

Lawrence Association of Neighborhoods
Lawrence Public Library, meeting room B
November 20th, 2019 7:00 p.m.

Participants: Bill Winkler, Barker Neighborhood Association resident; Courtney Shipley, Dad Perry Park/Kasold resident; David Longhurst, Downtown Lawrence Inc. representative; Dillon Heter, Sunset Hill Neighborhood Association resident; Edna Mosher, Schwegler Neighborhood Association representative; Eric Kirkendall, Old West Lawrence Association representative; Gary Webber, Sunset Hill Neighborhood Association representative; Kyle Thompson, Oread Residents Association resident; Lisa Larsen, Mayor, City of Lawrence / West Hills resident ; Melinda Henderson, Brook Creek Neighborhood Association representative; Nick Kuzmyak, Pinckney Neighborhood Association representative; Phil Collison, East Lawrence Neighborhood Association representative; Stuart Boley, City Commissioner, Schwegler resident; Travis Harrod, Springwood Heights representative

Accept minutes from October: Longhurst moved to accept minutes, Kirkendall seconded, motion passed.

Treasurer's Report, Edna Mosher: Balance of \$3050.11 in the bank, 9 of 12 neighborhood members present.

Update from City Planning Department, Becky Pepper, city planner: Becky was absent.

Updating/creating neighborhood plans: K. T. Walsh (via Collison) stated that East Lawrence is concerned that Scott McCullough blocked the use of staff for updating the East Lawrence Neighborhood plan.

Discuss election for December: Shipley stated that she will not be able to chair in December, Harrod will chair the meeting. She will also not continue as Chair, no volunteers for the position. Mosher will not be able to continue as Treasurer, no volunteers for the position. Heter agreed to serve as Vice-chair.

Fiscal Impact Study Committee: Several stakeholders are forming a committee to investigate conducting a fiscal impact study. Larsen stated that Lawrence conducted one in the early 2000s. They hope to answer the question; "Does development pay for itself?" LAN has been asked to participate, and to donate funds. Henderson stated that Plan 2040 prompted this latest round of interest in the question. The question could be asked in several ways, probably generating varied answers. Kirkendall stated that Strong City recently completed one, and they found that even with a time scale of 40 years, development never paid for itself. He believes we should support this study. Collison asked if larger contributors have more influence. Larsen stated they are currently meeting every couple of months and discussing the questions they would like to ask. Kirkendall asked how this effort started. Larsen stated that the effort came out of another group which was meeting to consider housing. The City Manager has suggested using a spreadsheet from Overland Park. Webber moved to agree to participate and donate \$300 to the effort. Longhurst seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Neighborhood notification update: Henderson stated that the committee did not meet. She asked of staff could attend a future meeting and explain the current procedure and when the neighborhood associations could participate. Henderson will send link to notification matrix to Webber for posting on web site.

Update on Opportunity Zones: Collison reported on a meeting at the County Fairgrounds. Approximately 50-75 people attended. Participants used a dot procedure to suggest best uses for opportunity zones. The University was interested in how they can partner for development. Collison stated that he believes it was a good meeting with good input. He believes NAs should have more input in designating the next set of opportunity zones.

19th Street update: Henderson reported about the City Commission meeting last Tuesday, Nov 19. The adjacent neighborhoods have been fighting connecting the street to O'Connell Rd. They have also been advocating for a narrow (22') street. The consultant suggested a 31' width with a separate bicycle track and sidewalks on both sides. The Multimodal Transportation Commission suggested a 27' width. The City Commission asked the consultant to develop a 22' option with and without curbs. This will require a change order. Boley stated that Larsen provided excellent leadership on this issue. Webber asked why ditches were preferable to storm hard wall storm sewers. Kuzmyak stated that a study in Houston found that hard wall storm sewers lead to more flooding downstream. Grass ditches flood locally, but absorption of water reduces flooding downstream due to absorption by soil.

Neighborhood reports:

- Perry Park – Lots of speeding on Kasold.
- Sunset Hill – Recent ribbon-cutting ceremony for toddler playground at Ludlam Park. Boley and LPRD representatives joined about 30 residents.
- Schwegler – Board meeting on Nov. 11. They are communicating with city on the intersection of 19th and Ousdahl. The Commission was concerned about traffic from the university travelling south on Ousdahl past Schwegler school. The intersection is designed for turning only east or west for traffic approaching the intersection from the north or south (no through traffic from north or south).
- Oread Residents- Thompson stated he is continuing as president. He recently read an article that stated that 19% of the housing in Tuscaloosa was used for football tourism.
- OWL had their biannual meeting.
- East Lawrence – No change in officers this year.
- Pinckney – They are working on rehabilitating a community garden in the neighborhood. Larsen chose a neighborhood representative to the Hospital Board. Kuzmyak encouraged participants to participate in the survey for the public services director.
- North Lawrence – Kuzmyak stated that “Makers, Bakers, and Acres” is forming in North Lawrence in the parking lot of Happy Shirt. They will meet inside during the winter. They would like to eventually provide the items a grocery store provides.
- Barker – Sidewalk going in on 15th street on the south side. Playground at 15th and Maryland changing its name with name change from Westar to Evergy.

- Brook Creek – They have been focused on 19th street. Holiday gathering first week in December. Henderson stated that residential street repair has been cancelled for this year due to excessive damage from freeze-thaw on collectors and arterials.
- Downtown Lawrence – Sat. Dec. 07, 11 a.m., annual Christmas Parade. Please join us!

Additional Items:

- Henderson stated that there were some problems with barriers for the 5K and half-marathon.
- LAN received an invitation from Charles Jones to visit Watkins Museum. Collison is interested in a LAN tour of the Museum. The Participants agreed. Shipley will contact Watkins and arrange.
- Shipley went to Planning Commission orientation session. PC is working on the downtown master plan, and next will be work on neighborhood plans. This could be one or two years in the future.

Kirkendall motion to adjourn at 8:35. Motion passed.

Submitted by: Gary Webber, LAN Secretary November 20, 2019