



Juanita Neighborhoods Association

General Meeting Minutes

Monday, January 14, 2019, 7 pm

Location: Kirkland Justice Center

Approximately 30 neighbors in attendance. Board members present: Doug Rough, Antonio Skokos, Brian Magee, Colm Gent, Vishwambhara (Vish) Adiga, Leo Gilbert, 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.

This month's Community Service Award, along with a \$100 stipend, was awarded to Juanita High School student, Carolyn Squires, for her outstanding community service. She spoke briefly and thanked the JNA.

Cherie Harris, the City of Kirkland Police Chief, reviewed the recent incident at the Menchie's Yogurt shop in which an African American customer was asked to leave at the request of the owner because the salespeople were uncomfortable with his behavior and the fact that he had not purchased anything. He explained he was there on business with other customers but was asked to leave as requested by the owner. The police have reviewed the incident because of concerns that it was racially motivated. The Kirkland Police Department has posted information about their review on their website. It has resulted in a change of policy and changed protocol because they felt there was a missed opportunity to mediate. Previously, the policy was that the Kirkland Police would ask anyone to leave at the request of the business owner. Hundreds of such requests are handled every year, with about ten percent requiring the officer involved to file a report. The new policy is that they will make contact with the staff first and try to facilitate the employee assisting to mediate and handle the situation. If the individual does not comply, they will be trespassed from the business. They still encourage people to call for any suspicious activity and they will seek information to resolve the situation.

The community is encouraged to vote on a new name for the Eastside Rail Corridor. Information can be found on the City of Kirkland website. The name for the Kirkland portion of the trail will remain the Cross Kirkland Corridor.

Armaghan Baghoori, City of Kirkland Transportation Program Coordinator, introduced the new Community Van. It will operate in the Juanita and Finn Hill area and is a joint effort of King County Metro and City of Kirkland to offer customized transit options when bus systems cannot accommodate. The vans can hold up to five passengers plus one driver, with a minimum of one driver plus two passengers. Trips should be planned at least ten days in advance so it can be published online. Trips can be anywhere within a sixty-mile radius. The driver is free, other passengers are \$2.75. The van will be available weekdays and weekends and will be parked at North Kirkland Community Center. A backup



will be parked at Kirkland City Hall. The trips can be one time or repeat trips. This is a pilot program that they hope to keep in place for at least two years. It has been successful in other areas, including Vashon, Bothell, Duvall and Kenmore. Additional information is available on the King County Metro website and will be on the City of Kirkland website soon.

Blake Jones, Community Outreach for Sound Transit, reviewed plans for Bus Rapid Transit in Kirkland. He explained that Sound Transit projects link King, Pierce, and Snohomish counties and includes Link light rail, Sounder commuter rail, and bus transit, including STRIDE Bus Rapid Transit. Bus Rapid Transit will include eleven BRT stations in eight cities between Lynnwood and Burien along the 405 corridor. The two stops in Kirkland would be at the Kingsgate Park and Ride and at NE 85th. It is hoped that because of improvements such as off board payment, level boarding, and express toll lanes they will be able to offer more frequent scheduling (every 10 minutes at peak times) and quicker trips. This is part of ST3 that was voted in in 2016. More information and opportunities for community input are available online at www.i405brt.participate.online, or www.soundtransit.org/i405brt, or email at brt@soundtransit.org.

Vishwambhara Adiga spoke of his idea for a parking app to locate available spaces around Juanita High School and possibly other areas in Kirkland. He has initiated a pilot program on private property to gather data on cost and to satisfy some of the city's concerns.

Armaghan Baghoori updated the neighborhood on the need for input on the Bike Share and Off-Leash Dog Programs. He directed people to the City of Kirkland website to view a power point presentation and answer a survey to provide input to the City. Kirkland would like citizen feedback on these matters.

Brian Magee updated the group on the safety projects in work. Winning projects will be chosen in March. A community member asked if flags could be provided for children walking to and from school at A. G. Bell.

Antonio Skokos reported for Treasury. He will be working on the grant proposal for the next two years.

The status of the Windsor Vista Park Project was reviewed. A proposal had been made that the used Juanita Beach playground equipment could be used at Windsor Vista Park as a cost saving measure. Karen Lightfeldt presented on the Juanita Beach playground equipment. The city has allocated \$380,000 to make the new playground fully ADA compliant, but the project is on hold until decisions are made about the placement of the Beach House. There are only three years of remaining life on the current playground equipment, so proposals to move it to Windsor Vista Park would need to take that into consideration. There would also be the additional cost to make it ADA compliant.

Doug Rough asked for new volunteers for the Juanita Neighborhoods Association Board. New members are welcome.



Tom Kreinbring at Hopelink invited people to fill out a survey to let him know what times would work for a tour of Hopelink's service center. They would like to share with the community what services are available and how their donations are used.

Minutes submitted by Jennifer Salem