

**City of Kirkland
Kirkland Senior Council
Minutes of Regular Meeting
August 11, 2026**

1. CALL TO ORDER

August 11, 2026, Kirkland Senior Council Regular Meeting was called to order at 1:31pm by Chair Joyce Stone.

2. ROLL CALL

Members Present; Kurt Ahrensfeld, Kathie Alfstad, John Barnett, Jeff Canin, Maru de La Pena, Virinder Duggal, Scott Emmons, Susan Harris-Huether, Karen Hartman, Ronald Kim, Charlene McElligott, June Palon, Susan Prows, Joyce Stone, Charlote Svenson, Barbara Trunkhill, and Pamela Waring

Members Absent: Penny Kahn and Terry Steele-Kalet

Staff Present: Betsy Maxwell, Program Coordinator

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Member Scott Emmons motioned to approve June 9, 2026, minutes as read, seconded by Member Kurt Ahrensfeld, motion passed unanimously.

4. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

Cathleen MacCaul, AARP Advocacy Director, discussed 2026 Legislative Advocacy.

5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. The following members would like to return for a second term to the KSC:

- i. Kurt Ahrensfeld
- ii. John Barnett
- iii. Maru De La Pena
- iv. Susan Prows
- v. Joyce Stone
- vi. Charlotte Svenson
- vii. Barbara Trunkhill

This will leave 2 vacancies that can be filled during the October recruitment.

6. NEW BUSINESS

No new business was discussed.

7. COMMUNICATIONS

A. Member Reports

- i. **AARP Age Friendly Cities**
Member John Barnett reported that the Age-Friendly Kirkland Survey launch has been successful and that the city is happy with the number of responses that have been received to date. John reminded the KSC members to fill out the survey if they haven't already. The survey will be open until October.
- ii. **Advocacy**
Member Karen Hartman discussed the proposed 2027 Legislative Agenda. Member Scott Emmons motioned to approve the 2027 Legislative Agenda as written, seconded by Member Susan Harris-Hiether, motion passed unanimously.
- iii. **Art Show**
Member Scott Emmons reported that 43 of the 67 artists from the 2026 art show responded to the survey he sent out. The show received 4.5 out of 5 stars, most of the respondents were Kirkland residents. There were some comments that the artists would like some new categories represented. Scott will look at this further for next year. Most of the artists found out about the art show from the initial email that went out or from a friend.
- iv. **Education**
Member Maru de La Pena reported that the Medicare Information Fair is scheduled for October 1, 2026. The committee is also working on offering a Happiness During the Senior years in April 2027, a Fraud Fai in July 2027 and Medicare again in October 2027.
- v. **Human Services Panel Update**
No new report
- vi. **Housing**
Member Karen Hartman reported she had met with Alison Zikes to discuss what is needed in senior housing. Alison has offered to introduce Karen to members of the Master Builders Association.
- vii. **Outreach**
Member Susan Harris-Huether reported that she and Member Scott Emmons have done a lot of KSC outreach this summer and will be at 2 more Farmer's Markets and the Library before the end of August. She has a sign-up sheet for people to help at the PKCC Senior Resource Fair and City Hall for All.
- viii. **Resource Guide**
Chair Joyce Stone reported that she though that funding had been found for the Resource Guide.

ix. Transportation

Member Kurt Ahrensfield reported that the proposed circulator has a lot of support, however sustainable funding is needed for the project to move forward. Kurt also discussed the need to restore a direct bus route from Kirkland to downtown Seattle, like the 255 had been in the past.

x. Council Chair Report

Chair Joyce Stone reported on her meeting with the Mayor and Deputy Mayor where she discussed current projects and what the KSC can do for the City Council. One item that was discussed is helping educate the community about the Kirkland Cares program.

B. Staff report

No additional report

8. GOOD OF THE ORDER

A. The Health and Wellness Fair will be on 9/19/2026

9. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 3:34pm