

Kirkland Alliance of Neighborhoods (KAN) Meeting Minutes

3/9/16

Justice Center

7:00 pm

NOTE: Action items are highlighted in yellow.

Neighborhood Reps Attending:

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

City Staff Attending:

Kari Page, Neighborhood Services Outreach Coordinator
Captain Cherie Harris, Kirkland Police Department

Co-Chair Lisa McConnell convened the meeting at 7 pm.

After introductions we unanimously ratified the February meeting minutes.

Succession Planning – Bea

- Bea noted that many neighborhoods are struggling to find people to take on neighborhood leadership. She met with a colleague and associations expert who would be willing to work with us on a limited pro bono basis to help us develop strategies for recruiting leaders and improving neighborhood participation.
- Bea asked if we were interested in meeting with this person at a special KAN meeting on a date to be determined. There was unanimous interest. Bea will keep us posted.
- Kari noted that if this were a Neighborhood University event, money might be available to pay a facilitator.
- **If you have particular items you would like addressed at such a meeting, please send them to Lisa at lisaamcc@hotmail.com.**

Public Comments

- Captain Cherie Harris thanked KAN for its parking survey. She said the Police Department had been trying for some time to get council to pass an ordinance to prohibit parking in front of mailboxes, but “couldn’t get traction.” She said that the numerous comments about mailbox parking on the KAN parking survey helped convince the city council to approve the ordinance. She said to call police for enforcement if we see parking violations.

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- Jim asked whether neighborhoods can paint “no parking” zones with red paint. Kari said she can connect us with Iris Cabrera to get approval, and then the city can give us the red paint. Red paint can only be used in places where parking is never allowed. Since parking is allowed in front of mailboxes after 6 pm, red paint can’t be used.
- Two people came to comment on a proposed neighborhood safety project, not realizing that meeting had been held earlier.

Sound Transit 3 (ST3) Discussion

- Should KAN write a letter taking any kind of a position on ST3?
- Depends on whether there is majority sentiment one way or the other in the neighborhoods
- Juanita: 70% are opposed to transit on the CKC
- Everest: no consensus; believes KAN should be working on educating residents regarding ST3
- Finn Hill: no consensus; a KAN letter could be valuable if it simply stated that transit is an important issue to Kirkland residents – even if it didn’t state a position
- South Rose Hill/Bridle Trails: no consensus; it’s too hard to make a decision on ST3 without knowing Metro’s plans, because Metro routes are critical for connecting to proposed Sound Transit routes; “Let’s be very careful if we write a letter.”
- North Rose Hill: has not discussed with the neighborhood
- Market: there are too many unknowns in the proposal to take a position
- Highlands: ST3 was discussed at one meeting and in two emails (a few months apart) that reach over 600 people; sentiment is running 4:1 against transit on the CKC; agrees that KAN can play important role in education and correcting misinformation
- Norkirk: 50/50 split regarding transit on the CKC; there’s a lot to think about
- Evergreen Hill: no consensus; there’s too much uncertainty about ST3 implementation
- Central Houghton: the neighborhood is leaning against transit on the CKC, but no consensus; opposition is due to the projected traffic and property impacts
- Moss Bay: no consensus; agrees that KAN’s role should be communication
- Lisa summarized: 2/3 of the neighborhoods have discussed the issue; Kirkland residents are clearly concerned about transit; how about if KAN takes another pulse at our April meeting, after the ST3 draft comes out (March 24)?; she supports sending a letter to Sound Transit stating that “Kirkland needs to be served”
- The deadline for public comment will be April 22(?); the next KAN meeting is April 13; this gives us time to write a letter if we want to
- The amount of the tax will affect whether people vote for ST3
- If KAN writes a letter, we could include “must haves” for transit on the CKC (perhaps borrowing from the items the city of Kirkland included in its letter to Sound Transit)
- If any part of a KAN letter runs counter to the City of Kirkland, we should send it to the city first; “no surprises”
- If we want a letter to influence the candidate projects, we should send it now, and not wait
- What are we trying to accomplish with a letter?
- The letter could ask that Sound Transit provide more and better information about the proposals
- We should wait until the candidate list comes out before we send a letter
- Lisa will work on a draft letter for us to discuss at our April meeting

Neighborhood Services – Kari Page, Neighborhood Services Coordinator

- Waverly Park construction has begun and will be done in mid-May

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- There will be a 30-day road closure this summer at the south end of Lake Washington Blvd. Details here:
http://www.kirklandwa.gov/depart/Public_Works/Construction_Projects/Capital_Improvements/Cochran_Springs.htm
- The new “find my neighborhood association” functionality on the city website has been implemented:
http://www.kirklandwa.gov/depart/CMO/Neighborhood_Services/Associations.htm
- Please make sure Kari has your cell number for emergencies; she will only share it with your permission
- Houghton has a portable shed with picnic supplies they purchased with grant money; they are looking for a place to store it; it’s about 10x12 feet; Kari will ask if it can be stored at a park, and if not, she’ll put out a request for a storage location. If a storage location is found, and if someone is willing to volunteer to organize it, the items could hopefully be available for other neighborhoods to borrow.

Liaison Reports

Transportation Commission – Lisa

- The city’s Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) uses computer technology to monitor traffic flow and adjust signalization. There are two cameras in Totem Lake that are run by the county. Kirkland would like to acquire them to complete phase 2 of the ITS system, but the cost is \$350k. Lisa wondered if KAN would support using one year’s worth of Neighborhood Safety Program money to purchase these cameras. The overwhelming sentiment was no, because one important purpose of the NSP is to energize neighborhoods. It was also felt that ITS may not qualify for the NSP money.

