

WEPC Community Meeting
February 10, 2016 – Wenatchee Valley Museum
Notes – Jean Speidel

Attendees

Public:

Mark Kulaas – City Council
Lyle Markhart – City Council
[*unknown man*] – United Neighbors Association (UNA)
[*unknown man*] – UNA
Edwin Fonseca – UNA? WVC student
Bryan Campbell
Jesus Hernandez

Sara Urdahl

Committee:

Oralia Banuelos, Mario Cantu, Gustavo Montoya, Joe Morrison, Karen Rutherford, Jean Speidel, Mark Urdahl

Staff:

Tammy Stanger, Allison Williams

Wenatchee World reporter:

Pete O’Cain

Comments:

Jesus Hernandez – Do we have information on other cities regarding whether Latinos become council members by running, or by appointment first and then running?

-- For low income and minority people, the system is intimidating. We need intentional outreach to increase the number of candidates and voters.

-- In favor of districts to counteract block voting (in, for example, the election of Supreme Court Justice González) and increase participation

-- There is value in the city taking the lead in educating people to become leaders

Mark Kulaas – Urged consideration of natural neighborhoods in drawing districts

Edwin Fonseca – In favor of seven districts. Latinos understand other Latinos (culturally).

I am not a very good secretary, but these are the comments I captured. Perhaps other committee members have more to add. Also, attached is the Wenatchee World article about the event, dated February 16.