

Kirkland Alliance of Neighborhoods (KAN) Meeting Minutes

1/13/16

Justice Center

7:00-9:00 pm

NOTE: Action items are highlighted in yellow.

Neighborhood Reps Attending:

Central Houghton – Lisa McConnell (Chair) (KAN Co-Chair)
Finn Hill Neighborhood Alliance – Jon Pascal
Highlands – Debbie Ohman; Karen Story (Chair) (KAN Secretary)
Juanita Neighborhoods – Karen Lightfeldt; Doug Rough
Market – Doug Sollitt
Moss Bay – Bea Nahon (KAN Co-Chair)
Norkirk – Janet Pruitt
North Rose Hill – Margaret Carnegie (Chair)
South Rose Hill/Bridle Trails – Jim McElwee

City Staff Attending:

Kari Page, Neighborhood Services Outreach Coordinator
Christian Knight, Neighborhood Services Coordinator
Rod Steitzer, Public Works Capital Projects Supervisor

Elected officials present:

Councilmember Dave Asher

Co-Chair Bea Nahon convened the meeting at 7 pm.

After introductions we unanimously ratified the November meeting minutes. Bea noted that KAN will meet at the Justice Center for approximately six months, during the remodel of City Hall.

Capital Improvement Project (CIP) update – Christian Knight, Rod Steitzer

- Christian gave an excellent recap of the 2015 CIPs, along with a 2016 preview. See <http://www.kirklandwa.gov/Assets/Public+Works/Public+Works+PDFs/CIP/CIP-in-review-2015.pdf>. Please distribute this information to your neighborhoods, and consider inviting Christian to your neighborhood meeting.
- Q: What is a bike box? A: A designated area at the head of a traffic lane at a signalized intersection that provides bicyclists with a safe and visible way to get ahead of queuing traffic during the red signal phase.
- Q: Could Park Lane be closed to cars in the summer? A: We'd lose 20 parking spaces, and businesses would be concerned about lost business.
- Q: Do we have data showing that narrowing driving lanes (to widen bike lanes) slows traffic? A: No data available, but the purpose is to provide safer bike lanes that meet modern design standards.
- Q: Are we going to be doing baseline data counts on Lake Washington Boulevard about bikes and auto speeds before we do the bike improvements on that road? Lisa McConnell

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thought it would be good to collect baseline data now, and again after the improvements have been made. A: This is a good idea. City will follow up.

- Q: How will the city involve neighborhoods during the design process for upcoming projects? A: Outreach to neighborhoods will be part of the process.
- Q: Many projects address safety, but is throughput also a priority? A: Yes, and this will be addressed via the Intelligent Transportation System (ITS signal coordination), coordination with Metro, and speed and reliability studies.

Neighborhood Safety Program Updates – Kari Page, Neighborhood Services Coordinator

- Kari gave an update on the status of the 2014 and 2015 NSP projects. See the [KAN agenda](#) for details.
- Make sure that your NSP rep signs up for a conference with city staff to prepare for the application process. Kari sent an email with a link to a [Doodle sign up sheet](#).
- Applications are due Feb. 9.
- Make sure Kari has the name and email address of your NSP rep.

Parks Foundation Projects

If your neighborhood has ideas for projects that would be appropriate for the Kirkland Parks Foundation, you can learn more and submit them here:

<http://www.kirklandparksfoundation.org/>.

Street Light Requests

Street lights (when a pole is needed) do not fare well as NSP projects, since they generally benefit a limited number of people. Council may consider a separate funding strategy for these requests. Kari will keep us posted.

Neighborhood Map Portal

Development of the neighborhood map portal is almost complete. Residents will be able to enter their address and learn which neighborhood they are in, see a map, and get a link to their neighborhood website.

Other Notes from Kari

- If you have not done so already, be sure to have an ST3 presentation at your neighborhood meeting.
- Council will meet with the following neighborhoods in 2016: North Rose Hill, Everest, Highlands/Norkirk (joint). If you have not confirmed a date, please talk to Kari.
- Communications Program Mgr. Marie Jensen has a new job with the city of Bellevue starting in February. Until a replacement is found, communication delays may be possible.

Public Comments

Dave Asher

- The agenda packet is missing pages [the link is correct, so he may have been looking at an older, cached version]
- Park Lane businesses are still recovering from the construction closures, so may be sensitive to requests to close Park Lane during the summer.
- Kari mentioned that a potential NSP project to create a walkway along 120th Ave NE near Hopelink might be problematic to implement. Dave says this is an important section of walkway because it serves Hopelink clients who take the bus.

