

Lawrence Association of Neighborhoods Draft Minutes
Lawrence Public Library, Meeting Room C
Sept. 20, 2023, 6:30 p.m.

Participants: Michael Almon, Vice President, Brook Creek Neighborhood Association; Phil Collison, Representative, East Lawrence Neighborhood Association; John Davis, Resident, Brook Creek Neighborhood; Sharon Davis, Resident, Brook Creek Neighborhood; Sheri Ellenbecker, Representative, Sunset Hill Neighborhood Association; Peggy Englehart, Resident, Pinkney Neighborhood; Phil Englehart, Resident, Pinkney Neighborhood; Paul Gottesburg, Resident, Brook Creek Neighborhood; Travis Harrod, Representative, Springwood Heights Neighborhood Association; Chuck Magerl, Resident, Blue Moon Farm; Millie Pageau, Homeless Programs Coordinator, Communications and Community Relations; 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; Cori Wallace, Director, Communications and Community Relations; Gary Webber, LAN Secretary, President, Sunset Hill Neighborhood Association; Bill Winkler, Resident, Barker Neighborhood

Changes to, adoption of May 17, June 21, and July 19, minutes: passed by acclamation with one edit (typo).

Treasurer's Report (Thompson): \$3,962.28 balance, 7 of thirteen members/officers present, quorum confirmed.

Presentation: Housing Development on 2111 E 15th Street in Brook Creek Neighborhood: Chuck Magerl owner of Free state and Wheatfields. He appears on behalf of Blue Moon Farm, which is north of the proposed development. He has lived in Lawrence for 50 years. He recommended we not miss the sunset on East 15 when sunset comes through Fraser Hall.

A developer has proposed rezoning 17 acres from RS10 to RN32. Largest jump in zoning change in history. This would be the 2nd largest housing development in Lawrence (Links is first, on 77 acres.) Magerl believes in infill, but the term is not defined in city documents. The city needs affordable single-family housing, like the adjacent neighborhoods. This is the best model of low-to-moderate housing. This proposal comes before Planning Commission on October 25th. Collison asked about access to the development. Magerl responded that the Fire Department must have access from the south.

Almon stated developer has said the city will improve 15th. The city says there are no plans to upgrade the street. A meeting to address this proposal is scheduled for 7:00, Thursday, Sept. 21, at East Lawrence Recreation Center. Sewer, water, street, stormwater will be issues with such a large development. Parking is inadequate. Spence asked about adjacent property. Property to east is MSO campus which is city-owned. South and west is Brook Creek neighborhood. County is across the road to the north. Spence stated that the city has requirements for green space. J. Davis stated that developer has made several false statements about the proposal. Stormwater is a problem on an adjacent hill.

Magerl stated this is the largest project the developer has proposed. They have had two proposals denied in adjacent states. Almon thinks the proposal is a trial balloon. The property belongs to the Simons family. The developers have not purchased it. It has been on the market for two years. Almon is looking for support, either from LAN or from individual neighborhoods. Ellenbecker is certain that this would not have been proposed in west Lawrence. She is convinced that we need more than affordable housing, we need quality affordable housing. Ellenbecker asked where the children would attend school (Prairie Park).

Magerl asked for a letter of support and help with establishing an online petition. Joyce asked the presenters if they could draft a position after their meeting on Saturday. Harrod suggested that LAN provide a letter supporting opposition after the October Planning Commission meeting. Shipley stated that it would behoove residents to visit with the Planning Commission members. Harrod suggested we discuss and vote on the letter at our Oct. 18 LAN meeting.

Old/Ongoing Business

- **Gateway Project Stadium expansion:** tabled
- **Tabled Items:**

- **Term of Membership Bylaw change, Webber:** Webber will give 2 -week notice in November, and propose a bylaw change.
- **Website upgrade, Webber:** We will address this in November.
- **Facebook Update, Spence:** Facebook has been inactive for years. Two options: group and single. We will discuss this in November.

New Business

- **Oct. 18 meeting presenter:** Lawrence Humane Society
- **Nov. 15 Meeting:** Code Compliance, City of Lawrence Planning and Development.
- **Ideas for upcoming meeting topics/speakers:** none suggested.
- Wallace and Pageau are attending to introduce themselves to LAN. They represent Department of Communications and community relations. Wallace is the Director, Pageau is the Community Outreach Specialist.

Neighborhood Reports:

- Heatherwood Heights – No report.
- Brook Creek – Fall potluck on 15th October in Brook Creek Park. East 19th is open to O’Connell Rd.
- Old West Lawrence – no report.
- Pinkney – Spence reported ongoing discussions regarding Pallet Shelter Village. Trunk and Treat in October.
- Sunset Hill – Picnic was in a rain shower, but 32 attended and fun had by all. Centennial Shelter was very dirty and occupied by unhoused people who refused to leave.
- ELIA – Block party on Saturday, Sept.23 at Hobbs Park. In case of rain in Murphy-Bromelsick house.
- Schwegler – Joyce asked if any other neighborhood had done a clean-up. East Lawrence has done riverfront cleanup, and the city provided a dumpster.
- Oread Residents – no report.
- Barker – no report.
- Springwood Heights – Ellenwood asked about litigation of development lawsuit for 23rd and Crestline. Trial is scheduled for this fall. Permit is currently two years old.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, October 18, 2023

6:30 PM, Station 5
1911 Stewart Avenue
Lawrence, KS, 66045

Adjourn: meeting adjourned by acclamation at 7:55 PM.

Submitted by Gary Webber, Secretary, on September 21, 2023.