

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF  
FALL CITY METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT OF  
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON  
HELD APRIL 26, 2011

The Special Meeting of the Board of Commissioners of Fall City Metropolitan Park District (FCMPD) of King County, Washington, was held April 26, 2011, at the Fall City Fire Station located at 4301 334<sup>th</sup> Place SE, Fall City, Washington, at 7:00 p.m. Commissioners Moderow, Harris, Schneider, Pettersson and Wilkins were present.

Teresa Appleseth, Charlie Kellogg, Bruce Disend, Terri Divers, and Terri Campbell were present.

**1. Call to Order**

Commissioner Moderow acted as Chairman of the meeting and business was conducted as follows. Terri Campbell will be taking the meeting minutes.

**2. Herbert Survey Results, FCMPD Comp Plan and King County Comp Plan**

**A. Hebert Research Survey Results**

Commissioner Moderow reviewed the results of the park survey and highlighted the following results of the survey:

1. The importance of Parks and Recreation received a rating of 7.57 out of 10, which was a high value according to Hebert.
2. Walking and Hiking were the respondent's favorite activities to engage in.
3. Taking children to the park was considered relatively high.
4. There was a difference in opinion on particular questions between those people with and without children. For instance, respondents with children were less happy with the number of parks in Fall City and the maintenance of parks in Fall City than people without children.
5. Fishing was also surprisingly high on the list of activities to engage in.
6. The most frequently used parks are the Snoqualmie Valley Trail, the Preston/Snoqualmie Trail, and Fall City Community Park a close third.
7. The Trails within the Fall City Park District boundaries were very important to respondents.
8. Respondents were mostly satisfied with regards to recreational facilities.
9. There were also significant differences in satisfaction regarding age as well as whether respondents had children.

10. Lowest ratings were for park restrooms and other amenities at parks and recreational facilities such as picnic shelters and boating access. Many of these items do not exist today.
11. Sources of information to find out about Fall City Parks were the Fall City Neighbors newsletter, followed by local newspaper i.e. the Snoqualmie Valley Record – however the FCMPD has not published any articles in the SVR. (FCMPD may want to consider paid advertising in the future)
12. Most important for improvements and/or expansion was River access/cleanup followed essentially by a tie between athletic fields and parks.
13. Majority of the respondents, 73%, either worked outside of Fall City (55%) or were retired (18%). 27% report they work in the Fall City area.
14. On average there was a moderate to high interest in new land acquisitions for purchase in Fall City with 50% of the respondents giving a rating of “8” or higher. 16% of the respondents were not interested in new acquisitions at all giving a rating of “0” and 26% giving a rating of “3” or lower. End result is there were more respondents than not, interested in new acquisitions with a mean rating of 6.20.
15. In the development of new parks, the overwhelming majority of respondents (83%) prefer parks be mixed of both active and passive fields.
16. 3 out of 5 respondents, roughly 60%, support Fall City Parks collecting funds to manage the park and support the organization. Collecting taxes could be interpreted the same as collecting funds.
17. Respondents were moderately supportive of contributing additional funds beyond their current tax dollars and gave a mean rating of 4.63.

## **B. King County Comprehensive Plan 2012 Update**

1. Commissioner Harris reports that the FCCA organized some community meetings to gather input prior to the update of the 2012 King County Comp Plan. King County was requesting public comments and input. John Chaney has helped organize the meeting format with 6 different focus groups. Commissioner Harris headed up the Parks portion of the meeting and collected some of the ideas that came up during the various discussions.
2. General Counsel Bruce Disend was present and suggested to Commissioner Harris that the FCMPD may want to provide a formal document with the FCMPD ideas.
3. The deadline to submit comments back to King County will be after the May 16<sup>th</sup> community meeting, possibly towards the end of June. This is

not a revisit of the Fall City Sub-Area plan, just a more broad approach to updating the King County Comprehensive Plan for 2012.

