



Council Meeting: 04/21/2009
Agenda: Special Presentations
Item #: 5. c.

April 9, 2009

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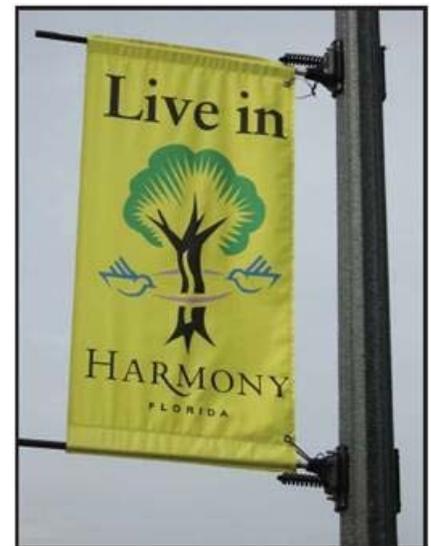
Dear Kirkland City Council:

The Juanita Neighborhoods Banner Committee is proud to unveil many of the sixty-five pieces of children's art at the April 21st City Council meeting. On behalf of Juanita's three neighborhood schools, the Cultural Council and the Juanita Neighborhoods, I would like to thank the City Council for making this project possible through the Neighborhood Matching Grant Program.

Background:

Juanita is home to over 12,000 residents, a thriving retail and commercial village, two waterfront parks, streams and wetlands with wildlife viewing and walking opportunities. Families enjoy an active community center, historic landmarks and three excellent neighborhood schools. When asked to draw a picture of their neighborhood, the art students at Juanita Elementary, AG Bell Elementary and Juanita High drew turtles, boardwalks, sunsets, streams, trees, windmills, birds, houses, butterflies, and their favorite pet. Over 100 pieces of art were submitted from the three schools for the Juanita Neighborhoods Banner Project.

The high quality of artwork made it difficult to narrow from 100 to 65 and impossible to eliminate even one of the 65 finalists. With the help of the Cultural Council, the decision was made to place three pieces of art (one from each school) on each side of the 10 banners so that all 65 pieces would be used.



Although the Neighborhood provided the funding and impetus for the project, it was the art teachers, art docent, and their students who made it a success. Early on, the Cultural Council enthusiastically embraced our effort and provided guidance, inspiration, and expertise. The Juanita Neighborhoods Board would like to thank the following individuals or organizations for their generous and enthusiastic contribution to this project.

Michelle Lustgarten, AG Bell Elementary Art Teacher
Laura Stanger, Juanita Elementary Art Docent
Lois Judd, Juanita High School Art Teacher
Margo Mitchell, JN Secretary and Treasurer

Kathy Feek, Cultural Council
Sudie Elkayssi, City of Kirkland
Kari Page, City of Kirkland

Funding:

Each of the ten banners costs approximately \$300. This includes scanning the artwork, layout, fabric, and printing. There was also an initial investment of \$320 for each hanging bracket assembly which was purchased by the Neighborhood and donated to the City of Kirkland. The brackets will be installed by the City and remain as permanent fixtures for the community to use. The neighborhood and schools have invested over \$1,980 of volunteer work into the project (not counting the art student's time). The Juanita Neighborhood has several other volunteer projects lined up to finish their matching contribution. For example, four hours a week will be donated to the City of Kirkland's Public Works Department to help with the implementation of Capital Improvement Projects.

Logistics

The banners will be located on major arterials throughout the neighborhood. The Committee specifically tried to locate at least one near each of the neighborhood schools: one adjacent to Juanita Elementary School, two or three along 132nd on the route to Juanita High School and possibly one within the campus at AG Bell Elementary School. Installation of the brackets and hanging of the banners is scheduled to be complete prior to the Kirkland Half Marathon on Mother's Day this May.

Sincerely,



Norm Storme

Juanita Neighborhoods Banner Committee Chair

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