**Cheryl Talbert – Candidate for Branch Chair**

I am very excited to offer my name for re-election into the Foothills Branch Chair position. I started with the Foothills branch in 2009 as a hike and backpack leader and soon took on hike and backpack committee chair roles for Foothills, helping to initiate our flagship ‘Backpacking Building Blocks’ course which has introduced backpacking to over 250 Mountaineers and significantly grown our trip offerings and our backpacking community. I’ve fostered active collaboration between branches in updating minimum standards and building a strong and consistent hike/backpack leader development, certification and recognition program. Beginning in 2012 I became a Mountaineers Global Adventures leader and committee member, leading international treks and backpacks for the club and later helping to update our policies and procedures based on principles of outdoor risk management. In 2013 I became the Foothills representative on the Mountaineers Board of Directors, and participated in a task force to improve collaboration between branch volunteers, Mountaineers staff and the board. I rolled off the board in 2017 when I was first a candidate for Branch Chair. In my year as Foothills Chair so far we have started several exciting new committees and programs and have overseen a surge of new volunteers and members in the branch. I am eager to help foster the continuation of our progress, and to work with our Mountaineers staff and leadership to build our external partnerships, as well as, hopefully, to move forward on ideas to create a gathering place for Mountaineers on the east side of the lake!

**James Henderson - Candidate for Vice Chair**

The Mountaineers is a tremendous organization with a strong history of providing outdoor education opportunities, enriching lives, and advocating for our open spaces. As Vice Chair for the Foothills Branch, I look forward to the opportunity of upholding the Mountaineer's mission and values by expanding the reach of the Foothills Branch throughout Seattle's Eastside through developing innovative education programs, supporting and growing the Branch's diverse membership, and increasing access to the Mountaineers through events and programming.

I joined the City of Bellevue as the Economic Development Director in 2015. I oversee and coordinate economic development programs focused on business attraction, business retention and expansion and technology startups. I am also involved with the Global Cities Initiative for the Greater Seattle region. Prior to the City of Bellevue, I served as Assistant Director for Economic Development at the City of San Antonio and also served in the Office of Military Affairs, establishing the Fort Sam Houston Community Development Office, and served in the International Affairs Department. Finally I have extensive experience working in international development. I served as a Program Officer with the Stanley Foundation where I founded the Euro-Atlantic Initiatives program to bring economic development, peace and reconciliation to the former Yugoslavia. In addition, I supported the development of political and economic strategies focused on Eastern Europe at the Atlantic Council of the United States, was a scholar at the East European Studies program of the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, and a Fellow at the NATO Parliamentary Assembly in Brussels.

**Travis Prescott – Candidate for At Large Council Member Position 1**

I am a PNW transplant from Fort Worth, TX. As a software engineer for Microsoft, I’ve been an avid hiker since spring of 2016. I have a decade of U.S. Naval service in the nuclear submarine fleet. I enlisted in 2001 and earned a commission in 2006, leading sailors aboard the USS Virginia (SSN 774). In my first year with the Mountaineers, I have pursued an aggressive course load, graduating from basic climbing, intermediate snowshoeing, outdoor leadership and all the co-requisites for those courses. I have volunteered on the snowshoeing, navigation and scrambling committees, helping instruct at various field trips and creating and delivering all course content for Foothills' first digital navigation and trip planning seminar. I am working actively with Seattle to revamp the wilderness navigation course to help launch the first Foothills offering of wilderness nav in 2019. I’m also an active hike, backpack, trail run and snowshoe leader for the Foothills Branch.

**Tom Harvey – Candidate for At Large Council Member Position 3**

I have been an avid hiker for more than 25 years.  In advance of my retirement in June 2017, I joined the Mountaineers in May of 2017.  My last 5 years of work was at Pacific Lutheran University, and Starbucks Coffee Company prior to my time at PLU.  In both roles I was in Operations, responsible for multi-million-dollar budgets, marketing and training.  Without a doubt, training was my love.  I was involved in developing and delivering training to store managers and other operations managers.  I have strong profit and loss statement experience and am bonded. I currently serve as a volunteer for Bloodworks NW in the City of Black Diamond coordinating blood drives there.  I currently carry a American Red Cross First Aid (including CPR) certificate. Since joining the Mountaineers in May 2017,  I have completed Badges: Hiker Leader, Avalanche Awareness, Basic Snowshoe, Basic Navigation, and received Stewardship award.  I have assisted with the delivery of Wilderness Navigation Course and currently assisting with the Snowshoe Committee.  I see the role I am seeking as a way to further my skills and knowledge to help fulfill the Mission of the Mountaineers: "*Helping people explore, conserve, learn about, and enjoy the lands and waters of the Pacific Northwest and beyond.*