Disaster Open House – Karen Lightfeldt

The City of Kirkland Office of Emergency Management (OEM) and Kirkland CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) are hosting a Disaster Open House where you can learn how to survive and thrive after a disaster. The event is Saturday, Feb. 6, starting at 10 am, at Kirkland City Hall Council Chambers. Interactive vignettes will be held at 10, 11, and noon. See the [KAN agenda](#) for more information, and Bea also emailed the flier to everyone.

Parking Task Force Update – Bea

- Council passed the new parking enforcement ordinance which makes it an infraction to park a vehicle with expired or improper plates, to take up more than one space, to park in areas that are marked as restricted, -to park at electric charging stations unless your vehicle is charging, and to park in front of mailboxes from 8 am to 5 pm seven days a week. The City will be publicizing these changes. **Please let your neighborhood know that the ordinance is now in effect.** The Council will also be looking into restricting parking in bicycle lanes.
- Bea and Lisa will present the results of the first KAN parking survey to Council in January. The survey results are on the KAN website.
- The task force is now working on a second survey to identify potential parking solutions. They will ask for input at a future KAN meeting.
- Jim noted that some of the comments in the first survey indicate misperception of rules or infractions, so educating people is an important part of the solution to parking concerns.

ST3 Meeting Followup – Bea

- KAN discussed ST3 at a special meeting in November but did not determine next steps.
- We agreed to have a “next steps” discussion at our March meeting.
- **Meanwhile, if you have not already done so, please gather input from your neighborhood about this issue. This could be done via a meeting, email, online survey, or other.** Bea will distribute some bullet points.
- Lisa noted that city council will make their recommendation to Sound Transit later this month, so any KAN input would be directed to Sound Transit, and not to the city.
- Bea asked if we should invite staff or other presenters. We agreed not to do this, to allow adequate time for KAN reps to discuss. Reps should “do their homework” and be familiar with the background information prior to the meeting.

Police Chief Recruitment – Jim

Several KAN members and neighborhood appointees met with the consultants that have been hired to recruit a new police chief for Kirkland. The KAN members felt they were able to provide valuable information about Kirkland’s neighborhoods and that the information was appreciated.

Liaison Reports

Save Our Trail – Karen S.

Karen handed out fliers for <http://saveourtrail.org/> and explained that this is a coalition that opposes buses on the Cross Kirkland Corridor. She stated that if light rail were on the November ballot, it would be for design only however, upon further review, it would also be for construction.

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Transportation Commission – Lisa

- The commission has a new mission statement that better reflects the goal of moving people around Kirkland, not just cars.
- They discussed the road and pedestrian infrastructure for the Totem Lake redevelopment.
- They discussed the [Metro Long Range plan](#). Please distribute this link to your neighborhoods, as this plan will significantly impact Kirkland transit.

Planning Commission – Lisa

- Retreat held in December; discussed neighborhood plans. [Video](#) available online.
- Lisa thanked Jon and the commission for the impressive amount of work they have done in the past year, especially with Kirkland 2035.

Neighborhood Round Table

- Norkirk – nothing to report
- Market – Has new chairs. [Let Bea or Lisa know if your neighborhood has a new chair or KAN rep.]
- South Rose Hill/Bridle Trails – ST3, Save Our Trail, neighborhood plan, and police report were discussed at their recent meeting.
- North Rose Hill – Elections to be held in January; Margaret is resigning as chair
- Juanita – ST3 and Totem Lake development were discussed at their recent meeting. They are holding a “Welcome to Juanita” event on March 5, with music, booths, and information. The purpose is to welcome newcomers, but everyone is invited.
- Finn Hill – Development of their neighborhood plan is ongoing. They are actively working to acquire 10 acres of open space on Goat Hill, adjacent to Juanita Heights Park.
- Highlands – ST3 was discussed at their November meeting.
- Moss Bay – The lots south of City Hall are being converted to parking.
- Houghton – They will hold elections in February; their chair is resigning. They plan to attend PTA meetings to recruit new board members.

Miscellaneous – Bea

- The KAN co-chairs meet quarterly with the mayor and deputy mayor, they met with Mayor Walen and Deputy Mayor Sweet in December, and will next meet with Mayor Walen and Deputy Mayor Arnold in February.
- Council committee meetings will soon be open to the public
- Council adopted KAN’s suggestions for neighborhood plan implementation strategies (see [KAN November 11 minutes](#))

Meeting adjourned 9:03

Next meeting is February 10 at the Justice Center.

Upcoming Agenda Items:

- Stream regulations – Teresa Swan will present at our February meeting
- Neighborhood dog parks
- Common issues of PTA and Neighborhoods
- Succession planning for neighborhood participation and leadership
- ST3

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Upcoming Events/Deadlines:

- Next meeting of KAN, February 10, 2016, 7PM at the Kirkland Justice Center
- Neighborhood Safety Panel project workshops January 21 & 25, 2016, Applications available January 21, 2016 and completed applications due February 9, 2016