



Juanita Neighborhoods Association

General Meeting Minutes

Monday, November 8, 2021, 7 pm

Location: Zoom

Approximately 17 people in attendance including board members Doug Rough, Rob Scarber, Leo Gilbert, Jennifer Salem, Brian Magee, personnel from the City of Kirkland, and a local artist.

Doug Rough welcomed those in attendance and reviewed the purpose of the Juanita Neighborhood Association. Some of the accomplishments of the JNA include events, the monthly Student Community Service Award, park clean up, graffiti removal from private property, historical signage, public safety projects and the Juanita Village holiday lights.

1. Review and approve previous meeting minutes - approved

2. Student Community Service award -

3. Neighborhood Safety projects: Brian Magee

- \$350,000 set aside to drive neighborhood driven improvements throughout the city. For projects under \$50,000, like flashing beacon projects (which may go above \$50,000).
- Every year compile suggestions in October. Provided by residents. Juanita has a good track record of approved projects.
- Area of need: Josten's Park - add a sidewalk to the entrance to the park. Must leave the sidewalk to cross the street to enter the park at the south entry. City score ~ 20-38 This is likely a little below the threshold
- Area of need: NE 124th St safety - reducing speed, adding striping lines, with tactile edge lines, curb along south side walkway. City score ~ 31-47
- Area of need: NE 116th St Bike Lane Markings. Striping for green bike crossings, intersection safety. City score ~ 33-43
- Edith Moulton project will fund in Spring 2022, constructed in mid 2022, summer.
- Approach: past input, scoring, representation

4. Treasurer report: \$4,527.00

5. Water Quality in Juanita Creek (15-20 minutes)

- Presenting: Ryeann Tomisto, Eve Henrichsen. King County takes weekly samples at Juanita Beach and the mouth of Juanita Creek. Looking for e. coli, dog and human bacteria strains - when beach is closed. City of Kirkland is monitoring 6 tributaries to Juanita Creek. Finding an area of concern at the Firwood tributary (furthest to the south) Testing is done voluntarily with home owners, adding dye to their toilets to trace paths, so far no structural defects found. Work is ongoing to find the source of the bacteria. Two ways for public to help minimize bacteria in surface water: 1 - maintain septic systems. Informational letters sent to owners with septic systems, with advice on how to maintain their system. 2 - Scoop the poop.
- COK/King Co currently only working towards dog/human markers, but other species may be on the horizon. One resident pointed out the high cost of repairing/replacing a septic system, maintenance is much more cost effective.



- What effect does the boardwalk have on trapping bacteria? No effect, water flows underneath the boardwalk.
- Eve - general health of Juanita Creek, fish health. Public comments include: I used to see more fish, what's happening? We do have salmon (coho, sockeye, cutthroat, Chinook); showed video of a salmon spawning near Edith Moulton. Land use in the last 40 years has risen from 40% to 80% inside the watershed boundary; impervious surfaces don't allow water to disperse naturally. This can also bring chemical fertilizers into the stream (water quality). Another obstacle, is fish passage (physical). Pesticides (RoundUp, slug bait, weed killer, etc.) A recent test shows that amounts are within acceptable range. Aquatic life - studying bugs, to see which sensitive bugs exist in the creek, and which are tolerant of poor water quality; more bugs found that indicate poor quality. Overall water quality from 2019/2020: 70 (moderate, best we've seen in 20 years of monitoring.) Good news: pretty typical, not horrible, but there is room for improvement. Permeable concrete would be helpful to limit impervious area on properties, limits runoff as water can soak into the ground.
- You can make a difference: Use natural yard care (pesticides, nutrients) use mulch, plant trees and shrubs to replace the lawn, direct your downspout into landscaping or lawn to let it soak into the ground, or add a rain barrel. Volunteer opportunities (park restoration, become a salmon watcher, become a water watcher to collect water quality data). COK working on 5-year master surface water master plan. One comment about freeing (daylighting) parts of Billy Creek. It would take buying up parcels.
- Checking to see if slides will be available on the COK website
- (See bottom of meeting minutes for links)

