



AGENDA

Financial Challenges Community Advisory Group
November 15, 2017, 6:30-8:30 PM

6:30 **Welcome – Julie Underwood, MI City Manager**

- Introductions to City staff and facilitator
- Icebreaker

6:55 **Why We Are Here**

- **Learning. Discussion. Action.**
- Quiz on Mercer Island!

7:10 **Working Well Together – Jenny Brailey, Brailey Consulting**

- CAG Charter: Our Purpose, Ground Rules and Roles
- Workplan and Timeline

7:25 **Getting to Know Each Other**

- Pair and Share Exercise

8:10 **Brainstorm: What Questions Do We Expect to Answer?**

- What questions do we have about the City or its financial challenges that we hope to have answered over the course of our next 4 meetings? ...big picture questions, specific and detailed questions, areas of confusion, rumors to be addressed...all are welcome.
- Sticker Exercise

8:25 **Conclusion**

- Next Meeting: Sat., Jan. 6, 9:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. (snacks provided)
- CAG Binders

DETAILED VERSION

6:15-6:30

Pre-Meeting Mingle. Sticker Dot Exercises.

- Timeline of when you moved to MI, 1960s to 2017.
- Map of MI showing where you live.

6:30

Welcome – Julie Underwood, MI City Manager

- Welcome and thank you for being here, CAG, Council members & Observers too
- We will have quick introductions from the City, then a brief icebreaker activity, then we'll talk about **why we are here**
- First, Introductions:
 - About Julie, her background and role at MI
 - Chip, his background and his role at MI
 - Other staff in attendance
 - Jenny
 - You! – You are the most important people here, and this group will be productive and effective because of each of you. Thank you for taking time to share where you live and how long you've been on MI, when you came in the door. Obviously we have a really diverse mix of people here, which is great. We're going to get to know you all more in-depth a little bit later in the meeting, but for right now I'd like to do quick introductions.
- Icebreaker: Lets go around the room, introduce yourself with your name, where you live on the island, how long you've been on MI, and tell us "When you think of Mercer Island, what's one **word or image or picture** that comes to mind?"

6:55

Why We Are Here

- Because we CARE about our Community! (as our icebreaker just showed)
- Because we all want our City on stable financial footing and we want basic city services to be met
- We are here for **Learning. Discussion. Action.**
 - **Learning by You** (about the City budget, our services, our staffing, how we pay for things, where the money comes from, what expenditures are unavoidable and which ones are discretionary, how good a job we're doing, how efficient we are, what mandates we have to follow, etc.)
 - **Learning by the City** (about your questions and concerns, your interests or positions, your vision for Mercer Island, your ideas on improving City government, resolving our budget challenges, etc.)
 - **Discussion:** about community priorities, the value of city services, the level and mix of City services, whether we should grow or reduce services or keep them the same, etc.
 - **Action:** Recommendation to City manager next April. A consensus recommendation is our goal, which means general agreement which can be unanimous or not. (See definitions of consensus...it's not necessarily unanimous).
- A lot of learning is going to happen here!
 - Start in fun way: Quiz on MI (PowerPoint)

7:10

Working Well Together – Jenny Brailey, Brailey Consulting

- CAG Charter – Jenny ask members to take turns reading the ground rules
- CAG Workplan and Timeline
- Hand out Charter *after discussion*

7:25

Getting to Know Each Other (Jenny)

- Pair and Share, away from the table (pair with someone you don't already know). Take turns telling: why you applied to be part of the CAG, what special interest you bring or represent, if any; your approach to helping the group work collaboratively and productively toward consensus.

- Take notes on one other person and be ready to share
- Return to the whole group and report back (round robin) (Jenny flipchart)

8:10

Brainstorm: What Questions Do We Expect to Answer (Jenny)

- What questions do you have about the City or its budget challenges that you hope to have answered over the course of our next 4 meetings? ...big picture questions, specific and detailed questions, areas of confusion, rumors to be addressed...all are welcome. (Jenny flipchart)

We will keep this handy and make sure they are addressed. Sticker exercise – 2 colors, place next to questions that are MOST important to you, and IMPORTANT BUT LESS IMPORTANT.

8:25

Conclusion (Jenny)

- Next Meetings: Saturday, January 6, 9:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. (snacks provided)
- CAG Binders