

Lawrence Association of Neighborhoods Draft Minutes

Via Zoom video conference

May 17, 2023, 7:00 p.m.

Participants: Phil Collison, Representative, East Lawrence Neighborhood Association; Sheri Ellenbecker, Resident, Sunset Hill Neighborhood; Travis Harrod, Representative, Springwood Heights Neighborhood Association; Holli Joyce, LAN Chair, President, Schwegler Neighborhood Association; Kim Porter Executive Director, Lawrence Community Children's Center; Courtney Shipley, City Commissioner, City of Lawrence, Resident, Dad Perry Park Neighborhood; Josh Spence, LAN Vice Chair, Vice President, Pinkney Neighborhood Association; Dustin Stumblingbear, Resident, Pinkney Neighborhood; Kyle Thompson, LAN Treasurer, Representative, Oread Residents Association; Bill Winkler, Resident, Barker Neighborhood

Presentation, Kim Polson, Executive Director, Lawrence Community Children's Center (CCC): Polson distributed handouts. She is here to let us know what is happening with early childhood in Lawrence and in CCC. There is a very large demand for early childhood care, 3000 new spots are needed in Douglas County. There is 10 infant toddlers waiting for each opening. In June 2021, an Early Childhood Care and Education workgroup formed. They suggested a three-pronged approach: increasing childcare and education spots, building our own early childhood professionals including better wages, extra support for families with a family resource center. They secured ARCA funds to acquire a building at 346 Maine St. they are renovating 1/2 of the building for the Early Childhood Children's center. They hope to partner with existing services, but not compete with other services. They will focus on infant/toddler care and education.

They are also planning to offer 24/7 care which does not exist in Lawrence. There are two local facilities that provide weekend services, and one facility provides overnight care. They would like to make this a proof of model facility, and then expand throughout the county. They would like to target business complexes as well and begin a training program. They will provide benefits to their providers similar to a starting public school teacher.

They have received funding from the state, Douglas County, Kansas Childrens Cabinet, and Dept of Children and Families. They are looking for additional investors.

Ellenbecker asked about how the early childhood business incubator would function. Polson replied that it is challenging for a service to provide services to the most vulnerable. They use a model of thirds: 1/3 for families eligible to receive subsidies, 1/3 to employees of business that support the Center, and 1/3 open to the general community. This model has been successful in Michigan. They also support the early childhood community to get more dollars into their pockets. Contact KIM kimpolson@communitychildrenks.org.

Consider accepting minutes for March 15, and April 19, 2023: Harrod, Collison, accepted by acclamation.

Treasurer's Report (Thompson): \$4,104.11 balance, Stephen Watts joined as individual associate member. Quorum present with 7 NA member representatives of 14 members participating.

Old Business

- Research city information, neighborhoods VRBO, Airbnb (Joyce): Joyce reported that an STR in a primary residence must be occupied by the owner 251 days per year, but this is tracked in the first year, so no enforcement possible during that first year. Collison asked how city would confirm the occupancy. He suspects that people say they are living in the STR but do not. Shipley stated that other cities use protocols to verify, but currently there is no policy about verification. Ellenbecker reported that in 2016 neighbors moved and converted to STR. Owner wanted to host 12-15 people on weekends. Ultimately, this did not happen. She investigated Fort Collins, Boulder, Barrington IL, and others. They have a protocol to verify, and owners must sign an affidavit. This affidavit reduced the number of applications by ¼. Shipley suggested that Ellenbecker submit suggestions to city staff.
- Coalition of Neighborhoods that surround 11th and Mississippi, (Thompson): A meeting on April 27 with

KU representative went well. KU representatives acknowledged that there was a lot of concern about this project. The only thing that is currently planned is north and west part of stadium. Nothing is currently planned for east of the stadium, but KU plans to build there. They will not go north of 11th St. Development of north section will be underground.

Parking continues to be a concern, especially since Here apartments is trying to identify more parking. Here has proposed using on street parking plus reducing number of spots in parking garage, in essence reducing the number of parking spots available to Here residents.

- Speaker and agenda items for June 21 meeting? Webber suggested Dustin Smith to discuss the future of the Neighborhood Traffic Management program following the completion of the first pilot project in Old West Lawrence.

New Business

- July 19, 2023 LAN meeting - Adam Weigel, Lawrence Transit and Parking Manager, Route Redesign presentation:

Neighborhood Reports

- Barker: Winkler reported that concrete work in the neighborhood continues.
- Brook Creek: no report.
- Dad Perry Park: no report.
- East Lawrence: no report.
- Heatherwood Heights: no report.
- Hillcrest: no report.
- Old West Lawrence: no report.
- Oread Residents: no report.
- Pinkney Neighborhood: no report.
- Prairie Park: no report.
- Schwegler: Joyce reported that a house near her has a student owner plus four roommates. They are starting to move toward a solution.
- Southsiders: no report.
- Springwood Heights: Harrod reported that 2300 Crestline item on City Commission agenda at their latest meeting. A suit has been working through the courts, currently in the district court. USD 497 plans to sell their ¼ share of Holcomb Park, which will probably be developed. The NA is concerned.
- Sunset Hill: Webber reported that SHNA will probably participate in a park cleanup. Shipley reported that the new skate ramp in Centennial Park in Sunset Hill is complete.
- University Place: no report.

Next Meeting: June 21, 2023, Meeting Room B, Lawrence Public Library, 707 Vermont St, Lawrence, KS 66044 and the Zoom meeting online at:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87844058616?pwd=eThYZHZCMnZVY0pnclU4MlE4djVaUT09>

Adjourn: Harrod moved to adjourn, Collison seconded, meeting adjourned by acclamation at 7:49 PM.

Submitted by Gary Webber, Secretary, on May 18, 2023.