

**SAMMAMISH SENIORS “COMMUNITY CONVERSATION” July 13, 2022**  
**Speakers from Sammamish City Council: Kali Clark, Karen Howe, Amy Lam**

**Getting To Know You, City Strengths, and Opportunities**

**Kali** - Background with Department of Natural Resources, Disaster Response, FEMA

- Currently Emergency Manager for Sound Transit
- Based her campaign on
  - need to diversify council with LGBTQI representation
  - urban forest management
  - advocacy for all modalities of sustainable transportation

**Karen** - Microsoft background

- Based her campaign on tenacity for community representation of
  - development
  - traffic
  - communications
- Wants to be a city leader in
  - efficiency
  - affordability
  - attainability
  - city-wide representation
- Compared city to stages of child development, identifying favorite times and challenging times
- Communication needs repeated messages, visual images, transparency
- When discussing development, word choice is very important. I’m in favor of planning our future which includes planning for a vibrant town center so that we can thoughtfully manage our growth very intentionally. Typically, those who promote housing options are mischaracterized as pro-development which of course is not the case.

**Amy** - Background as a designer, hopes to

- change design, content of city newsletter
- have a website update
- create a dashboard for easily understood/digested up to the minute “state of the city”
- Based her campaign on
  - climate
  - meeting needs for residents through Town Center development
  - diversity representation, especially cultural
  - common goals/alignment of city council to move the city forward
- All agreed Town Center development and affordable housing is a high priority.
- They are surprised at time it takes to be a City Councilmember.
- Communications challenges arise from lack of newspaper, ways to communicate with non-tech users.
- They want engagement with public comment, emails, and phone calls to hear from the community.
- They desire transparency and accountability to the community

**Seniors in Sammamish**

- Tom expressed need for part time Program Coordinator.
- Councilmembers agreed we need to rebrand and take Senior out of our name.
- We could help city with comprehensive database that identifies volunteers’ skills, interests, expertise.
- City could help us with communication about program offerings and transportation assistance.
- Affordable housing developed with city support is a priority for older adults.
- **\*\*\* Need participation in housing action plan survey: <https://www.research.net/r/73FCLGZ> .**
- Council wants to establish a community program for older adults, with intergenerational components.
- There is a need for a more comprehensive city plan for warming/cooling centers for extreme weather.