

Lawrence Association of Neighborhoods Draft Minutes

Via Zoom video conference

November 16, 2022, 7:00 p.m.

Participants: Phil Collison, Representative, East Lawrence Neighborhood Association; Sheri Ellenbecker, Resident, Sunset Hill Neighborhood Association; Travis Harrod, Representative, Springwood Heights Neighborhood Association, LAN Chair; Greg Huebner, President, Hillcrest Neighborhood Association; Holli Joyce, Representative, Schwegler Neighborhood Association; Katie Oliver, Representative, Old West Lawrence Association; Chris Sanders, Resident, Hillcrest Neighborhood Association; 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 October 19, 2022: Spence moved to approve, Joyce seconded, accepted by acclamation.

Treasurer's Report (Thompson): \$3,824.11 balance, 8 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

Presentation: Chris Sanders & Greg Huebner of the Hillcrest NA to discuss problems some property owners are experiencing with fire and police protection and ask for LAN's support. Sanders lives at 1515 7th St. in Hillcrest. Access to their home is through an apartment complex east of the house. There is no access from 7th St. They do not have fire department access. The driveway is too narrow and too steep for a ladder truck. They have asked the city for a curb cut and access from 7th St. but were denied by the driveway subcommittee in the Municipal Services and Operations.

The Sanders are concerned about their safety due to no fire department access. If they are unable to get fire protection access for their home, they will be forced to sell the property, which is zoned commercial. Shipley asked what prompted this issue. The Sanders stated that a fire alarm brought the fire department who were forced to walk up the drive. They also have persistent problems with services trying to find the access to the property.

Harrod asked for the fix and about the ask. Sanders replied that the issue was with the neighbors. The neighbors to the west would be affected since the proposed driveway would parallel 7th in the south right of way. The fire department requires a hard surface with a turnaround at the home. They also require an entrance from both the east and the west. The neighbors to the west support the application for a new drive from 7th.

The city planning dept. denied the application for access from 7th. The committee referenced damage to the right-of-way and infringing on the property of the neighbor to the west. The Sanders are appealing the denial and are asking LAN for a letter supporting their appeal of the denial.

Webber stated that MSO avoided covering underground utilities in the easement with concrete. Sanders stated that there are no utilities underground in the right of way, and that the city must provide access to their home. Harrod wondered when the road should have been built. An answer to this was not clear. Sanders stated that the city has built access roads for commercial properties in the past. Thompson asked if the houses to the west have fire access. Sanders was not certain. Webber asked about water access. Sanders stated that a new dry standpipe would need to be installed on 7th.

Collison asked why it was not possible to improve the driveway. Sanders replied that current driveway is too steep and the apartment is too close to the driveway. Collison stated that when the apartments were built, the city removed the Sanders' access the apartment. Harrod asked where the appeal goes from here. Shipley it might go to Jeff Crick unless he was on the driveway committee. Sanders stated it would go next to the

Commission on Dec. 13.

Harrod stated that LAN is sympathetic to the Sanders' dilemma. However, if LAN writes a letter, he doesn't know who he would write a letter to. Webber stated a letter could write to the City Commission and address the two reasons the Sanders' were given for denial. Harrod stated that this is a very complicated issue, and that the Sanders' should have a land use attorney. He agreed that a letter could address the neighbors and fire access. Webber moved to write a letter to the appropriate adjudicatory body supporting the Sander's appeal to the denial. The motion passed unanimously.

Additional Items: Next meeting Dec. 21. Harrod will not be running for chair of LAN. He stated the meeting day could change.

Oliver stated that the development at Mississippi and 11th is concerning to Old West Lawrence neighborhood. She asked if anyone could suggest a course of action for Old West Lawrence. Shipley asked why OWL was concerned. Oliver stated that the biggest concern is increased use of Mississippi St. Shipley asked if Thompson had heard from KU. Thompson replied that he has contacted the architect and was told he would be in touch. Thompson is writing a letter about the KU development and the HERE parking proposal.

Schwegler stated that they started by finding a contact at KU, and persistently corresponded with them. They were included in the planning. Harrod also encouraged Oliver to contact Jeff Crick at the city. Shipley stated the city manager lives in OWL, and that should help. Webber encouraged Oliver to be persistent.

Neighborhood reports: Webber suggested due to the late hour that we forego neighborhood reports. No one was opposed.

Spence moved to adjourn, Joyce seconded. Passed by acclamation. Meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM.

Submitted by Gary Webber, Secretary, on Nov 16, 2022.