

Minutes, Kirkland Alliance of Neighborhoods
October 14, 2020 Virtual online meeting, Zoom

Note: Action items are highlighted in yellow.

Neighborhoods attending:

Central Houghton	Lisa McConnell
Everest	Anna Aubry
Evergreen Hill	Johanna Palmer
Finn Hill	Bill Blanchard (KAN Co-Chair)
Highlands	Debbie Ohman, Karen Story
Juanita Neighborhoods	Leo Gilbert, Doug Rough
Lakeview	
Market	Ken Mackenzie, Laura Harding
Moss Bay	Bea Nahon
Norkirk	Heather Hendrix-McAdams (KAN Co-Chair, retiring), Janet Pruitt
North Rose Hill	
South Rose Hill/Bridle Trails	Chris Kagen
Totem Lake	

City Staff/Elected Officials attending:

- David Wolbrecht, Neighborhood Services Outreach Coordinator
- Martha Chaudhry, Special Projects Coordinator
- Chief Cherie Harris, Kirkland Police Department
- Allison Zike, Senior Planner
- Jeremy McMahan, Deputy Planning Director

Guests:

- <none>

7:02pm Introduction

- Co-Chair Bill Blanchard called the meeting to order

7:05pm Public comments

- No public attendees

7:06pm Chief Harris, Kirkland Police Department

- Fully staffed!
 - One Seattle PD transfer applicant being considered
 - All Proposition 1 positions have been filled
- COVID impact
 - School Resource Officers (SROs)
 - Trying to keep them connected with school populations
 - Onsite for food pickups, limited activities at schools

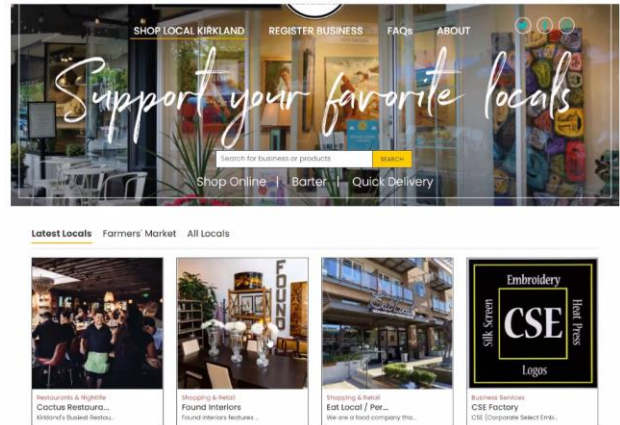
- Also assisting with patrol calls, traffic, parks
 - School safety program is not active; no tickets being issued
 - Kirkland had the first USA death in February, so we had a head start
 - Joint command with Fire Dept.
 - Other organizations were impressed with how we handled things and kept staff engaged and effective
- Trends
 - Increase in people buying firearms
 - Increase in mental health calls
 - Decrease in most crimes
- Sept 16th homicide at Houghton Beach Park
 - Ongoing investigation
 - Appears to involve a firearm transaction, not Kirkland residents
- Pedestrian safety
 - Downtown and waterfront are areas of focus
 - Officers deployed
- Protests
 - Only a few instances of traffic blocking, no major issues
 - No property damage
 - Officers making contact and building cooperation
 - One instance of a protester “not wanting to talk to us”
- Voting
 - Dropbox at Kirkland City Hall is one of the top 20 drop-off sites in King County
 - Expect to have some attention on this, as well as election officials paying attention
- Resolution 5434
 - Active conversations going on
 - Body cameras under consideration
 - Reviews of use of force
 - Establishing “dashboards” on officers’ activities and contacts
 - Civilian oversight, advisory boards
- Morale
 - It’s been a difficult time
 - A lot of support during COVID-19 time
 - Want to bring the national conversation to Kirkland:
 - Hear from our community
 - Hear from people of color
 - What’s the experience? How can we make it better?
 - What does the community consider as good conduct?
- Body cameras
 - Welcome the “Monday morning quarterback” opportunity
 - We want personnel who welcome it, too: hold each other accountable
- Neighborhood Resource Officers
 - Tiffany Trombley
 - Focus on mental health, homeless

- Deanna Lansing
 - Leaving the area, likely in the next month

7:30pm [Shop Local Kirkland](#)

- Martha Chaudhry, Special Projects Coordinator in the City Manager’s office
- Has been working as a contractor with the City (now on staff)
- History of arts, entrepreneurship, business
- Goals
 - Build a digital safety net for Kirkland businesses
- Website/Portal
 - Registry of all participating businesses
 - Not an e-commerce portal; you don’t buy directly through it
 - Help business through digital transformation, online engagement
- Business engagement campaign
 - Working toward a critical number, somewhere around 100
- Demo of website

- Search by:
 - Categories
 - Neighborhood
- Drill through to digital storefront
 - Martha helping with photography, design
 - Clarify the methods of interaction: pickup, shipping, same-day deliver, special offers, etc.



