussed as was the importance of tribal representation. Joel Hansen will lead the effort, along with POCAC member Sheila Wilson, and they will reach out to Port of Olympia marketing and outreach staff, Taber Lee.

New Business

Sue Patnude shared that the Deschutes Estuary Restoration Team (DERT) is conducting a Sustainable Development Workshop on Tuesday, January 28 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Olympia Center. Discussion will include development pressure on the watershed and opportunities for sustainability.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:17 p.m.