

Skagit County Agriculture Advisory Board

Meeting Summary – November 13th, 2024

Commissioners Hearing Room/MS Teams

Members in Attendance

Michael Hughes	Terry Sapp	Steve Wright
Kim Mower	Cindy Kleinhuizen	Justin Hayton
Steve Skrinde	Kraig Knutzen	Michael Trafton

Others in Attendance

Jack Moore, Director Skagit County Planning & Development Services (PDS)

Malia Agpawa, Skagit County Planning & Development Services (PDS)

Commissioner Peter Browning, Skagit County Commissioner's Office

River Elderholly, Community Member

Call to Order, Introductions

Michael Hughes called the meeting to order at 6:03 pm.

Approval of Meetings Summary

Approval of October meeting minutes pushed to December 11th.

Guest Speaker

Jack Moore, Director Skagit County Planning and Development

Jack updated the group on agritourism in Skagit County, and what that will look like moving forward.

- Jack introduced the idea of having a community group with diverse backgrounds to comment and advise on agritourism. The hope for this project is to find a facilitator for this group.
- It was mentioned that the Planning and Development department, would take the comments from this group, into consideration.

- The Planning and Development department is hoping to adopt a new code change regarding the types of agritourism allowed in Skagit County.

Jack Moore, Director Skagit County Planning and Development

Jack updated the group on the proposed 2025 comprehensive plan, specifically the Environment, Climate Resiliency, and Climate Integration sections.

- The group's main concerns with climate change would be availability to water (in the future), and food security for farmers.
- If we get extreme climate change, more farmers are expected to be coming to Washington to use the valuable farmland that has been preserved.

Old Business

Nothing to report at this time.

Committee Reports

- a. **Economic Development-** Don McMoran (Chair), Murray Benjamin, John Morrison

Nothing at this time.

- b. **Critical Areas-** Nels Lagerlund (Chair), Murray Benjamin, John Morrison

Nothing at this time.

- c. **Land Use-** Terry Sapp (Chair), Cindy Kleinhuizen, Kraig Knutzen, Steve Omdal, Michael Trafton, & Don McMoran

Nothing at this time.

- d. **Flood, Drainage, and Irrigation-** Kraig Knutzen (Chair), Nels Lagerlund, & Steve Wright

Nothing at this time.

- e. **WSU Update-** Don McMoran

Nothing at this time.

Adjourn

Justin Hayton moved to adjourn; Kim Mower seconded. Meeting adjourned at 7:31 pm.

Next meeting is December 11th, 2024, at 6pm