6. New Trails Along Western Side of Juanita

- Presenting: Heidi Schor, Daniel Winkler. North Juanita Heights Forest Connector Trail. There is a park, but can't access it directly. Area in question is west of 100th Ave NE. They propose a trail that runs North to South along greenway along slope of Finn Hill, with access along west end of NE 124th St. North end at 134th St NE, south to Goat Hill, above Juanita Beach park.
- They ask that we take the Play It Forward survey (see bottom of meeting minutes)
- Neighborhood plan is coming up, trails along Juanita is part of it; three potential pots of money (Play it Forward), Safety Program (trails are safer than roads for peds); transportation planning - regional push to have people be able to move and get where they want to go, besides via cars
- Juanita is one of 12 Kirkland neighborhoods, with KAN meeting this Wednesday; Doug suggested that Leo (JNA rep to KAN) to invite Heidi and Daniel to speak about this
- Leo said that Kirkland Greenways Group (see link at bottom of meeting minutes), could be a great org for Heidi and Daniel to join

7. Police Update

- Presenting: Officer Lapaki. There are officers that are assigned to Juanita. We saw a chart showing officer hours assigned to Juanita. Includes overlapping shifts. When a string of similar crimes are identified, and are from local residents, they will file cases together to King Co Prosecutors Office, as a felony. Liquor theft at Kingsgate Safeway, hundreds to thousands of \$'s of theft. Also, bar fights, or assaults at Fairfax.
- With new legislation (Pro Act in June), forceful detainment only if the higher level of 'probable cause'. They can order a person to stop, if they run, they may or may not be able to chase them.
- There are a lot of package thefts throughout Kirkland, including North Juanita



- There is an adjustment period for KPD to adapt to these new requirements. They have implemented the policies. A lot of legislative updates don't impact Kirkland, as they were already practicing them (like having mental health professionals ride along to arrive on scene when appropriate.) Already had pursuit policy, duty to intervene

8. Transportation Plan Update

- Presenting: Kim Scrivner - Transportation Planner with COK
- Coordination, outreach. Updating our transportation plan, last updated in 2009, some carried over into 2015 plan. Not just about sidewalks and bike lanes, also access to transit, how technology can help make safer, like pedestrian crossing lead times. Pedestrians are 44% of fatal injury for accidents.
- Vision Zero Active Plan
- Safer Routes To Schools Plan
- Online Safe Transportation Survey - 1278 responses
- Access to transit, CCK, activity centers,
- Bicycle Network Analysis
- Prioritize by crash rates, access to transit, parks, activity centers, CKC
- Neighborhood Greenways
- Implementation Plan
- (see link at bottom of meeting minutes)

9. Holiday Lights - at Juanita Village, Saturday November 20th, meet outside Urban Coffee at 10am

- We should have funds for food. As always, we should pay 50% and ask for 50% donated (rather than 100% donated).

10. Austin Picinich - Mural at SPUD Fish and Chips to raise awareness for Salmon sustainability at Juanita Creek

- Austin will be painting a 60' mural on the side of Spud to raise awareness for spawning salmon (with Urban Artworks)
- Will host a community paint day in Spring of 2022, will need about 60 volunteers.
- Austin designs the mural, volunteers will paint inside the lines. Will install an informational plaque on one end of the mural.
- Working with Trout Unlimited to paint a mural this weekend. Fundraising for paint, supplies, permit, and UV/graffiti coating
- Does JNA want to get involved?
- Doug said JNA has funds for signs. We will discuss this at our next board meeting.

11. Other business: board meetings are the first Monday of the month, general meetings are the second Monday of odd months

12. Next JNA General Meeting - Monday, January 3rd, 2022, 7:00pm to 9:00pm (Zoom)

13. The next JNA Board Meeting - Monday, December 6th, 2021 from 7:00-8:00pm (Zoom)

14. The meeting ended at 9:00pm

Volunteer with parks:

<https://www.kirklandwa.gov/Government/Departments/Parks-and-Community-Services/Green-Kirkland-Partnership/Event-Calendar>

Water watcher volunteer:



<http://snokingwatershedcouncil.org/water-watchers/>

Play It Forward survey:

<https://survey.rrcresearch.com/s3/Kirkland-Comprehensive-Parks-Recreation-and-Open-Space-Master-Plan-Survey?src=2>

Kirkland Greenways:

<https://www.facebook.com/KirklandGreenways/>

Active Transportation Plan:

<https://www.kirklandwa.gov/files/sharedassets/public/public-works/atp-final-plan.pdf>

Austin Picinich - Spud mural

<https://www.austinsart.net/news/spudmural>