

Note: Action items are highlighted in yellow.

Neighborhoods attending:

Central Houghton	Lisa McConnell, Larry Toedtli
Everest	
Evergreen Hill	Johanna Palmer
Finn Hill	Bill Blanchard (KAN Co-Chair)
Highlands	Debbie Ohman
Juanita Neighborhoods	Leo Gilbert
Lakeview	
Market	Mark Nelson, Laura Harding
Moss Bay	Bea Nahon
Norkirk	Janet Pruitt (KAN Co-Chair), Heather Hendrix-McAdams, Cindy Randazzo
North Rose Hill	Margaret Carnegie
South Rose Hill/Bridle Trails	Chris Kagen

City Staff/Elected Officials attending:

- Jim Lopez, Assistant City Manager
- David Wolbrecht, Neighborhood Services Outreach Coordinator
- Dave Asher, City Councilmember

Guests:

- Jenna Franklin, King County Metro, Senior Community Relations and Public Engagement Planner
- Emily Kish, King County Metro, Transportation Planner
- Grace Carlson, King County Metro, Transit Service Planner
- Tom Kreinbring, Race Director, Hopelink TurkeyTrot (tkreinbring@hopelink.com)
- Adam White, Finn Hill
- Jim McElwee, South Rose Hill

7:02 pm Introduction

- Co-Chair Bill Blanchard called the meeting to order at 7:02pm
- Review of KAN charter: two reps per neighborhood
 - Invite people from neighborhoods that are currently underrepresented
- December 2018 minutes accepted

7:04pm Public comments

- Want to run for City Council?
 - Dave Asher running a drop-in workshop
 - Sunday afternoon, 3:30-5pm, February 10

- Applications for Amy Walen’s vacancy are due 1/29/19
- Thanks to KAN for citizen engagements
 - Jim Lopez wants to leverage community leadership even more, to make connections and to drive outreach programs
 - Example: KAN gave feedback to reach out to renters for opinions on many topics
 - When polling on bikeshare, significant difference of opinion between homeowners and renters
 - Lisa points out: getting people to go to a blood center to donate is difficult; mobile donor stations are more effective. Bring the opportunities to the people! Church meetings, PTA, soccer groups, etc.
 - Jim: If you build a focus group, for anything, we’ll be there

7:08pm Update on Nov. 16 2018 incident at Menchie’s

- Jim Lopez, Asst. City Manager
- Handout from the City Manager and Police Chief, from 11/21/18
 - Describes the incident, where a black man, Byron Ragland, was asked to leave the shop
 - Acknowledges that the City can do more in this regard
- The City is planning a public report on the review process from the event
- The City is contracting for a training curriculum, with focus on implicit bias
 - IDI is one possibility
 - Goal: a safe, diverse, and inclusive environment
- Current effort is to design a process that will touch the right areas, reach the right people, include all necessary stakeholders
- Questions
 - Aren’t the police obligated to follow a business owner’s request to move someone along?
 - Jim: The foundation of the answer is law. There are rights that customers have, and there are trespass laws that give rights to business owners.
 - Did the business owner ask the police to move the guy along, or just to investigate?
 - We’ll have a website posting where you can see all the primary documents, including the 911 call transcript. My memory is that the owner was given two choices and he chose to ask that the police move the man along.

7:25pm Initial review of KAN Guidelines and policies

- Janet presenting
- Review of minor edits to the Guidelines document
- Mission statement
 - The Kirkland Alliance of Neighborhoods (KAN) is a coalition of the City of Kirkland’s Neighborhood Associations. KAN fosters communication and awareness of issues affecting the neighborhoods among the Neighborhood Associations, the City and appropriate entities. KAN is an

effective, collegial voice for the neighborhoods and a valued resource for the City.

- Each NA should provide a designated KAN representative
 - Limit of two people can be seated at the main KAN table
 - Second person is often the NA chair
 - All others sit away from the table
- Voting
 - One vote per NA
 - KAN rep gets primary vote, then defer to the NA chair
- Officers
 - Election rules (one year term)
 - Duties
 - Adding to co-Chair duties:
 - Plan and execute an Orientation Meeting about KAN and its Mission and Guidelines at least once/year for new KAN reps, NA chairs, and interested others
- Conduct of business at meetings
 - Goal of balancing the participation of all NAs
 - Transparency: NorKirk is often overrepresented, as Janet is Chair, and the KAN Rep and NA Chair also attend
- Consideration of topics
 - KAN may, at discretion, consider studying topics more deeply
 - KAN may then provide its perspective to other bodies
 - KAN is advisory only, not regulatory nor authoritative
 - Topics may be proposed by NAs, City staff, public, anyone
 - Process for including NA input on topics
 - Informed discussion should precede issuing a KAN opinion
 - Alternative, when there's not enough time for full discussion, the comments might be delivered with the caveat, "Speaking as elected neighborhood representatives ..."
 - KAN does not put forth positions on issues that are subject to election or initiative processes, nor endorse candidates
 - KAN has a responsibility to represent the diversity of opinions and views
 - Only designated City staff and KAN co-Chairs (or their designees) are authorized to make comments on behalf of KAN to any official, Board, Commission, Council, the press, blogs, social media, or any other body

7:54pm State mandated upzoning

- Bea Nahon
- Senator Palumbo plans to introduce legislation
- Definition: State enactment of land use provisions, often to encourage transit-related development, could be related to increased urban density or other goals, e.g. more types of housing
 - Cities then are required to incorporate those requirements in their own comprehensive plans and zoning codes, to accommodate the changes

