

Lawrence Association of Neighborhoods Draft Minutes

Via Zoom video conference

May 19, 2021, 7:00 p.m.

Participants: Bill Winkler, Barker Neighborhood Association resident; Chris Tilden, LiveWell Chair, RiverFront and Center; Courtney Shipley, City Commissioner, Dad Perry Park resident; Gary Webber, Sunset Hill Neighborhood Association representative; Jeanette Walther, Heatherwood Heights Neighborhood Assn.; Jim Carpenter, Planning Commission Member, Barker Neighborhood Assn.; Josh Coulter, Schwegler Neighborhood Association representative; Josh Spence, Pinckney Neighborhood representative; Kent Williams, Pinckney Neighborhood Assn, Riverfront and Center; Kyle Thompson, Oread Residents Association resident; Lisa Larsen, City Commissioner / West Hills resident ; Marcia Riley, Prairie Meadows resident; Michael Almon, Brook Creek NA, resident; Phil Collison, East Lawrence Neighborhood Association representative; Stuart Boley, City Commissioner, Schwegler resident; Travis Harrod, Springwood Heights representative; Tresa Hill, Old West Lawrence representative

Accept minutes from April 21, 2021 meeting: Coulter moved to approve, Hill seconded, passed by acclamation.

Treasurer's Report (Thompson): \$3,562.11 balance, 13 members. 7 representatives present, quorum.

Becky Pepper, Planning Manager, Planning and Development Services (PDS): Planning Commission meets on May 24 (county issues) and 26 (city issues). Jim Carpenter, Planning Commission substituted for Pepper. Planning Commission agenda includes:

May 24

- Rezone 22 acres from a golf complex to allow subdivision
- Conditional user permit on 1600 Rd.
- Rezoning 25 acres to allow subdivision

May 26

- SUP 912 N. 3rd change in use to makes space
- SUP 1306 New Hampshire
- SUP for KU Alumni Assn. expansion
- Text amendment to development code
- Variance of sidewalk requirements at 109 N. 8th St. (there have been many of these lately)
- Variance for right of way width at 1900 Tenn. St. (most of these approved)

Some discussion on sidewalk variances from Collison, Carpenter, and Almon. Almon asked about May 24 item asking for Cluster Preservation. He believes this zoning district is inappropriately named, since it is simply subdivision and not preservation.

[Follow this link to view the current and previous updates.](#)

Update regarding Multimodal Transportation Commission: tabled

Presentation: Michael Almon regarding RiverFront & CENTER (ideas for bicycle and pedestrian connections to the Kansas riverfront and Lawrence area). Almon introduced RiverFront & CENTER, an ad hoc group proposing development ideas for the city center. This group has been working since August, meeting with a number of groups and individuals including city staff, FLAT, Bowersock Power, and Abe & Jakes. They are hoping to include some or all their ideas in the Downtown Master Plan.

Kent Williams presented a slide deck. The group started by looking at how to close The Lawrence Loop. Downtown is the most challenging undeveloped section of the Loop. They want to connect community and culture. Slide 4 was a map of pinch points. Slide 5 lists assets and Slide 6 categorizes these assets. They are not proposing anything, this presentation is simply a "what if." Williams conducted a fly-over of the area, and

highlighted possible infrastructure connections.

Tilden thanks Williams for the excellent presentation, and mentioned how the river and South Park actually anchor the Downtown on north and south respectively. Spence asked for a presentation for Pinckney Neighborhood, since they were so directly affected. Hill also asked for a presentation to Old West Lawrence. Collison asked if they spoke with the Friends of the Kaw and the kayak folks. Williams stated they have been working with Parks and Rec. and Friends of the Kaw.

The next step is to gather more feedback, and then start creating a hierarchy of possible solutions and continue to refine the concepts.

Recognition of the recent passing of long time LAN member Melinda Henderson: Almon stated he will miss his Brook Creek friend and neighbor. She was irascible, never minced words, and always acted respectfully.

New Business:

- Webber asked for a straw poll for applicants to Pilot Safety Study. No responses, although one neighborhood thought they might apply. Webber stated that SHNA did not demonstrate enough neighborhood interest to justify application.

Neighborhood reports:

- Brook Creek: Almon, Fred Sack is new president, and the NA is focusing on MSO field operations campus adjacent to the neighborhood, and Parks and Rec. want to discuss woods between Brook Creek and railroad track. Currently area is natural, but Parks and Rec. wants to make improvements.
- Heatherwood Heights: Walther, the newly formed association has come into existence primarily as a response to Evergy proposal to install a substation adjacent to the neighborhood. This established neighborhood does not support this proposed substation. Evergy has owned the 5-acre plot since 2018, and Walther learned about the project in December. It goes before the planning commission on June 18. Collison encouraged the NA to ask LAN for support if they need it. Carpenter added that the agenda packets for the PC meetings come out in the late afternoon on Wednesday June 16.
- East Lawrence: Collison, East Lawrence pursuing becoming a 501C3.
- Sunset Hill: Webber, no report.
- Old West Lawrence: Hill, no report
- Oread Residents: Thompson, less traffic means fewer accidents in neighborhood. Students are gone. They would like to see a better way for bikes to get downtown.
- Schwegler: Spence reported that Joyce went to PC with letter endorsing 23rd St. land use study.
- Dad Perry: Shipley reported that a major accident at Harvard and Kasold including Life Flight. New small NA is possibly forming in the neighborhood. Shipley asked about purple streetlight near LHS, Collison thought they were defective LED lights.
- Barker: Carpenter, neighborhood is wet and soggy, not much happening.
- West Hills: Larsen, neighborhood is quiet.
- Pinckney: Williams reported on moving to the neighborhood a year ago.

Adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Submitted by Gary Webber, Secretary, on May 20, 2021.