Planning Commission – Lisa

- Went over the Wetlands and Stream Code Amendments with Teresa Swan (see notes from our last KAN meeting). The city would like to hear from citizens about this. Please send this link to your neighborhoods and ask for citizen input:
http://www.kirklandwa.gov/depart/planning/Code_Updates/Projects/Wetlands_and_Stream_Code_Amendments.htm

Quarterly Meeting with Mayor – Bea

- Bea and Lisa had their quarterly meeting with Mayor Walen and Deputy Mayor Arnold. The level of communication was excellent. Deputy Mayor Arnold suggested that KAN add a “why” question to its parking solutions survey, to help understand why a respondent agrees or disagrees with a particular proposed solution.

City Council Committees – Bea

- Council committee meetings are now open to the public (the public can observe but not speak). It would be great if KAN could have a rep at each of these meetings. Please let Bea know if you are interested in attending any of these meetings. Or you can simply attend and then report anything of interest to the next KAN meeting.
- Council committees meet monthly during the day as follows:
 - Finance and Administration: last Tuesday of each month at 9:00 am, in the Norkirk Room
 - Public Safety: 3rd Thursday of each month, 8:30 am (presumably in the Norkirk Room)

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- Planning and Economic Development: second Monday of each month at 3:00 p.m in the Norkirk Room
- Public Works, Parks and Human Services: first Wednesday of each month at 10:00 A.M. in the Norkirk Room
- For more information about the committees see <http://www.kirklandwa.gov/depart/council/Meetings/Committees.htm>

Chief of Police Interviews – Bea

- The city is interviewing three candidates for Chief of Police and has organized a citizen panel on March 17. Bea and Karen S. will represent KAN.

Leadership Eastside Innovation Summit – Bea

- **Is anyone interested in attending the 2016 Innovation Summit for the Eastside Civic Incubator, April 12th, 9:00 am - 4:00 pm in Bellevue?** If so, Kari will ask if the city could pay for a “scholarship.” Please contact Kari if you are interested.
- “This is an **Action Summit**. The people in the room have the passion, expertise, and commitment to work together after the summit and make a real difference in our community.”
- For more information about the summit see [this link](#).
- This ties into Mayor Walen’s recent State of the City address and the importance of civility in city affairs.

Neighborhood Round Table

- Juanita – Their “Welcome to Juanita” event on March 5 was successful and well attended. Someone asked how they reached out to their target audience of immigrants and minorities. They tried schools and churches, but those were not especially helpful. They found contacts in their target communities who helped spread the word.
- Everest – Thanked the city for the great ST3 meeting speakers who “rose above rhetoric.”
- Finn Hill – 120 people attended their recent neighborhood plan meeting and were very engaged.
- South Rose Hill/Bridle Trails – They had a Stone Soup presentation at their meeting, and are hoping for a pod to be approved at Holy Family church. They also had a presentation about the plastic bag ban, and no one expressed any objections to it. Christian Knight presented upcoming capital projects; NE 80th St. will be torn up for the summer.
- North Rose Hill – Mailers are going out that will hopefully increase attendance at their upcoming meeting.
- Market – Moms groups from Market and Norkirk will be holding an egg hunt at Crestwoods Park on March 19.
- Highlands – They will have speakers from the LWSD bond and Save Our Trail at their meeting next week. Their egg hunt will be at Highlands Park on March 26.
- Norkirk – More people are coming to meetings, but both co-chairs have resigned (one moved and one is too busy with CERT). A Stone Soup site is in the works, and it will hopefully help invigorate the neighborhood.
- Evergreen Hill – They will have an LWSD bond speaker at the next meeting. They are concerned about the future of Fire Station 27. They have noticed that many people are more involved with their homeowner’s associations, and don’t have time or interest in the neighborhood association.

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- Houghton – Their meeting included a Stone Soup presentation, the LWSD bond, and kids from ICS, who presented a study on the problem of dog poop in their school yard. The kids asked for help to fund mutt mitts. Northwest University is working on a Master Plan Update that includes extensive expansion of their fitness center and tennis facility, and a new dormitory, and this will impact surrounding neighbors. The neighborhood is planning future discussions about their neighborhood business center.
- Moss Bay – Items on their radar: LWSD bond; State Street Lofts development west of Lakeview Elementary, and the traffic impact; the lots south of City Hall that are being converted to parking (they have been attending meetings with the city to develop a plan, and it has been a positive collaboration). Also, the office building across the street from Houghton Beach allows public parking evenings and weekends, but there has been no signage at the site to that effect; signs will be going up soon thanks to efforts by Kathy Robertson in Public Works.
- Totem Lake – Demolition has begun! Trader Joe's will remain open in its present location until its new site in the lower mall is ready. Denny's Pet World is open at its new location on NE 124th Street, just east of Slater Avenue.

Miscellaneous

- The 520 bridge will be open to pedestrians on April 2 and to bikes on April 3. See details at <http://www.520golong.com/>.
- **Bea asked everyone to remember to file your 990N forms online before May 15!**

Meeting adjourned 8:40

Next meeting is April 13 at the Justice Center.

Upcoming Agenda Items:

- Rob Jammerman from the City will be at our April meeting – Street Widths (don't miss this, it's excellent!)
- Neighborhood dog parks
- Common issues of PTA and Neighborhoods
- Succession planning for neighborhood participation and leadership
- ST3

Upcoming Events/Deadlines:

- Neighborhood Safety Panel scores due March 18; decision meeting on Wednesday, March 23, 5:30-7:00 at Heritage Hall. Dinner will be provided.