**Juanita Neighborhood Association**

***Board Meeting Minutes***

Thursday, February 6th, 2023 - 7 - 8pm

**Zoom Meeting**

In attendance from the JNA Board: Doug Rough, Jennifer Salem, Rob Scarber, Margaret Bouniol

Also in attendance: Peggy Shay, Francine Taylor, Adya Verma

**I. Welcome Guests - Introductions.**

**II.** **Purpose Statement – Statement of our “why’s”**

 *The members of JNA have fun creating community through activities and initiatives that improve the neighborhood and develop relationships in order to serve the residents and visitors in the Juanita Area.*

 1.       Improve Neighborhood physically (parks, clean up, and work projects)

 2.       Build relationships by developing community (events, meetings, parties)

 3.       Provide Opportunities for the residents to get involved

 4.       Provide input to the City of Kirkland on issues and policy

**III. Approve December Board and Meeting minutes -**

**IV.** **Goals /Business Carried Forward –** Current report of JNA’s Activities

* **Two JHS Student Awards** – Adya Verma, senior at Juanita High School. She is in the Cambridge Program, and pursues several studies. She has been accepted to WWU, UW Bothell, and Case Western in Ohio. Wherever she accepts, she will focus on a Business Admin degree. Her Community Service Award is because of her activity in the International Mental Health Club; she helped coordinate a therapy Mastiff named Oliver to visit the school; she is involved in a mental health community awareness project through DECA; and has worked with a group of students to donate their college and AP prep books to schools in eastern Washington who didn’t have these materials.
* **Holiday Lights Takedown recap –** We assembled in front of Urban Coffee in Juanita Village at 10am on Saturday, January 28th. Good turnout, we had 8 or 9 people arrive. Rob brought donuts and coffee, ladders, and supplies. The lights came down quickly. We need to clean them off and have a light testing party, TBD.
* **Discussion of Welcome to Juanita event in September and how the city insists on a huge process if we indeed make it Welcome to all –** The requirement by the city to limit our welcome picnic to Juanita citizens only is possibly racist. Doug said there is a mechanism put into place about 100 years ago that doesn’t permit invitations to people outside of the neighborhood, which promotes this practice. Margaret spoke with Nikki with the COK, who said this requirement is coming from police, fire, and the city attorney, due to concerns about attendance, crowd control, and preservation of city property. We can allow anybody, but need to limit who we are inviting. When it's advertised as a larger event then it triggers more scrutiny at city hall. When we announce it, it’s to be a neighborhood celebration, and don’t advertise outside of Juanita. Margaret will meet with Nikki as well about having live music.
* **Latest on trails, including the JPP endorsement by OneBothell –** OneBothell has committed to endorse the JPP, and sent Doug a letter of endorsement. They will commit 200+ volunteers to help build the path with two stipulations: 1- no work to be performed until there is a written plan; 2 – make sure the salmon are protected. Heidi Schorr has a citizens committee that may have an update for our next meeting.
* **Francine Taylor, Totem Lake’s “Litter Lady” – Doug** asked how we can support Francine. She started noticing how much trash was accumulating in Totem Lake, due to the proximity of 405 and shops. She reached out to the city, the city said it’s up to individual homeowners and business owners to maintain this. She just today received an extension pole with a net to pick up trash in ponds etc. She has been posting to the community to ask for help. People say they will help, but don’t seem to take their own initiative to show up. For needed supplies she could use gloves, carts, trash bags, and other supplies. She doesn’t do planned ‘events’, she just shows up and starts picking up trash. Doug stated that Kirkland is split into 12 neighborhoods, and Totem Lake doesn’t have a neighborhood association. The city grants us about $3000/yr. One of the categories is for community cleanup. We have maybe $600-800 in this budget. Buying supplies is not a problem, the problem is where to store them.f If we had an event, then we can have the city come pick up the trash. The city may also have gloves and other supplies. The element we can also provide that the city can’t is food and drink. If this is an official event, then we can also solicit donations by other businesses. Cherise Bourgoin (owner of Bella Sirena Salon, and local politician) wants to create an event in April for Earth Day. Francine can recruit people on social media. **Jennifer** asked: are there a lot of needles? **Francine** said there are more and more, usually capped, on the grass outside of QFC and the bus stop, also the 76 Gas Station by the air/water station. She told the mayor about this. Francine also spoke with Eric Diem, sergeant with the PD, who said he could do a drive by with a patrol officer to view these hot spots of needle activity. When you walk you can see how bad it is. Francine said she needs a bona fide Sharps container to safely collect syringes. **Jennifer** was concerned that, if we invite the public, children could handle the needles. **Margaret**: it’s an ongoing issue, and it should be a quarterly event. Margaret said we can keep an eye out for collapsible shopping carts at garage sales, she could ask the maintenance or parks department if they have storage space. (**Rob** loves this idea!) Could reach a lot of people if the city also sent the email, as well as **Jennifer** sending the invite on our JNA email. A man that lives north of AG Bell, drives a Chrysler K Car, out in front of Dunn Lumber picking up trash, she sees him all over Juanita. **Francine** heard about an older couple picking up trash near JHS. **Francine** focuses on 128th, 116th, QFC, Azteca, Fred Meyer, over the freeway, past Totem Lake Village, and back to her condo at Juanita Trace. She spent every day during the summer, and collected hundreds of bags. Tries to pick up trash on Saturday on her day off. During the winter it’s dark out early, so not as much during the winter. **Margaret** offered to accompany. **Peggy**: said she does the same in her immediate neighborhood. **Francine** adopted a road, Peggy would like to know how to do the same. She has many National Honor Society students that are looking for volunteer opportunities. The overpass area over 124th may be a little troublesome due to safety. Francine suggested to reach out to Van Sheth (VSheth@kirklandwa.gov) to learn more about how to adopt a road. **Margaret** will connect with David Wolbrecht to help support getting the word out, this will help Francine to also get the word out. **Doug** suggested that we create the event before Earth Day on Saturday, April 22nd. **Francine** will connect with Cherise to see when she is planning her event. Doug would like to announce the trash pickup event on March 13th at our General Meeting when this event will be. Saturday, April 1st or Saturday, April 15th might be good options.
* **Neighborhood Safety Meeting -** Margaret volunteered to represent the JNA in the neighborhood safety program on March 2nd at 6:00 at city hall. Jennifer now volunteers to attend the meeting, both Margaret and Jennifer will attend. We state that the JPP could be better than other proposed projects in regards to safety. Were other suggestions still on the docket, or is it just the JPP? Doug said we’re focusing on the JPP. The crosswalk at Edith Moulton has already been approved.
* **Any topics for the March general meeting?**

**V.** **Next JNA Board Meeting** - (Zoom) Monday, March 6th, 2023 at 7:00pm.

 **Next JNA General Meeting** – (Zoom) Monday, March 13th, 2023 at 7:00pm.

**VI. Adjournment -** The meeting was adjourned at 8:00pm.