



## **Juanita Neighborhoods Association**

### ***General Meeting Minutes***

Monday, September 9, 2019, 7 pm

**Location: Kirkland Justice Center**

Approximately 22 people in attendance, including board members Doug Rough, Brian Magee, Leo Gilbert, Antonio Skokos and Jennifer Salem.

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.

The Kirkland Police Department presented an overview of Proposition 1 changes to the department. This proposition increased taxes to allow hiring of police to identify and address emerging crime trends, as well as the hiring of School Resource Officers, Neighborhood Resource Officers, and Mental Health Officers. Twenty-four new officers are currently in some phase of training and more are being hired. Additional information is available on the City of Kirkland website.

There are school safety cameras being installed near some Kirkland schools, namely John Muir, Kamiakin and Rose Hill Elementary. After October, speeding caught on camera will result in speeding tickets of \$136 for 25 to 29 miles per hour, and \$250 for over 35 miles per hour.

The police presentation also included a demonstration of CrimeMapping.com which gives crime information by area. This is available through the City of Kirkland website. On-line crime reporting for some types of crimes is also available on the website.

Doug Rough, head of the JNA Board, invited all to the Juanita Welcome event on September 14, at Edith Moulton Park. The event will feature two bands, gymnasts, dancers, food, games and representatives from the Police and Fire departments.

The community was asked for input to the Juanita Neighborhoods Association on topics of concern in our area, and how we might advise City Council. This resulted in discussion of the following topics:

- What is the status of the Juanita Beach Bath House? This was spoken to by a Parks Department member who said it has been relocated due to state ecology concerns. Documents will be complete in October and will go out to bid after that, with construction this winter.
- Why is Edith Moulton Park being surveyed? This topic was addressed by board member Brian Magee who said that existing wetlands improvements within the park will be evaluated and improved in the future to mitigate impacts on other wetlands elsewhere within the City.



- A community member asked for more recycling containers to be installed at the parks, particularly Juanita Beach. A plea was also made that people sign up for interest in Ridwell coming to our area. Ridwell is a company that picks up hard to recycle items and will operate in an area if at least 400 people sign up.
- When will the construction on 100<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE impact the community? This topic was addressed by board member Brian Magee. The first phase of the roadway project will begin construction next year. The full roadway project spans from NE 132<sup>nd</sup> St to NE 145<sup>th</sup> St and the first construction phase will span from NE 139<sup>th</sup> St to NE 145<sup>th</sup> St with a future phase completing the south segment. The full project will expand the roadway to five lanes and add bike lanes, sidewalks, and planter strips.
  - However, there is a separate construction project to replace the existing Cedar Creek culvert underneath 100<sup>th</sup> Ave immediately south of Simonds Rd. This project is still in design but construction is expected to take place next year. The culvert will be replaced in July and August (a time with minimal impact to fish) and the neighborhood is still waiting on information from the City on whether or not 100<sup>th</sup> Ave will have any full roadway closures during these months.

The JNA has some money for signage and artwork for the community which will be discussed at future meetings.

Ryeann-Marie Tuomisto of City of Kirkland Public Works spoke on water quality at Juanita Bay, Juanita Beach, and Juanita Creek. Poor water quality and closure of the beach has been an ongoing problem. He presented a video, 7 Things to Know about Juanita Beach, which is available on YouTube. Some related community concerns mentioned during the discussion following the video:

- Will the beach house have showers?
- Some areas became wet after the Nisqually earthquake, is it possible it broke some pipes? Ryeann said some water could have rerouted from ground water. Tests can detect broken sewer pipes.
- Northshore will not answer how many people are on septic tanks near the creek. Could septic tanks be leaking and causing the bacterial contamination?
- Can additional testing of feeder creeks to Juanita Creek be done to determine where the bacteria are coming from?

Board member, Brian Magee, spoke on the Neighborhood Safety Program. The JNA is looking for recommendations for safety projects of up to \$50,000 to propose. In the past the neighborhood has proposed and implemented bike lanes with green paint, rapid flashing beacons at some crosswalks, and lighted walkways near the North Kirkland Community Center. There is a project suggestion form, Kirkland Suggest a Project, on the City or Kirkland website. These ideas are catalogued, and ideas are narrowed, and a list is then given to the appropriate neighborhood safety representative (Brian Magee



for the Juanita Neighborhoods). Ideas will be discussed at the general meeting in November with a neighborhood vote to provide guidance on the preferred project(s) to submit for scoring and potential funding.

Treasurer, Antonio Skokos, went over expenditure for the upcoming Welcome event.

Doug Rough provided an update on the development of Windsor Vista Park. Currently it is an undeveloped park space. Kirkland City Council agreed to give the playground equipment from Juanita Beach to Windsor Vista when it is replaced. It will still have two to three years of life.

We are currently looking for Juanita Neighborhoods Association board members. If anyone is interested, please contact Dough Rough.

David Shwartz, who is currently running for City Council against Toby Nixon, addressed the group. He is a Bridal Trails resident and was moved to become involved in city politics because of housing and zoning changes. He felt that city council is not responsive to residents on these issues. He discussed his ideas with the group and urged people to look at his website.

During the discussion JNA board member Leo Gilbert voiced his opinion that infrastructure in the area has not kept pace with growth and called for more dedicated bus lanes, protected bike lanes, and sidewalks.

The City is proposing a Fire and Emergency Medical Services 2020 Ballot Measure that will address Emergency Management Services and they are looking to form an advisory group with one representative from each neighborhood. Mike Wert was nominated as the JNA representative.

Meeting adjourned.