

Commons Committee Minutes Thursday 12.4.2025

In attendance:

Martha Woodard, Tim Stapleton, Hans Van Dusen, Jo Moccia, Mark Fry, Leif Rosford, Robin Miller Thomas

Public comments:

No public comments.

Identify potential 'at-large' member:

Tim Stapleton agreed to develop a list of individuals who are of the most active participants in the utilization of the Commons's facilities.

Current invoice and status:

Tim Stapleton noted that the funding is available to pay the December payment and will reach out to Cassie regarding the invoice. Jo Moccia agreed with this approach to getting the payment processed.

Equity-based subcommittee report out:

The subcommittee had a thoughtful discussion regarding the policy-level incorporation of equitable facility use and the Commons Agreement.

Subjects of Discussion:

An important part of the policy discussion focused on compliance with state and local laws, especially ESSB 5967, the Washington Law Against Discrimination, and King County Code 12.22, which specifically protect gender identity or expression and sexual orientation. David Hackett was able to share his expertise on these subjects.

- A possible future action item for this group would be to establish a seasonal review process to examine parity our facility use. This could be completed via a subcommittee format.
- A concept we discussed included the idea that we could establish a process that considers how the a proposed seasonal schedule meets a standard of parity across gender lines, especially in high-demand, high-use facilities (like the stadium turf).

We all agreed that non-discrimination is paramount, any changes must continue to reflect the fact that school use is the top priority, and maximizing facility usage.

If policy changes via the Commons Agreement or through individual organizations is a path this boards chooses to pursue. We discussed that the following best practices may be beneficial to consider (list not exhaustive):

- **Publication and Training:** Broad publication of policy related to these matters and providing training to staff/coaches on non-discrimination requirements.
- **Monitoring:** Things monitored tend to better produce intended results; this could potentially happen through a dedicated sub-committee or staff position that reports usage data seasonally.
- **Review of Peer Policies:** It was recommended that the group continue to examine peer municipal policies (like those from the City of Kirkland) to ensure any changes to adopted policies are comprehensive, effective, and aligns with current best practices for public facility rental and use.

Use of scoreboard controller:

Tim Stapleton and Robin Miller requested VISD let them know where to store the scoreboard controller when it is left out and possible to be used by the public. Jo Moccia requested that Tim Stapleton reach out directly to Anders Blomgren for the answer. Tim Stapleton agreed to do that.

Share any available changes for 1Q2026:

During the upcoming winter break, the school district will be refinishing the gym floor at the grade school. Facilities will be closed 12/22/2025 – 1/6/2026. In addition, there will also be a closure during 2/14 – 2/21/2026 for additional work.

Jo Moccia also discussed a potential solar energy grant the school district is hoping to receive in 2026. They should know something before the end of this month.

Any other coordination items in need of committee discussion?:

No additional items.

Motion to adjourn:

Movement by Jo Moccia.

Second by Martha Woodard.

All voted in favor.