



Juanita Neighborhoods Association

Board Member Minutes

Monday, April 6, 2020, 7 pm

Location: EMAIL

- I. Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, and Governor Jay Inslee's "Stay Home, Stay Healthy" order, we conducted our board meeting via email.
- II. In attendance were Doug Rough, Jennifer Salem, Rob Scarber, Brian Magee, and Leo Gilbert.
- III. Following were topics that Doug asked the board to consider:

1. Should we plan for a May general meeting? if so, should it be entirely virtual? If virtual, how?

- **JENNIFER:** Since our attendance has not been great, I'm not sure it would be worth livestreaming a meeting, so I vote we send out an email with information and links to any information that would have been covered. We can also post it on the webpage and Facebook. We would also say to contact us if there are any concerns.
- **ROB:** I agree with Jennifer, due to attendance this is something that can become a 'one way conversation', supported with board-approved information and links.
- **LEO:** I think it's highly unlikely we'll have a meeting in May, and an online meeting would pose a big logistics issue (it's open to the public, but how do we make sure no idiots spam/harass it). Maybe we just publish a page on our site with some updated community health resources and ideas for staying home and keeping active?
- **BRIAN:** I agree with Jennifer. Cancel meeting and go with informational updates. For the purpose of elections for positions over the next year, I propose that we postpone elections until the next General Meeting (hopefully September) and that each of us stays on through the summer in the interim. Positions elected in September would then be effective through May 2021.

- **DOUG:** I think we are all in agreement here pretty much.
- **JENNIFER:** I am in agreement as well.
- **ROB:** AGREED
- **LEO:** Agreement on all from me too.
- **BRIAN:** Agreed as well.

2. Should we start planning for our Welcome event or wait to plan later?

- **JENNIFER:** I don't think we should do any planning that involves actually putting money down on anything. We should probably mention that it is tentatively planned for September and reserve the park, but hold off on the music. Is there a deposit that we will lose if we reserve the park? If it does happen, would it be possible to pay full price on the food since the restaurants have taken such a hit this year?

- **ROB:** Great suggestion to pay full price for restaurant food! I can submit an estimate to the board later this week of what store-bought and restaurant-bought food will likely cost, as well as games, and we can determine our budget. Then we would still need entertainment estimates, and park rental.
- **LEO:** Doesn't hurt to plan, but it is quite a ways off, and I see no rush. I already have a great band lined up for the music portion, but there is no need to commit any money to reserve them. Has the date been decided on and published?
- **BRIAN:** I'd lean towards waiting just given the uncertainty. We can hold a tentative date and throw together a quick event at a park...even if it comes down to ordering 40 pizzas and setting up with games rather than planning a lot of entertainment groups.

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- **DOUG:** I agree with Jennifer's idea to pay full price for the food. Let's plan to hold off until May at least. We need to pick a date, though, so the park is reserved. The city has not charged us in the past.
 - **ROB:** AGREED

3. Do we want to be a part of advertising for BizDiversity's virtual presentation on business diversity?

- **JENNIFER:** I don't really have any thoughts on this.
 - **ROB:** I need more information about the BizDiversity proposal, I know nothing about it.
 - **LEO:** I don't think so. What would this give us?
 - **BRIAN:** I'd need more info before voting to commit time and resources to this.
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- **DOUG:** This is the "Glocal" event. Due to Biz Diversity's consistent support of JNA, I would be inclined to post their information (once) but nothing else. I do not plan to "tune in"
 - **ROB:** AGREED, IF WE ARE JUST PROMOTING THEIR BUSINESS AND NO FURTHER ACTION IS NECESSARY. DOUG, PLEASE LET ME KNOW WHAT I WOULD NEED TO DO.
 - **DOUG:** Thanks, Rob. I should have been more clear: I think Biz Diversity wants us to post a notice of their April 23 online event. I recommend we do that, but nothing else. The event looks like it a discussion of how diversity affects various business interests in the area. I'll ask Sam Rodriguez of Biz Diversity to give us something we just post. Then we can remove it April 24.

4. What should be our role in communicating via our web site, Facebook page and email list during the COVID 19 quarantining?

