

Lawrence Association of Neighborhoods Draft Minutes
July 17th, 2019 7:00 p.m.
Room C, Lawrence Public Library

Participants: Amy Ousdahl, Brook Creek Neighborhood Association coordinator; Becky Pepper, City of Lawrence Planning and Development Services; Bill Tuttle, Old West Lawrence Association representative; Bill Winkler, Barker Neighborhood Association resident; Bonnie Uffman, Barker neighborhood resident; Brian Thomas, Renters Together; G. Sprague, Renters Together; Charlie Bryan, Quail Run resident; Courtney Shipley, Dad Perry Park/Kasold resident; David Longhurst, Downtown Lawrence Inc. representative; Edna Mosher, Schwegler Neighborhood Association co-representative; Jane Gibson, Barker Neighborhood Association representative; Jim Carpenter, Planning Commission Member; Ken Easthouse, Prairie Park Neighborhood Association representative; KT Walsh, East Lawrence Neighborhood Association resident; Kyle Thompson, Oread Residents Association resident; Lisa Larsen, Mayor, City of Lawrence / West Hills resident ; Melinda Henderson, Brook Creek Neighborhood Association representative; Michael Almon, Brook Creek Neighborhood Association resident; Phil Collison, East Lawrence Neighborhood Association representative; Stuart Boley, City Commissioner, Schwegler resident; Travis Harrod, Springwood Heights representative

Call to order 7:05pm

Accept minutes from June: Minutes approved; Tuttle motion

Treasurer report: Moser - \$3045 balance, quorum present.

[Update from City Planning Department: Becky Pepper, city planner.](#)

Speaker: [Renters Together](#) presentation; Gabby Sprague & Brian Thomas

- Coalition of renters and homeowners trying to help renters with bad landlords.
- Hold weekly meetings; canvass apartments, cookouts trying to engage people.
- Can help people sue to get security deposit back.
- Believe City rental inspection program was worthless.
- Asking LAN to help them ID the bad landlords around town;
contact@renterstogoetherlfk.org
- Examples of ineffective rental inspection by City: One tenant had mold in apartment. Inspector said mold isn't covered by code. It is. Further research shows mold only a violation of code if it covers 5' sq. Tom Marcus said Oct 2018 that Lawrence had

weakest inspection program he'd seen. Have had more success with code enforcement personnel who are more competent and issue demand letters to violators.

Guest: Craig Owens - City Manager.

- Doing listening tour now. He would like to meet with our respective neighborhood boards if we want to invite him.
- Question regarding economic development from Melinda Henderson. She is concerned that if we use tax abatement to create jobs, she wants those jobs to be for people in city and county, not outside. She would like for the city to gather zip code data every year to make sure we are creating the right kinds of jobs for our residents here. Owens hasn't become situationally aware yet as to our local economic issues. Still must meet the local players and his own team at the City on this issue.
- Longhurst advises Owen to go visit Hallmark and the big local employers to get their sense of local biz climate too.

Additional Items from Participants: Regarding contact list of issues and proper City department to call; subcommittee still has yet to meet to determine and recommend any changes or additions LAN may want to make to the list.

Melinda Henderson: commented regarding Tenants to Homeowners (TtH) efforts to start developing homes on double lots. TtH applied for permission to shut down street for special event. City notified LAN of request. Notice came to LAN after June meeting so LAN never actually took a position or even reviewed, City advised City Commission of groups that were notified, including LAN, and that LAN reviewed the proposal going in front of City Commission which was inaccurate. We need a better process, such as applicant contacting neighborhood association.

Opportunity Zone committee including LAN rep Phil Collison and City appointees will meet this week.

Planning Commission is finished with Plan 2040 unless City or County sends it back for more work. There is a PowerPoint presentation that is instructive as to what 2040 contains. The PPT is available from Jeff Crick. Further information is available on the [City Web site](#).

Neighborhood reports:

- Bike Boulevard is coming to Schwegler neighborhood.
- Old West Lawrence has block party coming September 14.

- East Lawrence NA block party Sept 28.
- East 21st Neighborhood (19th to 21st, Haskell to Harper) is thinking of forming a Neighborhood Association.

Meeting adjourned 8:40pm