

## January 8th, 2025 KAN Meeting -- Minutes

### Attendees:

Bill Blanchard, Finn Hill, KAN Chair  
Harris Husain, Houghton  
Gary Greenberg, Houghton  
Deirdre Johnson, SRH/BT  
Walter Jaccard, Everest  
Bea Nahon, Moss Bay  
Liz Hunt, Market Chair  
Jeanne Large, Moss Bay  
Ken MacKenzie, Market KAN rep  
Margaret Buoniol, Juanita  
Janet Pruitt, Norkirk  
Gary Bustinduy, Highlands  
Johanna Palmer, Evergreen Hill  
North Rose Hill - not present

Daniel Lazo, City Community Engagement  
Jim Lopez, Deputy City Manager  
Carly Pacekonis, City Emergency Preparedness

### Summary of ACTION ITEMS:

- ACTION - All -- Let's pack the house! (at the May 13<sup>th</sup> event)
- Action items from the Bea/Toby/Darcey/Jim meeting re: insurance:
  - Review the legal information - Telford case (4 point test) and other cases where the criteria was applied - Darcey
  - Talk with the city's insurance company (Gallagher and Gallagher); waiting for a call back - Jim
    - Are neighborhoods DBAs? Is DBA needed in the insurance document?
- ACTION -- Jim/Bea/Etc -- We need to continue to look into this. (insurance)
- ACTION — All - Send email to Daniel with any edits or requests about the Neighborhood Services web page.
- ACTION - Daniel - I will look at all the matching grants to see what was missed.
- ACTION -- All NAs -- [kirklandwa.gov/cert](http://kirklandwa.gov/cert) - connect your neighborhood with city CERT staff
- ACTION -- All -- Sign up for Alert King County (links on the City OEM web site).
- ACTION -- All -- Update NA Articles of Incorporation for new 2022 law
- ACTION - Bill -- Ask City contacts about Comp Plan post mortem
- ACTION – All - If you know any potential gardens for the Juanita Garden Tour, please let Margaret B know.
- ACTION -- All NAs -- register at [www.kirklandwa.gov/nmg](http://www.kirklandwa.gov/nmg) for mandatory matching grant program workshop

Chair Blanchard called the meeting to order.

Attendees Introduced themselves and answered a question posed by Chair Blanchard: “What are you looking forward to in 2025?”

### State of the City - Jim Lopez

- One presentation this year - May 13th (tentative)
- Combined with Community Appreciation Night - May 13th
- At Kirkland Performance Center

- It's always a festive evening
- ACTION - All -- Let's pack the house!

### Neighborhood Associations (NAs) Insurance - Jim Lopez & others

Question of whether there is any issue with the city continuing to provide insurance for NAs.

Bea Nahon, Toby Nixon, Darcey Eilers (city attorney) and Jim met & discussed. Bea sent a summary email.

We are possibly like the Fortgang case, in which case there would be less of an issue for us.

Some of our neighborhoods have different features (e.g., Finn Hill has significant other funding sources besides the city).

There is more scrutiny these days on how city funding is being used; the ultimate responsibility falls on the city.

Action items from the above-mentioned meeting:

- Review the legal information - Telford case (4 point test) and other cases where the criteria was applied - Darcey
- Talk with the city's insurance company (Gallagher and Gallagher); waiting for a call back - Jim
  - Are neighborhoods DBAs? Is DBA needed in the insurance document?

Jim has been unable to contact the insurance agent for the current policy that the City buys; Jim is continuing to try to contact the agent to get the City's questions answered. Jim did not report on what questions the City has.

Jim said there is concern about the NA's differing revenue models with some more and some less dependent on matching grant funding

- There was agreement that no NA is getting much matching grant money from the City and Jim did not present any data

Ken M - distributed a list of the named insureds

- Only 3 DBAs are listed.
- BUT are they really DBAs? They are not listed on State web site as registered.
  - Bea: the top-level name is what matters
- NAs are listed as additionally insured.

Bea - the level of funding being provided for the insurance is an important element (it's very low).

ACTION -- Jim/Bea/Etc -- We need to continue to look into this.

### Neighborhood Services - Daniel Lazo

Daniel briefed us on the material on the N'hood Services web page. Daniel has been updating the content, in partnership with the neighborhood leaders.