- Provisions are not necessarily requirements for the developments themselves but are requirements for allowances in city plans and codes
 - Example: may set a maximum number of units per acre, but doesn't require that a developer put in that many
- The planning process in Kirkland has many layers and levels: Planning Commission, community outreach, mailed notices, Council processes, etc.
 - Under state mandated zoning requirements, the City could not restrict zoning more than the state requirements
 - The City could take action to loosen zoning requirements
 - Houghton Council would have far less influence, for example
- Examples of effects
 - Density, setbacks, transit-oriented options, etc.
- Why make this change?
 - Pro:
 - Increasing variety of housing
 - Reduce sprawl
 - Environmental effects
 - Transportation efficiency
 - More efficient process
 - Con:
 - Does one size fit all?
 - Preempts local autonomy
 - State determines tactics rather than outcomes/goals
 - Decisions made by legislators across the state
 - No advance notice, input, impact, or recourse
 - Do the economics backfire? Would it even work? Could drive up costs even more. There's no density cap in downtown Kirkland, and how much affordable housing is there?
- So, now what?
 - Bill will likely drop in this current session
 - City of Kirkland will likely take a position
 - Opportunities to contact legislators
 - Opportunities to testify before committees
- Discussion
 - Joanna: Growth Management Act (GMA) already establishes targets. Is this an expansion or overlay on the GMA?
 - Bea: Palumbo says "the GMA is broken" and we need this
 - The GMA goes by numbers of units and jobs; the guidelines for affordable housing don't work on the Eastside
 - Lisa: Wording is based on "cost-burdened" residents. Many Kirkland residents spend a high proportion of income on housing, which will trip the triggers and enact the requirements (20% of households spend more than 30% on housing, including utilities). Would rather see requirements linked to transportation and employment.
- Who's funding this bill? Supporters include:
 - Washington Association of Realtors

- Master Builders Association
- Motion by Heather: KAN supports cities keeping control of zoning regulations rather than state government (Debbie seconds)
 - Voice vote: aye

8:21pm Tree code update

- Larry Toedtli presenting
- Houghton Council held a meeting to consider how tree codes might affect neighborhood plan updates
- Diverse viewpoints at the meeting: builders, architects, residents, etc.
- Attempting to draft some feedback to the process with balanced views

8:29pm FAR regulations update and discussion

- Janet presenting
- Preparedness project idea for KAN and NAs
- Concern: Additional 5% of Floor Area Ratio (FAR) if roof is peaked (at minimum amount) and if dwelling above ground is stepped back
- Does KAN have concern over this?
 - Heather: My understanding was that they were going to pull back on some exemptions before offering this allowance
 - Cindy: Concern for emergency services access, with houses crowded closer together

8:35pm Preparedness project idea for KAN and NAs

- Bill and Janet presenting
- Would like to see KAN help build awareness and involvement in disaster preparedness
- People all know we should be doing these things and we typically don't, because it's overwhelming
- Perhaps NAs could tackle a bit at a time:
 - Each month, take on one project
 - Water, emergency backpack, gas/electric safety, etc.
- Discussion
 - Bea: Sounds like a good idea. Recent example: 911 services went out.
 - KAN would work with the City's emergency services coordinator to build specific monthly topics
 - Leverage existing Map Your Neighborhood?
 - Leverage existing CERT graduates?
 - Build a set of modular pieces that KAN could push out at meetings

8:45pm Communications workshop, Wed March 27

- Karen Story organizing
- Wed 3/27/19, at Kirkland Justice Center, 7-9pm
- Agenda:
 - Coordinating communication between the city and neighborhoods

- How the city can help us reach more people
- Overview of specific email tools and practices
- How and why to use Nextdoor
- Social media and other communications tools
- Communications best practices
- Who should attend?
 - NA boards
 - Neighborhood leaders
 - Anyone who wants to
 - Redundancy is good

8:47pm Neighborhood Services Report

- David Wolbrecht, Neighborhood Outreach Coordinator
- New City budget has been approved
 - Handout provided
- Safe Routes to School
 - Anticipate coming to KAN for some input
 - Dave Asher: Make sure your NA is involved in the Safe Routes process!
There are still serious gaps.
- Sustainability Master Plan
 - New for Kirkland
 - Already have a Master Resources Plan
 - Consolidate departmental efforts on sustainability issues
- Bikeshare and off-leash dog
 - Surveys still active
 - 829 surveys collected so far on bikeshare
 - 967 surveys collected on off-leash dogs
 - Surveys close 1/18/19
 - Varied opinions by demographics
 - Current direction is toward a one-year bikeshare pilot program
 - Dog issue is more divided in opinion and direction
- Vacant Council seat
 - Webpage available, off the City's main page, with information for anyone interested in application or the process itself

8:50pm Hot Topics, Liaison Reports, Neighborhood Roundtable

- Liaison Reports
- City Council Committee Reports
- Neighborhood Reports
 - Central Houghton
 - Everest
 - Evergreen Hill
 - Finn Hill
 - Highlands
 - Juanita
 - Lakeview

- Market
 - Farewell to Mark B. Nelson: his last KAN meeting as rep!
- Moss Bay
- Norkirk
- North Rose Hill
- South Rose Hill / Bridle Trails

8:59pm Closing

- Adjourned at 8:59pm
- Next meeting: March 13, 2019 (February meeting cancelled due to snowstorm)

Upcoming agenda items, events, deadlines

- Agenda items
 - Housing strategies
 - Neighborhood Plan updates
 - Communication and Outreach Strategies
 - Disaster Preparedness Coordination
 - Parking reduction proposal from Totem Lake study
 - CERT/Map Your Neighborhood
 - Parks Director – Lynn Zwaagstra
 - Community Conversations
 - Parking Survey – Part II
- Events
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