4. Commissioner Schneider suggested the Commissioners come up with comments for a letter to King County on behalf of the FCMPD.
5. Commissioner Pettersson wanted to know how King County Parks was involved in this process. As an aside, Commissioner Moderow commented that PRKC was awarded an award last week for their work in the Patterson Creek and Raging River Grant program for deploying stewardship activities. The award luncheon allowed Commissioner Moderow to meet with Kevin Brown, Director of King County Parks, and discuss general input. Mr. Brown suggested FCMPD may want to contact other UAC agencies for their input.
6. Commissioner Harris recommended input from FCMPD may be related to the following issues:
  - a. Trail easement across Puget Sound Energy substation to create a permanent link to the Snoqualmie Valley Trail from Fall City Park.
  - b. Continue to explore opportunities for a trail connection between the Lake Alice Trail/Preston/Snoqualmie Trail and Fall City.
  - c. Provide a balance between passive use and active use parks in the Fall City area
  - d. Improve river access areas, specifically the Snoqualmie River
  - e. Identify public accessibility of recently acquired flood properties along Hwy 203, which are posted as "No Trespassing". Commissioner Wilkins reported the property may be considered "hazardous land" because of the levy and flood plain issues.

### **3. Policies and Procedures Manual**

- A. General Counsel, Bruce Disend, was present and reviewed the proposed Policy and Procedure Manual and made comments regarding terminology and additional provisions.

### **4. Fall City Elementary School Playground Grant**

- A. Commissioner Harris reviewed other public agency websites (such as Pen Met Parks of Gig Harbor) and consulted General Counsel for advice related to the use of using public funds to create a local grant program. General Counsel emphasized minimum standards that grant funds cannot exceed 1/3 of the total cost of the project. When it relates to the School District you should have an intra-local agreement. Other sections of the RCW were cited to follow when establishing such a program such as RCW 35.61.010, 35.61.130, and 35.21.278.

- B. Commissioner Harris updated the Commissioners that the Fall City Elementary School PTSA is looking for grants and private donors to cover the costs of a new Kindergarten to 2nd Grade playground equipment at a total cost of \$100,000. They are seeking grants from local organizations and the Pepsi Refresh Program. The work is slated for completion in 2012.
  - a. Commissioner Schneider said we should evaluate our grant program related to this request to make sure the grant award is based on the mission of the FCMPD.

**5. Public Comment Related to Special Meeting Topics**

- A. Terri Divers – distributed a letter to the Board of Commissioners reminding them that the King County maintenance levy currently in effect expires at the end of 2013. If the levy does not pass a majority, there will be a shortfall and they may not want to divest it again. Terri Divers wants the Board to be prepared for this possibility in the Comp Plan. The levy will come up in the middle of 2013, and will need a 60% majority. FCMPD has first right of refusal but we'll need to be aware of what the cost would be to maintain the property.
- B. Charlie Kellogg – suggested that the Board develop a list of all the majority items the survey identified. Insert these findings into the King County Comp Plan Update. Commissioner Moderow noted that Butch Lovelace of King County Parks already has a copy of the survey. Terri Divers recommended sending a formal letter with an official copy to King County.
- C. Charlie Kellogg –suggested the Board prepare comments and get them into the King County Comp Plan Update and not wait until a *draft* copy is released.

**6. Action Items**

- A. Hold a Special Meeting on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday in May to specifically review the Comp Plan and develop a schedule for it.
- B. Commissioners Moderow and Harris will draft a letter to King County regarding its update to the King County Comprehensive Plan taking into consideration ideas and comments from the other Commissioners.
- C. Commissioner Moderow requested the FCMPD perform an inventory of available parcels in Fall City and incorporate into the FCMPD Comp Plan. We need to add the recent Hwy 203 flood properties.
- D. FCMPD Commissioners need to review the FCMPD Comp Plan and incorporate the survey results.
- E. The Commissioners to submit comments to Commissioner Wilkins related to the Policy and Procedures Manual by May 6, so that a final revision can be adopted in the May 10<sup>th</sup> Regular Monthly Meeting.

- F. Commissioner Schneider will submit copies of the Roberts Rules and various other tools for Commissioner review.
- G. Commissioner Harris to check with Pen Met Parks and inquire further about its grant funding program to understand what it has learned from any applicable State audits. Commissioner Harris to also inquire with Blaine Fritts of the State Auditor's Office about any issues with developing a grant program for local park purposes, not general purposes.
- H. Terri to develop a 3-month vacation calendar for all Commissioners and distribute.

7. **Adjourn**

After discussion, upon motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 9:15 pm.

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President and Commissioner

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Commissioner

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ATTEST:

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Clerk and Commissioner