- Business registration is easy to do, right there on the website
- Milestones:



- Current focus: getting businesses to register
- Benefits:
 - New customers
 - Digital readiness
 - Increased revenues
 - Remote sales
 - Broaden reach via partnerships
- Q&A, ideas for engagement

- What are boundaries for businesses in participating?
 - Need a Kirkland endorsement on their business license
 - Some questions on our form don't suit home-based businesses, so we're learning and adapting
 - Want to welcome all Kirkland businesses
- Why would a business not participate?
 - Many are overwhelmed, past capacity
 - Martha is helping as much as she can, to make it more accessible
- How can you keep the content fresh, not get stale?
 - Good point! It will take some staff oversight
 - Each business' content is pretty simple
 - Want this to be a scaffold, build more onto it later
 - Anna: Recommend a refresh timing to the businesses, e.g., revisit your content after 30 days
- Are there parameters on types of business?
 - Looks like a lot of retail and food
 - No, we welcome all, and some of our earliest registrants have been service businesses
 - Category list is extensive and growing
- How do you handle barter businesses?
 - We're simply giving a platform; we don't drive the business models
- What will drive consumers to the website?
 - Working on that now!
 - Altruism is not a major driver (though Kirkland does have this attitude more than many other places)
 - Need to add value, pitch the benefits and advantages
 - Fresher, greener, faster, etc.
 - (Laura) I like the idea of adding the boutique sellers, such as Farmers' Market vendors, whom you can't easily reach any other way
 - (Laura) Getting major "anchor" businesses onboard will help pull in the smaller businesses
- Snow season is coming; this could be valuable to business during weather emergencies as well
 - Where can I walk to go get stuff?
 - What can I do when roads are closed?
 - There's life for this beyond COVID times
- Consumer engagement effort will likely ramp up in November; not quite ready for it yet
- Send more ideas, thoughts, business referrals to [Martha](#)

8:02pm _____ NE 85th St. Station Area Plan

- Allison Zike, Senior Planner

- Geographical review, boundaries of area
- Vision
 - Regional gateway
 - Supports transit
 - Creates opportunity for all
 - Reflects Kirkland's unique identity
- Process



- Currently in SEPA review (impact, environment, infrastructure, etc.)
- Alternatives
 - How much growth occurs
 - Physical form of growth
 - Shuttles and parking strategies
 - Level of investment in bike/ped improvements
 - Level of investment in environmental strategies
 - Level of public services and investment in community facilities
 - Level of district-level coordination
 - Impacts and benefits toward project goals and vision
- Draft Environment Impact Statement (EIS)
 - Will present the alternative plans
 - Will want public input, reactions
 - Public workshop(s)
- Get involved
 - Visit the [website](#)
 - View the ESRI Story Map
 - Watch recordings of past meeting presentation
 - Recording of June 4th community workshop
 - Sign up for email updates
 - Contact [Allison](#), (425) 587-3259
 - Attend the next public workshop (pending), especially if your neighborhood adjoins the Station Area
- Neighborhood Plans
 - (Bea) Are you looking at Neighborhood Plans to ensure that your plans are consistent with them?
 - (Allison) We're working with the in-process Norkirk plan, for example, with Janice Coogan
- Funding
 - City funding for the Station Area plan is solid
 - Sound Transit funding is delayed; pushing dates back
 - Won't know for some time how that shakes out, but we expect the project to still happen but later

- (Debbie) Do we have any leverage to increase Kirkland's priority with Sound Transit?
 - (Jeremy) This is a question we hear from cities up and down the I-405 corridor

8:23pm Kari Page retirement gift

- Karen and Bea coordinating
- Karen will send more information
- Public Works recognition of Kari
 - David emailed a [link](#) if you want to **submit a video tribute clip**
 - Due by Monday, Oct. 26