Liz: question about 2nd sentence in first paragraph - not clear what it means.

Daniel elaborated; Ken requested that this be clarified.

Ken: need to be clear about the relationship between the city and the neighborhoods.

Bea: the matching grants are REIMBURSEMENT, not "here is money you can go spend" - that distinction is important

Not all neighborhoods use the matching grant - need to identify on the web page description that they are optional.

Leadership training for neighborhoods? Ken - what is that? Is it actual or aspirational?

ACTION — All - Send email to Daniel with any edits or requests about the N'hood Services web page.

### Moss Bay matching grant issue - Bea and Daniel

Using the Forward platform

Volunteer hours logged on that platform did not get carried forward for moss bay (and some other neighborhoods too).

That omission reduced the amount of match possible - city staff are looking into whether and how that can be adjusted.

Walter J - He was told they would only be reimbursed for the hard dollars that they spent (not for volunteer hours).

ACTION - Daniel - I will look at all the grants to see what was missed.

#### Disaster Preparedness - Carly Pacekonis

She will share a PDF of her slides.

OEM - office of emergency management

The 4 pillars: Make a Plan - Build a kit - Be informed - Get involved

Wording matters: Disruption, Emergency, Disaster

Preparing for disruptions.

Disaster = significant loss, major amount of time to recover. e.g., earthquake.

"Let's Chat About Emergency Preparedness" - video(s) on the City's OEM web site.

"Know Your Risk" program

OEM response center - is activated when needed.

CERT - community emergency response training.

ACTION -- All NAs -- [kirklandwa.gov/cert](http://kirklandwa.gov/cert) - connect your neighborhood with them!

Emergency radio operators program

Bill: why doesn't PSE go around and trim the trees?

Carly: the city will address some tree/power line issues; on personal property, the property owner is responsible.

Why aren't power lines underground?

Carly: underground lines are affected by earthquake. Bea: earthquakes take down overhead lines, too.

[Kirklandwa.gov/prepare](http://Kirklandwa.gov/prepare) = the "be prepared" web page.

Carly reviewed how to make a plan, build a kit, be informed, and get involved.

ACTION -- All -- Sign up for Alert King County (links on the City OEM web site).

#### Ken M Handout re: insurance, etc.

Ken - described the contents of the handout he distributed about Insurance issues, the neighborhood email that fired up the issue/questions about the relationship between the neighborhood associations and the city, etc.

Jeanne L - is there a document that tells NAs what we can and cannot do?

Bea: government dollars cannot be used for political purposes.

Bea: That particular email (in the above-mentioned packet) passes that test (was on a free email server, etc.).

Johanna - we have no local newspaper to inform our neighborhoods; we NAs are informing our neighbors.

Houghton - we did some insurance research re: insurance:

- It would be better to get together as a group; cost could be \$900 for an individual neighborhood, but if obtain as a group, would be much less per neighborhood.
- Need liability insurance; Possibly need Directors and Officers insurance.

Ken - KAN could possibly be an umbrella if it became a 501c3 with its mission to support the neighborhoods.

Then the city could give KAN a grant to cover the insurance. Could include directors and officers, liability, etc.

The current policy - we have some questions - e.g., the list of covered addresses only includes city hall; would an incident in a park be covered?

Another useful bit of info - new WA state law in 2022 that enables non-profit organizations to indemnify directors and officers. Walter J is a corporate lawyer and questioned how much protection that would provide.

ACTIONS:

- Sort out the current insurance situation (noted above)
- Update NA Articles of Incorporation for new 2022 law

## NEIGHBORHOOD ROUND TABLE

### Houghton

- we have been busy
- Next meeting is Jan 15th
- New Metro K Line rapid ride bus from totem lake to Eastgate
  - Impact to 108th - new BAT lanes for buses in 2 separate areas; adding light at 60th; Metro wants property from 15 or 16 residential homeowners and businesses.
  - Also some questions about the spend (and the return on investment)
  - Northbound 108th travel is projected to improve by 2 minutes
  - City transportation dept and Metro are coming to the Houghton meeting on Jan 15th

### SRH/BT

- Emergency preparedness is an important issue for us
- Some people were out of power for 3 weeks during the big storm

