



FALL CITY COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION MEETING MINUTES

September 4, 2018 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Fall City Fire Station

President Ashley Glennon welcomed attendees, called the meeting to order, reviewed the agenda, led the pledge of Allegiance/Moment of Silence, thanked all those who have served our country, introduced the King County Representatives and invited the nearly 30 in attendance to introduce themselves.

The August 2018 minutes were approved as submitted. (MSP)

News and General Announcements

- Rainier Wood Recyclers have moved (see John Taylor's report below)
- Chevron Station has posted "now hiring" signs!
- Roadhouse Sale: Rob Rosemount sold the restaurant to employees, effective September 1
- Thank you to Bill and Karen Achenbach for their restoration and electrical work that keeps power available for tree lighting and vendor booths
- Chelsea's Dream Playground letter of support was mailed!
- Take a tour of the Isackson Sawmill (founded in 1936), September 22nd, 3:30 to 4:30pm
- 381 people finished the Summer Reading Program hosted by Fall City Library!
- The traveling Valley Foodbank will be at Fall City Library September 14 & 28 from noon -1pm

Meetings to Continue on 1st Tuesday from 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. After a six-month experiment, the group decided to continue evening meetings noting that meeting attendance has increased allowing more people to chime in on "hot" issues.

King County Water & Land Resources Division, John Taylor, Assistant Division

Director Last year twelve community members met over six months with John Taylor and others from King County to jointly recommend better communication and partnership regarding King County land purchases. One of their recommendations was for an annual land acquisition briefing from King County: John shared updates on grants the county is currently pursuing as well as updates on existing county-owned lands in or near Fall City.

Potential Raging River Quarry Purchase: Applications for \$2MM in funding from King County were turned down, however John said that the applications would be resubmitted. The state has not yet communicated about an \$850K application.



Farmland Protection and Preservation: Grants totaling \$1,157,000 were accepted for the transfer of development rights and farmland preservation for 15 parcels totaling 400 acres on six Fall City area farms.

Fall City RV Park Demolition: Per the terms of the grant for the purchase of the park, paving and underground utility demolition is underway. The road will be graveled and maintained as a walking path and for fire control.

Rainier Wood Recycling: The sale closed in August and because the property was purchased for salmon restoration, the existing buildings will eventually be sold or demolished. John shared that it is hoped the county could purchase the golf course in the future and thereby own a significant amount of river property for salmon restoration.

Discussion: Attendees noted that the county's 10-15 year time frame is likely too long to save Chinook salmon. Also, when the county purchases properties, they are no longer available for the economic benefit of the community; vacant buildings are not a positive reflection on Fall City. It was noted that assembling grant funds for the purchase of land takes a lot of time.

Rutherford Slough Land Proposal, Susan Walker Believing that a 64-acre parcel for sale on highway 203 just west of the former Bistro would be great for a mountain bike park, horse trails and/or RV and tent camping. Susan is beginning to search for partners and funding. Some attendees offered suggestions.

Fire District 27 Options, Terri Divers Thank you to Terri Divers who has started researching the four options being considered by the Fire District Commissioners:

Stand Alone Fire Department: The fire department buildings and all equipment will be debt-free by 2021 and the fire department's capital reserve is currently \$127,000. We are waiting for the Commissioners to provide current financial projections. Terri noted that the Commissioners have instructed staff to hire another fireman.

Join Eastside Fire and Rescue as a partner: No update, not being considered at this time.

Merge with King County Fire District 10, itself a member of Eastside Fire and Rescue: Terri shared that the commissioners signed a petition to merge with district 10 and have requested the boundary review board to review their plan. If the boundary review board approves, a resolution will be drafted for a special election. If voters approved the merger,



District 27 would be dissolved and all the assets (including station, equipment, etc.) would be transferred to District 10.

Discussion: There is confusion regarding whether the Commissioners can back out of this process now that it has begun. Also, there are concerns about the fire benefit charge and the proposed increases in taxes for Fall City businesses when we have a “crumbling” business district and know that the proposed sewer project will also increase business taxes and expenses. Concerns about negotiations with Fire District 10 in previous years were also shared. One person asked, “Are we fixing something that is not broken?”

Form a cooperative arrangement with City of Snoqualmie Fire: The Commissioners plan to discuss how a cooperative arrangement with Snoqualmie might work at their September 11 meeting.

Please see the Fall City Website for more information (www.fallcity.org).

King County Updates, Kathy Lambert, King County Councilperson

Kathy updated the group on the following issues:

King County Comprehensive Plan: The current plan allows land use and development regulations to be changed formally every four years with a midterm review that allows many changes every two years. The proposed plan would allow land use and development regulations to be changed formally every 8 years with a midterm review at four years. Kathy believes the current system works and is customer service oriented. She invited those with concerns to write each council member.

Growth Management Act: Kathy will be holding a town hall meeting this month covering the 14 points of the Growth Management Act. The Act was approved for King County 28 years ago and needs to be updated. One of the issues with the Act is that only our (rural) tax dollars fund improvements to unincorporated roads. It was originally understood that if businesses, manufacturing plants, etc. were only allowed in urban areas, the rural areas would not have a sustainable tax base, but the Act has not been changed to reflect that understanding. Therefore, we do not have enough money for road improvements in rural King County.

CSA Grant Season: Ideas Wanted

Next Meeting: October 2, 2018 7:00-8:30pm