8:33pm Neighborhood Services update

- David Wolbrecht
- Neighborhood Safety Program
 - NSP will be funded at \$350K this year
 - Neighborhoods should be discussing and selecting their top priorities
 - Consider the Safer Routes to Schools projects
 - Map will be coming soon, with suggested comments from last two years
 - Some uncertainty still on who on staff with take over from Kari
 - Last year's panel discussed having two pots of money
 - One for larger projects, one for smaller
 - Over time, projects have gotten more expensive, so the panel was concerned that small projects are getting squeezed out
 - Looking back over last three years of unfunded projects
 - Average of \$72K/project, more expensive than the funded ones (except in 2020)
 - Of the 13 unfunded projects, we ended up funding four of them through other methods
 - So, unfunded projects don't always cost less, and the City tries to find ways to get them done
 - We plan, therefore, to stick with the current project method
 - Thoughts from KAN?
 - Keep it simpler, as it is
 - Getting a late start, but hoping to move forward effectively
 - (Doug) Asked about specific project near Keller Elementary
- [Kirkland Cares](#), small business relief fund
 - \$5K grant analysis has begun
 - 280+ applications
 - Deadline closed 9/16/20
 - Four application received in a language other than English
 - Expecting to cut checks by end of October
- [Eastside Race and Equity Summit](#) on racism
 - Was held on Sept 26, 2020
 - Virtual community summit event

- Kirkland co-sponsored with other Eastside cities, Eastside for All, and Eastside Race and Leadership Coalition
- 244 attendees
- Keynote speaker: Delbert Richardson, historian, ethnomusician
 - Spoke to redlining, housing covenants
- Breakout groups
 - 6-person breakouts
- Successful event, good feedback
- [Video](#) of summit
- [Resources](#) from summit
- (Debbie) Are there guidelines to improve equity considerations in Neighborhood Plan updates?
 - (Karen) Just got email from City about incorporating language and policy from the current Resolution into the Neighborhood Plan
 - From Planning: City Council directed staff to revisit the text in each plan to be sure the plans implement the values of diversity and inclusion as reflected in the adopted resolutions R-5240 and R-5434 declaring Kirkland as a safe, inclusive and welcoming city where Black Lives Matter.
Furthermore, Council gave very clear direction that the plans should enthusiastically embrace diverse housing types (such as accessory dwelling units and duplexes) consistent with recently adopted zoning regulations as a means of promoting equity and inclusion.
- Halloween
 - Relying on CDC and King County Public Health guidelines
 - Published an [article](#) in the latest City newsletter with our guidelines

8:48pm Hot topics

- Lisa
 - Kirkland Nourishing Networks
 - Food for kids, during school outage
 - Usually a big push, NA competition, to collect food around Thanksgiving, but not this year
 - Encourage neighborhoods to participate
 - Watch for emails, newsletter articles, NextDoor posts, etc.
 - Open house for Tech City Bowl redevelopment
 - See Houghton Facebook page for details
 - Weigh in if you want to participate in discussion about redevelopment of this Bridle Trails lot
- Bea
 - Had updates at NA mtg on Google Foundation activity
 - Kicked off the Neighborhood Safety Program
- Debbie, Karen
 - First Zoom meeting coming in November
 - Postal mailer going out as usual, once per two years

- Chris
 - Board meeting last night curtailed by power outage
 - Tech City Bowl [mtg](#) indeed coming, 10/21/20 5:30pm
- Johanna
 - No public meetings planned at this time
- Janet
 - Farewell to Heather, moving to Woodinville
- Anna
 - Presentations at general meeting, including SRM redevelopment on 6th
 - Newsletter going out
 - Help that's available during COVID
 - Solicitation of anyone who needs help
 - New pavilion being built on the CKC at Railroad Ave.
 - By City and Rotary
 - No toilet, but nice place for a picnic at a table
- Doug
 - Probably doing our annual holiday lights
- Laura
 - House decorating contest
 - Hallo-Wine activity (secret exchange of wine)
 - First virtual meeting last month
 - Neighborhood Plan presentation to City Council
 - Some members unhappy with how that went; one resigned
 - Felt that the Planning Dept didn't implement the NA input well
- Bill
 - Had Prop 1 presentation at the last meeting
 - Working on acquiring land for parks
- Good-bye to Heather!
 - Contact Bill if you have any ambition or nomination for KAN leadership

9:07pm _____ Closing

- Adjourned at 9:10pm
- Next meeting: November 11, 2020 (Veterans' Day, so watch to see if any notices come about moving it)