



FALL CITY COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION July 2020 Meeting Minutes

FCCA president Angela Donaldson opened the zoom meeting, reviewed the agenda, led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence, thanked first responders.

Minutes of the June meeting approved. (MSP)

Emergency Management Event, Sunday, October 4 from 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. to highlight the capabilities of our local first responders and volunteer groups; encourage discussion among neighbors about their readiness and resilience; and bring the community together for a family event We are working with three other agencies – King County Search and Rescue, Washington State Animal Response Team and King County Sheriff with possible three more to sign on. More to follow.

Road Safety Survey Update. Road safety is no accident. It takes preparedness, planning and participation. The first-ever community-wide survey for road safety with multiple sections for traffic/cycling/road/pedestrian/enforcement concerns and will be available during the month of August via Facebook, Nextdoor, Email and FCCA webpage. The survey is a collaborative effort between FCCA, FC Metropolitan Park District, WSDOT, KC Roads, Chief Kanim and FCES.

Fall City Metropolitan Park District Update Bernard Park behind the roadhouse is getting cleaned up by volunteers spearheaded by Perry Wilkins. The Westside Trail Project initiated in 2014 is applying for a construction grant. We are saying good-bye to original FCMPD board member serving since 2009, Lee Moderow. Five-year Fall City resident Corbin Nakamura will fill the remainder of Lee's unexpired term.

Representative Bill Ramos – WA State 5th Legislative District. Rep. Ramos is working on the maintenance and preservation of Hwy 202 and Hwy 203. The Hwy 18/I 90 interchange contract will be advertised/awarded this fall with construction to start Spring 2021. The planning/design money for widening Hwy 18 to four lanes is available now. The transportation committee is working on a budget package that might include the possibility of a roundabout (roundabouts are smaller than they used to be) on the town side of the Fall City 202 bridge. Rep. Ramos was encouraged to review past studies on a Fall City roundabout. He is also working on a leadership team for police policy.

Councilmember Lambert on Metro, COVID, Land issues and Law enforcement.

METRO is expecting a shortfall of \$615 mill. between 2020-2022. During month of May route 628 (between North Bend and Issaquah Highlands P&R) averaged fewer than 17 riders/day. Route 628 has been shut down.

COVID: As of June 12 the Valley had 53 cases of COVID. We are dealing with the most stringent restriction. If we have another pandemic, I would like the county to be divided into 4 quadrants (rather than the way we are now.) The Council passed a bill in late May allowing



retail, restaurants, and personal service businesses to use outside space allowing them to be open for more people. CARES money is Federal money, which means it is our money. We need to be as prudent as possible with it or it will be our grandchildren paying it off. I understand we didn't know what was coming and needed to be prepared, but we have bought or rented 1000 beds but we have only used 26 and spent \$11 million on masks, when we perhaps didn't need to spend that much. John Taylor, Director LSA, says masks and hand sanitizer will be distributed to food banks, merchants, etc., throughout the County with supplies of disposable masks coming in a few weeks. FCCA president Angela Donaldson has been asked to handle the distribution for Fall City

LAND ISSUES. A million more people showing up in this county means we need a whole lot more space to put them. Once the census is done, we will be getting growth targets. It will not be great for unincorporated but will be for others. I am concerned that we will not have enough ingress/egress in new developments.

LAW ENFORCEMENT: Recent events have law enforcement looking at how to deal with sheriff and policing in the future. Councilmember Lambert has reviewed 10 years of Sheriff issues finding that for the most part our sheriff officers do a very good, but not perfect, job. The "list of 8 can't wait" demands have been met by our sheriff dept. Six were already complete and the final two have been put in writing. The call for a 50% budget cut would be profoundly serious for unincorporated King County, since 70% of the Sheriff department has contracts with cities leaving the 50% to be taken from the unincorporated areas 30%. We need people to share when sheriff department officers have helped them. There are only two of us that want the sheriff budget to remain intact. Some of sheriff's job can go to counselors through a program called RADAR that has a counselor come to certain kinds of cases allowing the sheriff to leave at times and return when called.

LISA CALLAN Rep. WA State 5th Legislative District serves on several education committees working for ways we can provide for the emotional/social support that our youth will need going back to school or in hybrid situations and meeting childcare needs for families going back to work.

FISH HATCHERY BRIDGE. Community members requested a meeting with the project team and information regarding the proposal to replace/repair the bridge. LSA Director John Taylor asked for a list of names and agreed to set up a meeting.

COVID-19 KC Small Business Grant Program has \$5000 grants to businesses that have suffered losses from COVID 19. Go online to King County Local Services or the main King County page to get info. We are getting fewer applicants than we thought we would. Apply.

WASTEWATER. Alan Painter (LSA) has been meeting with business owners to discuss their visions of the future and to develop options for wastewater treatment with or without a wastewater plant.



RIVER RECREATION. We are now in Phase 2 of the COVID-19 reopening plan which allows recreational activities and transport to and from those activities. All Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) areas are open and lots of people are using them bringing river users to the Snoqualmie River and into Fall City. The annual review has resulted in several adjustments for this season:

- More law enforcement on Hwy 202 near Fish Hatchery Road.
- WDFW will work with WSP and KC Sheriff doing emphasis patrols through July checking for Access and Discover passes and mask use. The Local Services Area will fund overtime for a sheriff deputy to be available on weekends in August.
- Fall City Floating plans, including adapting to COVID-19 recommendations, have been reviewed and approved by the King County Dept of Health and WDFW has authorized the FCF commercial use permit.
- King County Conservation Corps will be in Fall City on Mondays until Sept 1 to assist in trash management.

FALL CITY FLOATING In this our 6th year we have moved to online payments and reservations only, waivers, and COVID 19 policies. Facemasks are required on site (State law). Clients unload and load their own equipment and move to a specified staging area at their registration time. Five shuttles set up for groups of a certain size incorporating distancing techniques, masks, and sanitizing leave in 30-minute increments. River patrols are designed to keep people on the river. Trash stations are distanced at takeout and even the portable toilets are socially distanced. Owner Simon Briant says, "Every aspect of our business is designed to keep river, our customers, and the community safe and clean." For more information go to our website www.fallcityfloating.com

JEN BRENES, Director, King County Search and Rescue. KCSAR is a 70 year old, all volunteer organization financed by donations and grants without government funding until last year when the Park Levy provided \$100K per year for 6 years to be used for fuel and maintenance of the large communication vehicles and radio infrastructure updates. KCSAR is 911 activated – deployed by the King County Sheriff and working under the purview of the WA ST Dept of Emergency Management. With our volunteer-owned equipment we do wilderness rescues, urban missing persons, evidence searches, disaster response, recoveries, and safety education with unit specialties including rapid alpine deployment, search dogs, incident support teams, ski patrol and rescue, trackers, equine unites, 4 x 4s, and mountain rescue. In 2015 based on our expenses and volunteer hours, our public safety value was estimated to be \$8 million dollars per year.

In 70 years, we have never had a home base where we can maintain our assets or get our volunteers organized. We have been looking at the Raging River Quarry as a potential site.

NEXT MEETING: September 1, 2020, 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. online – Facebook and Zoom (No August FCCA Meeting)

