

May 1, 2015

Minutes from Sunset Hills Neighborhood Association Annual meeting on Monday, April 24, 2014, from 7:00 to 8:15 at Sunset Hills Elementary School Gymnasium

Agenda for Meeting:

- Aaron Hachmeister and Drew Fennelly, Neighborhood Resource Officers Update
- Susie Nightingale, Lawrence Bicycle/Pedestrian Safe Ride Report
- Jeanne Pees, Neighborhood Updates
- Joan Stone, Sunset Hill Elementary School Construction Updates
- Carolynn Crawford, Kasold St. repair updates

Meeting called to order by Jeanne Pees

Agenda:

**Neighborhood Resource Officers Report**

*Steven Drive Incident*

Report focused mainly on recent shooting incident on Steven Drive. Officers mentioned that investigation is ongoing so not at liberty to discuss details. Did report that victims knew each other so it was not a random act of violence that would indicate that crime is increasing in neighborhood.

One member who lives nearby mentioned that has seen evidences of continued drug activity at house and asked for advice of whether or not to report and how to report. Officers strongly encouraged reporting any unusual activity.

Another member who lives across the street from the property asked if a Neighborhood Watch Sign could be put up to deter crime. Officers gave instructions on process for placing a sign. Another member gave instructions on how a Neighborhood Watch Group could be created. There was a strong positive response from audience to create one.

Another member who lives next door asked if the police could have a more visible presence particularly on the weekends as drug dealing activity is still occurring on property. Officers said it will be addressed but reminded that crime investigation is still ongoing.

*Orchard Golf Course*

Other issue was the piling on dead trees at Orchard Golf Course and that it was becoming a code violation issue. Jeanne said she would be glad to help and will talk to current golf course owner, Richard, to discuss issue. She mentioned that Richard is very interested in keeping golf course safe and neighbor friendly.

### *Traffic Issues*

Residents who live near 9<sup>th</sup> Street (just west of Lawrence Ave.) expressed concerns with car speeding along that section of the road and asked if anything could be done about it. Neighborhood Resource Officers mentioned that a speed bump had been proposed at the time the other two speed bumps were created along 9<sup>th</sup> Street between Lawrence and Kasold but was opposed by one neighbor. Seems that every effort has been exhausted to control speed. Since part of the road project on Kasold between Bob Billings and 6<sup>th</sup> Street could include blocking off 8<sup>th</sup> at Kasold that it could reduce the traffic flow. One attendee cautioned implementing that idea.

Another member expressed concerns with traffic issues on Lawrence Ave. between 6<sup>th</sup> St. and 9<sup>th</sup> Street. Since there are many cars that are parked on the street, it requires weaving in and out of lanes. Asked if signs could be put on the street to remind drivers to slow down and also to halt for incoming traffic. Neighborhood Resource Officers said they would look into it.

### *Police Station*

Member asked Neighborhood Resource Officers if they preferred centralized or decentralized police stations. Officer Fennelly responded that in a community the size of Lawrence that a centralized police station works best. That the precinct police station approach works best in communities with a population of 200,000 or more. He felt that the Lawrence police department addressed response time and patrol availability by staggering shifts.

Officer Hachmeister mentioned that he is taking on a new role in the police department and a new Neighborhood Resource Office will take his spot.

### Treasurer's report, Janis Hutchison

- 91 paid members of which 88 renewed their membership , *April '14 to April '15.*
- Highlighted annual treasurer's report (copies provided to all attendees)

### Susie Nightingale, Lawrence Bicycle/Pedestrian Safe Ride Report

Susie mentioned that she attended the recent Safe Routes All Town Hall meeting. Handouts of the meeting were distributed to members. She mentioned that the keynote speaker at the Town Hall meeting, Robert Ping, provided some vital statistics regarding the need to create pedestrian and bicycle friendly communities. Another attendee mentioned that every second Wednesday of the month, the Lawrence Pedestrian Coalition meets at the Carnegie Building and invited members to attend.

### Jeanne Pees, Neighborhood Updates

Jeanne provided updates on upcoming road and curb repair projects this summer.

She also mentioned that there is a proposed four-way stop sign at the intersection of 9<sup>th</sup> and Crestline. Jeanne will let the association know when the proposal comes before the City Commission meeting.

**Joan Stone, Sunset Hill Elementary School Construction Updates**

Joan is secretary at Sunset Hill and she gave an update on eventual changes to traffic patterns, parking spaces and pedestrian flow. She also gave a report on upgrades to building after construction is completed (slated to be completed by December, 2015—the school will be housed temporarily at East Heights Elementary School for the fall and moving back in the beginning of 2016).

**Carolynn Crawford, Kasold St. Repair Updates**

Carolynn mentioned that the contract was awarded to CFS Engineering and final plans are in process of being completed. She highly encouraged us to express our voice now before it's too late. She mentioned that she attended a meeting during initial phase and felt there was a receptive audience to listen to public comments. There will be two public meetings at the end of May.

Jeanne concluded meeting with asking for Board nominations. The member who volunteered to help start the Neighborhood Watch Group, Shannon Spradling, was nominated and she accepted.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by,

José Trujillo

SHNA Secretary