### Everest

- We are back on a regular meeting schedule now

### Moss Bay

- Board mtg tomorrow morning; neighborhood meeting on Monday (Virtual)
- Last year CM Black said there would be a post mortem on the Comp Plan process; CM Arnold said maybe not
  - Anyone heard anything about it?
  - ACTION - Bill will ask City contacts about Comp Plan post mortem

### Market

- November meeting cancelled due to bomb cyclone.
- Lots of Comp Plan engagement in our neighborhood.
- Our next meeting is on Jan 15th.
- Stores to shores greenway construction - we are interested in how it will impact our neighborhood
- 8th Ave W sewer project
  - Big impacts and months longer than planned (ETA Sept 2024; still not done)
  - Tore up 8th Ave W completely (and some of 5th St W)- no access to front of homes for months - still wrecked and way late on finishing it (luckily some homes have alley access)
  - Utility disruptions without warning - e.g., residents taking showers and water was cut off with no warning
  - Foundation cracks from the vibrations

### Juanita

- Board meeting yesterday
- Kurt Triplett coming to a special meeting on Jan 15th - we have been collecting questions
  - Link on Juanita neighborhood facebook page, maybe on web site (not sure)
- Scholarships to Juanita high school students - \$100
  - We have been doing this for a while -- a great program! - but now running out of funds.
  - Doing a fundraising garden tour in June - have 3 gardens so far - expanding beyond Juanita to find enough gardens.
  - ACTION - If you know any potential gardens, please let Margaret B know.

### Norkirk

- Had a holiday social for their December meeting; DERU food, Thruline coffee, musical entertainment by local teens and adults; a service project wrapping and providing gifts for needy; a fun time was had by all.
- Board meeting next week; next neighborhood meeting in February.

### Highlands

- Next meeting on Jan 15th.
- Still having water pressure issues (from the BRT construction and have only 1 main line coming into highlands).
  - The city knew that water pressure would drop 37%, but did not notify anyone.
  - Uphill areas dropped from 70 to 35 psi. (Supposed to be ?= 60 psi.)
  - Discussions about how to solve this and who will pay for it (city? Homeowners?).
  - BRT construction is greatly affecting us.
  - Comp Plan update - we're trying to be educated about what's coming.

#### Evergreen Hill

- Most of their power is underground due to the way the subdivisions were built. Limited power outages from the big storm, luckily.
- Not much going on in the neighborhood right now.

#### Finn Hill

- Have > \$200K in their account; the money is being managed well.
- In 2024 had almost \$40K in donations!
- Hired a couple of people to work on our newsletter, facebook, etc., and that helped with donations during giving Tuesday, etc.
- We have a lot of trees; many people were out of power for a week.
- Re: the insurance issue, Scott M is a corporate attorney and could provide some input on this.
- Found a new treasurer to replace previous one that served for 10 years.
- Green Loop Trail is making progress - will be able to walk all around Finn Hill.
- Denny Fest
  - A big success. Had about 120 attendees this year.
  - Had an issue with marshmallows in the hot chocolate not being allowed by the city events folks - if you're putting your next picnic together, watch out.

#### North Rose Hill (submitted after the meeting by Susan D.)

- We submitted all matching grant expenses and got reimbursement from the city. Checks are cashed.
- We will meet this month online to get a list of community members who want to serve on our board. February meeting we will elect required officers and board.
- Once the remodel is completed on Firestation 26 is open we will start meeting in person. We think this may help increase participation.
- Planning a social get together at a neighborhood restaurant to meet more neighbors.
- I did not hear back from Jim and Daniel on my question if the city can add a flyer in the city utility bill mailing that shows the NA and the emails to connect with their local NA?
- Also interested in any ideas to improve participation especially for these important comprehensive plan and zoning updates.

KAN softball team/activity - some discussion about putting this together.

#### Neighborhood matching grant program

- Daniel provided a flyer
- Mandatory pre-proposal workshop on Weds Jan 29 at 7 pm or Thurs Jan 30 at 7 pm.
  - ACTION -- All NAs -- register at [www.kirklandwa.gov/nmg](http://www.kirklandwa.gov/nmg)

9:15 pm - Adjourned

Minutes respectfully submitted by Liz Hunt.