

Lawrence Association of Neighborhoods Draft Minutes

Via Zoom video conference

June 15, 2022, 7:00 p.m.

Participants: Michael Almon, Vice President, Brook Creek Neighborhood Association; Jim Carpenter, Commissioner, LDCMPC, Barker Resident; Phil Collison, Representative, East Lawrence Neighborhood Association; Sheri Ellenbecker, Resident, Sunset Hill Neighborhood Association; Travis Harrod, Representative, Springwood Heights Neighborhood Association, LAN Chair; Tresa Hill, Representative, Old West Lawrence Association; Courtney Shipley, Mayor, City of Lawrence, Dad Perry Park Resident; Kyle Thompson, Representative, Oread Residents Association, LAN Treasurer; Gary Webber, Representative, Sunset Hill Neighborhood Association, LAN Secretary; Bill Winkler, Resident, Barker Neighborhood Association

Accept minutes from May 18, 2022: Collison moved to approve with two amendments, Hill seconded, passed by acclamation.

Treasurer's Report (Thompson): \$3,749.11 balance, 5 NA members of 12 paid members present, quorum not present. Thompson reminded the members that it is time to renew our memberships. Dues are \$25 for NAs, and \$5 for individuals. [Renewal information here.](#)

Resumption of in person LAN meetings: Harrod reported that he reserved meeting room A for an in-person meeting at 6 PM but was exposed to COVID just prior to the meeting and, after consultation with officers, cancelled the in-person meeting. We will try again at a future meeting. Ellenbecker mentioned that testing prior to the meeting is possible.

Douglas County Emergency Management wants to work with LAN and Neighborhood Associations regarding forming Citizen Emergency Response Teams. They will do a presentation for LAN in the near future, but NA's can reach out individually as well. Carpenter reported that he attended a meeting where this was presented. Training in basic first aid and other emergency issues is required, then members of the team are called on to help in emergencies. Members attend meetings twice a year, and respond to calls for assistance, and periodic training. The emphasis currently is the potential for emergencies around heat this summer. Harrod will invite a representative to attend in July.

Planning Commission report: Six items on planning commission for next Wednesday:

- 1718 Harper in Brook Creek replat and rezoning for 6 dwellings and leave existing dwelling there. Almon stated the NA was not opposed to this development.
- Splash Park in Lyons.
- Medical office at 6th and Maine rezone to commercial strip.
- Text amendment to solar code.
- Expand footprint at Bullwinkle's.
- Appointing to representatives to boards.

Shipley reported that at last week meeting the Commission approved low-income housing in far west Lawrence and donated the land. She also reported that zoning change for coffee shop on 23rd did not pass. She stated she believe this was not the best use for the land. Ellenberger asked if anyone questioned the sustainability of this type service; 30 cars idling to purchase a \$4 coffee in a disposable cup. Shipley responded that cities have begun to limit drive-through facilities, while Lawrence has not. Almon mentioned that the lots on 23rd are 125 ft. deep, and difficult to develop without moving into the neighborhoods to the north. Collison stated that turning left out of parking lots is challenging. Carpenter stated that he was impressed with the land use arguments made by the neighbors. Shipley stated that this would be a good time to encourage the neighbors to organize behind their neighborhood association (Centennial).

Shipley asked Almon about the neighborhood's response to the city operations campus proposed for the Farmland Industries site and its relation to 19th Street. Most of these operations are at 11th and Haskell in Brook

Creek. Almon stated that the neighborhood supported the move, but that neighbors adjacent to the proposed campus did not support the project due to commercial/industrial activity adjacent to their homes. A new proposal moves the buildings 1000 ft away and proposes mitigation measures. Almon was concerned that most of traffic to and from the site would be on 19th. City staff stated that the facility would use 23rd rather than 19th. Shipley was concerned that the plan was vague, and that she has been reassured by staff that “truck traffic” would not use 19th.

Neighborhood reports:

- Barker: Winkler reported that the Splash Park is nearly complete. It should open soon.
- Dad Perry: Shipley reported that she attended a meeting around a road planned for an extension of Wakarusa south to HWY 458. The city is being asked to build the road in exchange for a number of improvements on the South Lawrence Trafficway. She does not support this road, since it would serve an area where the city is not planning to develop. Webber stated that a road would support Douglas County south of the SLT. Shipley stated that the County is just starting to identify green space to preserve and that Wakarusa would be a good candidate. Ellenbecker stated that since the Kasold intersection was closed, she uses alternatives that do not require much more time to use. Almon was concerned that there has been no outreach or public input on this matter. He maintains that KDOT, city and county engineer have gotten together to make this bargain. He maintains they are not empowered to make land use decisions.
- East Lawrence: Collison reported that a block party is scheduled on 4th Saturday in September. He reported that an ELNA Traffic Safety committee met with Dave Cronin and Jake Baldwin to discuss the traffic safety program. They asked for 20 mph pavement markings, and the staff was receptive. They also met with Nick Kuzmyak about how residents can communicate effectively with city commission and various city boards.
- Old West Lawrence: Hill reported that OWL traffic safety committee met with MMTC to discuss the pilot project in OWL. OWL would like a third set of changes to address increases in traffic increases on collectors. The MMTC recommended that a third survey address a third set of changes.
- Oread Residents: Thompson reported that they are building sidewalks at enormous rate.
- Springwood Heights: no report.
- Sunset Hill: Webber reported that installation of sidewalk on Harvard between Iowa and Crestline has begun, and thanked the City Commissioners and staff for repairing curbs and gutters at the same time.
- Brook Creek: Almon reported that they are planning a creek cleanup on Saturday, June 25th.

Harrod moved to adjourn, Webber seconded, meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Submitted by Gary Webber, Secretary, on June 15, 2022.