

Snowden Community Council – 07.06.2022 Board Meeting Minutes

Present: Bob Conner, Roger Gadway, Chuck Kliesh, Tom Montag, Lloyd Olson, Jenn Sharp, Jenne Patterson.

Absent: Dan Spatz There were ten other Snowden attendees.

With thanks to hosts Jenn Sharp and Eric Wilson, Roger rang the Meeting to Order at 7:15 PM.

The **Meeting Minutes** were approved as presented earlier by email. **Treasurer's Report:** Chuck reported the Treasury contains \$1,434.85. The report was approved as presented. There were no **Additions to the Agenda**.

Old Business: Website Committee: Committee Chair Jenne reported that efforts to re-establish a SCC website have progressed from over-coming technical obstacles and planning, to actually building the website! The initial emphasis will be on presenting information pertinent to the Snowden Community and Council, rather than on establishing a blog. Jenne will meet once a week with Aaron (the website guru) until the site is up and running, to pass on committee recommendations for design and content

Broadband Committee: Eric and Roger gave an over-view of the committee's purpose: to network and position SCC to apply for grant monies available to help rural communities enhance their internet service. Unique and aggravating to Snowden residents is the presence of a fiber optic cable (paid for with public money) running through the community to which we are denied access. Washington State has committed to a goal that every household have 100 MB service by 2024. The committee seeks to find and maximize opportunities to achieve this goal. A lively discussion ensued, on topics including looking into USDA Rural Development grants, WA ST Internet Speed Test

(<https://www.commerce.wa.gov/building-infrastructure/washington-statewide-broadband-act/speedtestsurvey/>), how de-regulation allows providers to ignore rural customers, the need to network with other Klickitat County Communities, the potential for the PUD using remote metering (but how can they with poor internet service?), and a reminder that the only over-site for the PUD is voters, and the State auditor. Charlie Pluckhahn, an electrical telecommunications analyst, volunteered to be on the Broadband Committee.

Eric reported the County still has not hired a new Planner to work on updating the Comprehensive Plan, so there has been no new **Comprehensive Plan Update Committee** activity.

Activities to Encourage Participation in SCC : We are looking forward to the Annual Meeting on September 07, when the Community can nominate and vote to replace Board Members whose terms have expired, and for Board Member positions filled by appointment. The Chair created a new committee to plan a more festive, or social meeting than usual; Lois Bancroft, Jenn Sharp, and Bea Lackaff volunteered to be on the Committee.

There was no **New Business** .

Fire District #3 Commissioner's Report: Bob reported that The Burn Ban is on and reminded us to call 911 if we see an open fire; do not confront the offenders. Tom announced that (except for electrical issue at Husum) the reconstruction is done! They have moved back into Fire Stations 31 (Husum) and 32 (Cherry Lane) with trucks in the bays and the water tanks full. The effort to repaint the water tank mural at Cherry Lane is in the works. Cherry Lane will still not be available for public meetings in August, and they are unsure if it will be available by September

For the good of the order, Hearing thunder overhead and the splattering of rain, but no further comments, Roger hastily adjourned the Meeting at 8:03PM.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Bea Lackaff SCC Secretary (pro tem)