

Lawrence Association of Neighborhoods Draft Minutes

Via Zoom video conference

October 19, 2022, 7:00 p.m.

Participants: Phil Collison, Representative, East Lawrence Neighborhood Association; Karen Heeb, Representative, Southsiders - North 1300 Road Neighborhood Association; Holli Joyce, Representative, Schwegler Neighborhood Association; Becky Pepper, Planning Manager, City of Lawrence; Courtney Shipley, Mayor, City of Lawrence, Dad Perry Park Resident; Josh Spence, Representative, Pinkney Neighborhood Association, LAN Vice Chair; Kyle Thompson, Representative, Oread Residents Association, LAN Treasurer; Jeanette Walther, Representative, Heatherwood Heights Neighborhood Association; Gary Webber, Representative, Sunset Hill Neighborhood Association, LAN Secretary; Bill Winkler, Resident, Barker Neighborhood Association

Accept minutes from September 21, 2022: Thompson moved to approve, Collison seconded, accepted by acclamation.

Treasurer's Report (Thompson): \$3,824.11 balance, 6 NA members of 12 members present, quorum 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.](#)

City Planner Report to the Neighborhoods: Becky Pepper reported that Planning is working on the update to the Land Development Code and on the East Lawrence Neighborhood Plan. They have been doing public outreach and the steering committee has met for the first time. They are working on initial drafts of revisions. They are also revising the Western Development Plan. Planning will hold a Planning Commission orientation on Friday Oct. 21. At the noon session, they have invited City Commission to lunch with the Planning Commission. The Orientation Meeting is open to the public in hybrid format. There will also be a meeting from 2:45-3:45 for neighborhoods. More information on the city web site.

Two Planning Commission meetings. Monday includes new development at Langston Way and Bob Billings for Centennial Car Wash. Also a rezoning request at 4101 W. 6th St from RSO to RNO. The last item is permit request for urban farm, 1210 Lakeview Ct. Currently residence with some crops. Low maintenance landscaping business. They want to add a sales tent, and are asking for an SUP.

Wednesday includes 2 SUP requests: Cell tower on Peasly Tech property designed to look like a tree, and emergency winter shelter at Community Building on Eleventh St. They will also have a handful of text amendments, including a cleanup of "accessory bars" use to add some land uses. A related text amendment from John Brown Underground to allow them to ask for a special use permit to change alcohol/food sales ratio. Final text amendment would change smart code to add a use to T5 designation to add mini warehouse.

Walther asked if there were notes from meeting on revision of Western Land Code. Pepper replied that they are still compiling the notes. Walther asked if they were discussing the land around the Farmer's Turnpike. See this link for map of area: <https://lawrenceks.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/rev-west-dev-plan-map.jpg> Ellenbecker asked about smart code and Pepper reviewed smart codes.

Presentation: Melissa Fisher Isaacs, Information Services Coordinator at the Lawrence Public Library regarding library services available to neighborhood associations and all residents. Fisher Isaacs reviewed the many services available at the library. You can:

- Reserve a study room for a tutoring session
- Research local history and genealogy in the Helen Osma Local History Room
- Record an oral history of your family in our Sound + Vision Studio
- Book a one-on-one tech help session
- Pick up a Resource Guide with info on where to go for housing assistance, free meals,
- affordable legal advice, and so much more

- Get personalized reading suggestions from the Book Squad
- Join the Nature Book Club
- Visit our outreach van Dottie
- Take part in a Spanish conversation class
- Make something cool in Craft Club
- Unwind from the week with yoga
- Learn a new skill at the How-To Festival
- Grow native flowers with seeds from our Seed Library

E-Resources

- Watch an award-winning documentary on Kanopy
- Listen to your favorite audiobooks with Libby
- Create your family tree with Ancestry Library Edition

You can learn more about any of these at their website: <https://lplks.org/>

The library is here to serve our community. Please feel free to call or email Fisher Isaacs any questions, suggestions, or feedback.

twinters@lplks.org
785-843-3833 ext. 118

Additional Items: Gary Bjorge from Sunset Hill neighborhood attended to talk about a development at 13th and Kasold. This 3.4 acre vacant lot is being considered for a zoning change from RS7 to RM12D. The neighbors submitted a protest petition to disallow the rezoning. The rezoning did not pass the city commission. Commissioner Sellers has asked to reconsider the item, and it was scheduled for the Nov. 15 City Commission meeting. Bjorge stated that Commissioner Sellers should justify her request to reconsider. There was concern about traffic and stormwater runoff. He predicts a revote of 4-1 to pass the rezoning.

Walther stated that her experience was long and arduous. She learned that you need to make the developer completely accountable to your concerns. The developer can make changes to accommodate your concerns but will not do this once the permit is approved. She wished Bjorge good luck. She encouraged neighbors to get promises in writing.

Spence stated that you should develop a good relationship with staff, Planning, and the City Commission. Heeb stated that an attitude of working together is important. Ellenbecker stated that as she understands it, you may not be able to affect the site plan. She stated she lives on Holiday Drive, and the water is getting worse as rains are heavier.

Webber asked Shipley if she had talked to Sellers about her request to revisit. Shipley stated she will not be speaking to Sellers about it, since Sellers has already spoken to Finkeldei about it.

Thompson stated that he understood this development would be aimed at retirees. Webber stated he believes it is possible for the developer to limit the ages of the homeowners. Ellenbecker stated that the original application stated that the Neighborhood Association was in favor of the development. *NOTE: Ellenbecker contacted Webber after the meeting to correct this assertion. The statement about the Neighborhood Association supporting the rezoning was in an email from Steven Menaugh to a city planner and was incorrect. SHNA has taken no position on the rezoning request.*

Neighborhood reports:

- Barker: Winkler reported that Barker is quiet.
- Brook Creek: no report.
- Dad Perry Park: Shipley reported on emergency preparedness workshop that she attended. She

encouraged neighborhoods to take advantage of this training.

- East Lawrence: Collison reported that a group of neighbors have filed a protest petition opposing the proposal for Charley's Bar at Ninth and Pennsylvania. They met with the Planning Commission. Seating is planned for 100 people outside. It will go before the City Commission the first week in December. Collison wondered if impact on strong welcoming neighborhoods would be positive or negative.
- Heatherwood Heights: Walther reported that they are enjoying nature before the substation is installed and it all goes away.
- Old West Lawrence: no report.
- Oread Residents: Thompson stated that the neighborhood has been inundated with football fans. He stated that it is possible we may have many new residents due to the battery plant east of town. Shipley encouraged Thompson to communicate with developer of a planned hotel and convention center near the stadium.
- Pinkney Neighborhood: First Trunk or Treat on October 30th.
- Prairie Park: no report.
- Schwegler: no report.
- Springwood Heights: no report.
- Sunset Hill: Ellenbecker reported that she is traveling a lot and homeless and poverty problems are everywhere. Webber reported that the Executive Committee is following the proposed duplex development at 13th and Kasold.
- University Place: no report.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Submitted by Gary Webber, Secretary, on Oct. 20, 2022.