

Minutes, Kirkland Alliance of Neighborhoods
September 13, 2023 Hybrid meeting: online and Peter Kirk room

Note: Action items are highlighted in **yellow**.

Neighborhoods attending:

Central Houghton	Lisa McConnell, Gary Greenberg
Everest	Walter Jaccard
Evergreen Hill	Johanna Palmer
Finn Hill	Bill Blanchard, Scott Morris
Highlands	Mari Bercaw , Launa Johnson
Juanita Neighborhoods	
Lakeview	Aaron Jacobson (KAN co-chair)
Market	Liz Hunt
Moss Bay	Bea Nahon
Norkirk	Janet Pruitt
North Rose Hill	
South Rose Hill/Bridle Trails	Chris Kagen, Jim Hoff

City Staff/Elected Officials attending:

- Don Robinson, Sr. Community Engagement Coordinator
- Kurt Triplett, City Manager
- Hillary De La Cruz, Parks and Community Services Manager

Guests:

- Deirdre Johnson, SRH/BT
- Susan Pappalardo
- Jeanne Large
- Jory Hamilton

7:03pm Introduction

- Chair Aaron Jacobson called the meeting to order
- Round-the-horn introductions

7:07pm Public comments

- None.
- Aaron is pursuing a ruling on whether anyone (including public comment) can speak for or against a ballot measure, when we're on a Zoom call hosted by city funding. For example, no one can speak for or against a candidate for city office, in similar circumstances.

7:08pm Proposition 1: Parks Ballot Measure

- Kurt Triplett presenting
- Parks, Recreation, and Open Space (PROS) Plan
 - Biggest public outreach effort in city history

- Large waitlists for recreation (gyms, exercise, sport courts), aquatics, and community multipurpose rooms
- Parks Funding Exploratory Committee
 - Sep 2022 to June 2023
 - Should a measure go to ballot, and if so, with what elements?
 - Indoor aquatic and recreation center
 - Year-round restrooms
 - New sport courts
 - Teen programs
 - Increased lifeguard and water safety program
 - Green Loop Trail
 - Recommended by 92% vote of PFEC
- Ordinance O-4857: Placing measure on Ballot
 - \$0.28 per \$1K of assessed valuation in 2024
- Prop 1 summary
 - Indoor aquatic and recreation center
 - 2024 design, operating by end of 2027
 - Former Houghton Park & Ride, using 3 acres of the space
 - Purchase of the site is not part of the ballot measure
 - Pool:
 - 8-lane lap pool
 - Whirlpool spa
 - Warm-water recreation pool, including “lazy river”
 - Gym
 - 2-court gym (basketball, pickleball, etc.)
 - Exercise room
 - Fitness room for classes
 - Community room
 - Year-round restrooms at parks
 - Park rangers and park safety
 - One additional ranger
 - 2,400 seasonal part-time hours
 - Automatic locking gates at selected parks
 - New sport courts
 - Sand volleyball at Houghton Beach Park
 - Pickleball at Everest Park
 - Lifeguarding and water safety
 - Expand hours and season (mid-June to mid-September)
 - Life jackets, life rings
 - Water safety education program
 - Teen program
 - 7-day/week operation of the Kirkland Teen Union Building
 - Behavioral health services
 - Year-round outdoor recreation
 - Life skills classes
 - Green Loop Trail networks

- Juanita and Finn Hill
 - Buy property, secure easements
 - Park operations, maintenance, and improvements
 - Capital and operating funding
 - Dedicated fund, not competing with other public service funds
- Prop 1 information
 - Upcoming ballot pamphlet will include pro/con statements
- Q&A
 - (Scott) Please comment on the location chosen.
 - PFEC deliberated on this. They recommended the Houghton P&R for its relatively low cost and flat terrain, better parking.
 - (Lisa) Phase 3 and 4 of the 85th St. Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) station would happen at the same time as the Houghton P&R site build, with traffic diverted from 85th St. to 70th St.
 - I'll make sure that the transportation team is talking to the operations teams. Good information.
 - (Liz) Our 2022 total levy for Kirkland is \$1.12 per \$1K. (\$0.86 per \$1K in 2023., per Hillary.) \$0.28/\$1K seems like a lot at that scale.
 - King County Assessor has told us there may be an assessed value drop of up to 20%, so the rate assumes a drop and includes a maximum collected value.
 - (Gary and Scott) PFEC originally voted on whether the construction loan should be a 20-year loan or a 30-year loan.
 - City chose a 30-year loan due to the declining assessments. And yes, the levy for maintenance is a permanent levy. State government has caps on property taxes, so cities have to ask voters for specific levies. Every city prioritizes public safety, for example (police, fire), and discretionary funding for things like parks are vulnerable. Temporary levies tend to become functionally permanent because people don't want to discontinue what they're funding; let's just make this permanent from the start.
 - (Launa) Initial conceptual designs came from a Portland design group. Is there consideration of having a more local organization proceed with the work?
 - We would welcome that. We would invite bids for the formal design and work. No local business bid on the conceptual work.
 - (Jim) Separate topic: Parking regulations. Rules for parking are no longer being enforced in South Rose Hill/Bridle Trails. I send in photos and reports and nothing happens. And the restroom in South Rose Hill Park has been graffitied and painted over, door closer is malfunctioning, and again I see no response to my reports. Other than "My Kirkland," where else can I go to get action?
 - My Kirkland is still the best first place to go. You can also go to our website and email me or the police chief, or anyone. And you can come to a Council meeting or contact a councilmember. I'll note these two complaints and pass them along. We lose seasonal

workers around this time of year. And it's been challenging to staff up our police force.

7:45pm Neighborhood Association survey

- Aaron Jacobson presenting
- City staff conduct surveys
- Perhaps KAN (with individual neighborhood associations) can conduct broad surveys
 - Improve outreach
 - You can't improve what you don't measure
- (Bea) How would we determine the questions on the survey?
 - Don't want it to be a "push poll" in any way, advancing a viewpoint
- (Liz) Could we do a drop-ship mailing, targeting zones of the city?
 - (Aaron) My first thought is reaching out to the people who are currently engaged with neighborhood association work
 - Reaching out to the larger residency would be great
 - May need to collect some demographic info, even if 30%+ choose "choose not to answer)
- Volunteers?
 - Chris, Launa

7:52pm Roundtable

- Everest:
- Evergreen (Johanna)
 - King County Housing Authority meeting tomorrow night
- Finn Hill
- Highlands
- Houghton (Lisa)
 - Mtg last night
 - Picnic Soiree in July with 450+ people
 - New people in the neighborhood association
 - Mailing list has gone from 200 to over 1,000
 - Candidate Forum, Oct 16 at Int'l Community School, 6pm
- Juanita
- Lakeview
- Market
- Moss Bay (Bea)
 - Email sent re: KANdicate Forum, October 14, 2pm
 - Please advertise on your neighborhood outreach channels
- Norkirk
- SRH/BT (Jim)
 - Candidate Forum last night, vey successful
 - 45 people + NA board, 15 people on Zoom, 4 of the 6 candidates (2 out with COVID)

- We posted 150 paper flyers in the neighborhood and posted on NextDoor and our mailing list
- Totem Lake

8:02pm Closing

- Adjourned at 8:02pm
- Next meeting October 11, 2023