

10 Questions About Fort Worden Hospitality Corp. and a Plea for More Community Voices

1. Is a WA nonprofit corporation the appropriate structure for Fort Worden Housing, an organization whose main purpose as shown in its business plan is to operate a hospitality business?
2. As a WA nonprofit corporation which intends to raise funds from the public and hire staff, will Fort Worden Housing register as a WA charitable organization as required? Can it do so if its main purpose is a hospitality business?
3. What is Fort Worden Housing's exempt purpose, and if charitable, which charitable purpose will it serve, that qualifies it to be a tax exempt 501 (c)(3) organization under IRS rules, one of your stated goals?
4. Why is a new charitable organization needed when the Fort Worden Foundation exists to support the PDA and the Partners and help meet State and Federal charitable purposes tests?
5. What is the role of investors in Fort Worden Housing, how will it accept and use private investments, and what return, security, and guaranties will it provide to investors?
6. How is raising the emergency bridge financing and investment needed to sustain Fort Worden and PDA operations possible though Fort Worden Housing, a new entity with no credit, capacity, or collateral?
7. How will Fort Worden Housing realize its mission through a hospitality business, specifically providing lifelong learning programming?
8. How does the PDA advance the Lifelong Learning Center mission and improve and sustain the physical campus after one of the major sources of income, hospitality revenue, is transferred to Fort Worden Housing?
9. How are Fort Worden Housing board members selected? Can and should PDA board members also serve as Fort Worden Housing board members?
10. Would Fort Worden, the PDA and community be served as well or better with more attentive leadership, emergency response plans, and adequate reserves, rather than a complicated and rushed major structural reorganization that reduces public accountability and oversight?

Please provide the community more information and real opportunities to influence the reorganization and business plans before Fort Worden Housing marches forward.