- **JENNIFER:** I think I would defer to the City of Kirkland communications on this. I guess we could send links out or advertise their communications, but I don't think we should be the source and in relaying info, I worry about missing something.
- **ROB:** Again, I'm on the Jennifer bandwagon! I'm happy to help curate information from the city to keep messaging consistent.
- **LEO:** Spreading accurate information, especially from the state and public health sectors. I don't feel our Federal leadership has been all that helpful or even accurate with its "briefings."
- **BRIAN:** Good question! I feel like all of the regular news sources are the best for fact-based updates and news. For us, I'd lean towards sharing updates about our neighborhood that are more specific as they arise.

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- **DOUG:** I am leaning toward "helping" the city, but not being the main source. I appreciate Cheri Harris asking us to post info for the police department.
 - **ROB:** AGREED

5. Do we want to sponsor other events during this time? I thought Rob had a good idea, but we ran into some problem people. Thoughts?

- **JENNIFER:** I can't think of something less risky than what Rob proposed. We could mention the Seattle Times "Bear Hunt" or Juanita Firs 76 station's call for artwork if we want to do something, but don't want to initiate it. I didn't see anything saying that our "scavenger hunt" isn't happening, did you cancel it on Facebook, Rob? Regarding Juanita Firs 76 art, they sent a letter announcing it to JNA email. What is our policy on that? Should I be forwarding that kind of thing to our email list, or doing something with it? We also received something from a realtor looking for a specific type of house and some requests for focus group people and questionnaires. Kirkland Weblog also sends a lot of stuff about Kirkland businesses. Should I be doing anything with those types of things?
- **ROB:** I canceled the scavenger hunt on FB. I understand the apprehension of a very few, but they were about the only people commenting at all, so in light of that, they spoke for the rest. I can check with my contact at the Phinney Neighborhood Association and see what their feedback and participation have been like, she was very surprised that we had negative feedback. In fact, one of our detractors is a neighbor in their association!
- **LEO:** Let's vet them (email discussion?) before we post. If anyone can come up with any reason why someone might take offense with regards to public safety, we can flush that out.
- **BRIAN:** I'm open to ideas and thought Rob's was a nice one. There could be small things we could do such as buying a boatload of sidewalk chalk, setting up somewhere for a day, and offering small packages for free to families from the neighborhood. All it takes is one person to stop buy and grab one, then take it back and brighten up their street/sidewalk/walkway/driveway. Not much, but if we did it on a large scale it could be a fun and cost-effective activity where people could take pictures and then share them.
- **ROB:** Despite my personal agreement with Brian about buying sidewalk chalk for people to pick up and create art, from my recent FB experience, I'm hesitant to do that, as I think a few people will point out that it will put people into close proximity, encourage gatherings, and all manner of pushback.
- **JENNIFER:** I think there would be pushback on the chalk idea. If you really wanted to do it, if some of the restaurants would like to put a basket outside their business, or on the counter, where people could pick it up with a "to go" order it might work. We wouldn't advertise it online, but just have a sign on the basket, or a sticker on the chalk, that said "Courtesy of JNA". If we haven't bought chalk for this, though, I wouldn't bother since it would involve one of us going around to restaurants and generally being out in public, which we are trying to avoid.

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- **DOUG:** I am open to idea, and like the idea of a 'round robin' if someone has an idea.



- **ROB:** I THINK WE SHOULD KEEP BOUNCING IDEAS; EVEN IF IT'S A RANDOM IDEA LATER THIS WEEK/NEXT WEEK, I PERSONALLY HAVE THE BANDWIDTH TO GET THE WORD OUT IF THE BOARD APPROVES SOME TYPE OF EVENT

BRIAN: One quick update beyond those 5 items. On the NSP side of things, our project for crosswalk improvements in front of Edith Moulton Park scored 5th overall on the project list. However, we are just below the funding line. Four projects scored higher that totaled over the \$350,000 funding. This is still pending Council approval, but I'm assuming the City or Council will find more money to fund at least 5-7 projects. So currently, we're on the outside looking in, but we're also first up to be funded next. (Long story on how this happened, but I can explain sometime in the future.)

IV. **Adjournment at 7:50**