



## FALL CITY COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION February 2020 Meeting Minutes

FCCA president Angela Donaldson opened the meeting, reviewed the agenda and invited a member of the visiting Boy Scout Troop #425 to lead the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Minutes** of the January 2020 meeting approved as written. (MSP)

**Flood Apps** Angela Donaldson suggested flood apps be posted on the FCCA web page. (Go to [www.fallcity.org](http://www.fallcity.org) for links to river flooding and road closure information.)

**Fire District 27's** Chief Conner noted that last spring FD 27 voters indicated their preference to remain an independent agency. The budget is being developed to determine amounts for upcoming levies that pertain specifically to FD27.

**Regular Levy** - The District operates primarily from a regular levy which can result in collection of up to a maximum of \$1.50/\$1,000 Assessed Valuation (AV). This regular levy amount is subject to a 1% increase annually. The cost of labor, goods and services has continued to rise at a rate in excess of the 1% limit, therefore the levy amount has decreased to about \$1.16 in 2020.

**Excess Levy** - A voter approved 4-year Maintenance & Operations (M&O) levy of \$475,000 has been collected annually beginning in 2017, and this year is the last year of collection. The Fire District will be seeking voter approval, likely at the general election in November, for a 4-year M&O levy to replace the existing levy. The actual amount to be requested is still being calculated, however the replacement levy will likely need to be at least \$650,000 annually.

**Kayak Rescue / Recent Boat Response** - The Snoqualmie River rose rapidly last week resulting in a Phase 3 flood alert on Friday. On Saturday, February 1, mid-morning a pair of kayakers in the North Bend area encountered difficulty. The Boat from Fall City was dispatched. Just about the time we arrived, it was confirmed that both kayakers were safe on the riverbank and the Boat was cancelled. We had two other dispatches later that same day and evening, in the Snoqualmie area. In both cases, the Boat was cancelled prior to reaching the scene.

**Bernard Park** The committee overseeing the development of Bernard Park continues to clear the grounds of RV's and other items left by the storage building. The goal is to have the grounds cleared and mowed by Fall City Day. Troop 425 mentioned they might be available to assist in the task.

### DISCUSSION OF LOCAL ISSUES:

**Flagpole:** The flagpole memorial needs a taller pole as the cherry trees have grown into the flag or perhaps the memorial base can be retained, and a new pole installed closer to the bridge.

**Road Safety:** The Preston - Fall City Road needs better lighting and slower speeds. The stretch of Hwy 202 from the gun club to the lower falls has limited site distance and summertime parking issues. Residential neighborhoods from 332<sup>nd</sup> to Preston-Fall City Road also have



significant safety issues caused by speeding and distracted drivers. Suggestions and (prior/frustrated) experiences were offered by members. President Donaldson is looking for a leader to form a committee for these and similar road and traffic issues.

**FCCA scholarships** Applications are due March 17. Eligibility: Must live in the FCES boundary; have demonstrated academic skills, plan to go on to further education, have a financial need, and have volunteered in the Fall City Community. Neighbors Newsletter Scholarship requires an interest in pursuing education or a career in the media (newspaper, tv, podcasts, radio and/or photojournalism or in the public service sector (elected political office, nonprofit service organizations, etc.) The judging committee is looking for additional members. Contact: Laurie Hauglie – [lhauglie@centurytel.net](mailto:lhauglie@centurytel.net)

**Adopt a Highway** FCCA has had a long-term sponsorship for ‘Adopt a Highway’, which recognized the trash cleanup has been done solely - and for years - by Ralph Westermann.

**Rainier recycling** the site has been taken over by King County for flood control and as a passive recreational park. It has been targeted for planting hundreds of trees and obnoxious weed removal by the United Way. The next native planting day with Oxbow Farms – Feb 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**Garage Sale Weekend** A volunteer is needed to lead the upcoming Garage Sale weekend scheduled for June 5 – 7.

**KC Sub-Area Plan** is being updated which will have long-term and profound effects for the Snoqualmie Valley regarding land use and zoning. There is a high priority need for analytical volunteers in this effort to be locally organized and therefore heard by the KC long term planners. Be a pro-active part of the SV/FC effort to keep local control of long-term growth in the SV/FC community!

A local group of 12 residents and stakeholders will meet regularly to aid the Fall City Community in gathering comments to develop a vision of our rural town’s future. The group will hold town hall meetings and focus groups to tackle some of the priority concerns and issues. The communication goals of the group: Dispel myths; Provide concrete information; engage Fall City residents and reach all Fall City neighborhoods.

Plan Outline: Background; Community Vision; Quality of Life and Livability; Goods and Services; Business District Overlay; Rural Town Boundaries; Wastewater Disposal; Parks, Trails and Recreation; Conservation; Resiliency’ Community Survey; Zoning; and Policies.

For more information on the Subarea Planning Process go to [www.fallcity.org](http://www.fallcity.org). For more information on FCCA meeting agendas, minutes and presentations go to [www.fallcity.org](http://www.fallcity.org).

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Fall City Day and Relay for Life – June 13.** The Fall City Day 2020 shirt design was revealed. This all volunteer event needs many more volunteers. The committee meets Thursdays (6:30 –



8:00 p.m.) Feb 13, Mar 12, Apr 9, May 7, May 21, June 11 and June 13 in the Hauglie Insurance Conference Room.

**Relay for Life** Tracy Osiadacz revealed that the Fall City team raised over \$11,000 in 2019. The Fall City team will conduct its own ‘Relay for Life’ event in 2020 in Fall City on Saturday June 13.

**River Task Force Meeting** Participants included representatives from the KC Sheriff’s department, KC Reps, Washington Dept of Fish & Wildlife, KC Parks and Fall City Floating (FCF) company. Findings: The river parking / launch area was better organized this year. FCF was integral in adding employees to act as on-river safety patrols and for picking up over 20 tons of garbage along the riverbanks. FCF had very few ‘full capacity’ days as the summer temperatures were an average 3 degrees F below last year. The Task Force recommends additional ‘No Parking’ areas along Hwy 202 and on the David Powell Road.

**RIVER TASK FORCE UPDATE**

WHAT WORKED WELL	WHAT NEEDS IMPROVEMENT
Trash Collection (1540 hrs., 37000 lbs. 2700 lbs. of recycling)	Increase rate by \$1 – 2 to pay for two additional dedicated Officers on Peak Days
CPR, Lifeguard and boater safety training for staff	Hwy 202 parking on busy weekends when parking in WEFW lots fill up and shuttle is capped.
Parking management at the upper areas was successful	Insufficient tracking of Independent Floaters
Added a second river patrol boat and officer for 7 day/week coverage increased quality and safety	Drinking is allowed on vessels, but not on tubes. RCW
Shuttle and Rental caps helped control river capacity	Additional No Parking Signs on 202 and David Powell Road
Higher Pricing Model to accommodate increased additional costs of hiring deputies, waste disposal containers, and minimum wage hikes	Involve WA State Patrol more
Increased number of Portable Toilets	Are we properly engaging local businesses?

**Additional Notes:**

15% decrease in FCF customers and we estimate a 25% decrease in total river users when compared to 2018. Factors include weather, shuttle caps, and less upper parking availability. Peak season was 44 days, 6 days shorter than 2018. Average season daily high temperature was down 3 degrees F with only 1 day above 90 degrees F.

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