



Sunset Hill Neighborhood Association Newsletter

MARCH 7, 2018

WINTER, 2018

SHNA Executive Committee

Officers

Gary Webber -
President

Kathy Heppert -
Vice President

Clint Idol -
Secretary

Joanna
Wiorcikiewicz-
Kuczera -
Treasurer

At-large Members

Faye Hale

Paula Kellogg

Marlene Merrill

Susie
Nightingale

Matthew Paul

Past President

Jeanne Pees

Notes from the Executive Committee Meeting

The Executive Committee (EC) met on Tuesday evening, February 27, and discussed the following items:

- SHNA treasurer, Joanna Wiorcikiewicz-Kuczera, reported that the Association has a balance of \$780.45. She also reported that we have 140 members.
- Our 2018 Lawrence Association of Neighborhoods representative, Gary Webber, reported that at the January and February LAN meeting the following items of interest to SHNA were discussed:
 1. LAN accomplished the following in 2017:
 - Supported sidewalk repair efforts
 - Bus hub discussion (lot of discussion because of possible impact on University Place)
 - Oread Neighborhood Overlay District
 - Citywide parking study
 - Recommendations to H2020 update
 - Candidate questionnaire
 - Airbnb discussion
 2. Officers were elected for 2018:
 - Courtney Shipley: Chair
 - Jane Gibson: Vice Chair
 - Cindy Suenram: Treasurer
 - Secretary: Gary Webber
 3. LAN submitted a letter to the City Commission in support of *Represent Lawrence* which is promoting the American Anti-corruption Act.
 4. LAN submitted a letter to the Planning Commission in opposition to: amending the comprehensive plan, and rezoning the lot at Clinton Parkway and Crestline from RSO to RM15. NOTE: *In the subsequent meeting, the Planning Commission denied the plan change. The development planned for that lot has been abandoned for now.*
 5. LAN submitted a letter to the City Commission supporting suggested changes to the Sidewalk Hazard Repair Program.
 6. The Transportation Plan revision currently underway proposes widening and extension of 19th St. east to O'Connell Rd. The T2040 plan revision is currently calling for comments, and adjacent neighborhoods (Barker, Brook Creek, University Place, Schwegler) are opposing these changes to 19th. LAN submitted a letter to the T2040 comments supporting their position.
- Clint Idol reported that the Rockledge traffic calming ballot was mailed to property owners with 300 feet of the location. 25 ballots

Dates to Remember

April 14, 2018
KU Big Event

April 16, 2018
SHNA Annual Meeting

April 21, 2018
Sunset Hill Neighborhood Cleanup

May 5, 2018
SHNA Potluck

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were mailed, 8 voted yes and 3 voted no. This did not meet the requirement of 70% or more of the property owners (18 of the 25) voting yes. Rockledge traffic calming was taken off of the city list for 2018.

- Matthew Paul reported that the SHNA website was receiving around 12 unique visits per day, with a total of 400 a month on the peak month.
- The EC discussed a policy for voting on controversial issues at the monthly LAN meeting. They decided that if the representative is confident that the action considered would be supported by SHNA if we were proposing it for our neighborhood, the representative would vote yes. Conversely, if the representative is confident our members would not support the action if it were proposed for our neighborhood, they would vote no. If the representative is unsure, they would abstain.
- Jeanne Pees proposed, and the motion passed, that we send a card and \$25 donation to the Robert W Lichtwardt Student Research Award. Bob Lichtwardt, a former member and longtime KU Biology Professor, passed away recently.

Important Notice!

- The Executive Committee needs new members! We need to replace outgoing committee members Clint Idol, Kathy Heppert, and Susie Nightingale. Committee members serve a three-year term, meet four times each year, and organize SHNA events and the Annual Meeting. The success and continuation of your neighborhood association depends upon a strong and dedicated Executive Committee. Please consider volunteering to serve on the EC! Email Gary Webber at president@sunsethillna.org if you are willing to serve!

What's Happening?

Sunset Hill Little Free Libraries

Little Free Libraries (LFL) have grown in popularity in the last few years. These tiny enclosures are miniature free lending libraries, normally built and maintained by homeowners or businesses. There are a number of attractive LFLs in our neighborhood, so we thought it might be interesting to our members to learn more about them.

Little Free Libraries encourage you to "Take a book-Return a book". You may return the book you borrow, or donate a new book to the library. As of November 2016, there were over 50,000 registered Little Free Library book exchanges in all 50 U.S. states and over 70 countries around the world.

Many LFLs are registered with a national organization, Little Free Library at <https://littlefreelibrary.org/>. When you register, there is a one-time payment of \$40 to get an official charter sign, engraved with a unique charter number. You also gain access to a network of benefits just for registered stewards and may legally call your book exchange box a Little Free Library.



[Facebook](#)

Once you have registered, you may add your LFL to the [world map of libraries](#). Searching for Lawrence on the map yields 13 registered LFLs, with one in Sunset Hill. However, there are actually 2 registered in our neighborhood, so 1 has not been added to the map. In addition, we know of 3 more book exchange boxes in Sunset Hill that do not appear to be registered with the worldwide organization. Here are some photos of Sunset Hill libraries.



In addition to our Little Free Libraries, Sunset Hill is home to a Poet Tree where neighbors can share their favorite poetry. Here is a photo of our Poet Tree.

Housing Study Resident Survey Now Online

The City of Lawrence has engaged BBC Research & Consulting to complete a housing study for the City. This study will be used as a tool to help prioritize affordable housing needs. The City encourages residents to complete an online resident survey, which will help provide valuable information to the consultants. The survey data will go directly to BBC Research & Consulting and the information compiled for the housing study report.

Please take a few minutes and complete the survey and feel free to share the survey link with other residents. If you have participated in the phone survey that is being conducted, your feedback will be noted as part of that effort and there is no need to complete this online version. The consultants are utilizing surveys and focus groups to conduct outreach in various ways to engage as many residents as possible as part of the study.

You may complete the survey online at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/LawrenceHsg2018>. Questions about the study can be directed to Diane Stoddard, Assistant City Manager, dstoddard@lawrneceks.org or 785-832-3413.

What's Coming Up?

KU Big Event on April 14

Do you need some help on a project around your home? Make plans now to participate in The Big Event at KU by requesting help from student volunteers. The Big Event is a student group that connects the KU campus with the Lawrence community. By recruiting thousands of student, faculty, and staff volunteers to work at hundreds of local job sites during one day of service, they are able to say thank you to the community that surrounds us all year. Big Event volunteers provide a helping hand to Lawrence residents by completing projects in their neighborhoods.



There is no charge for the volunteer help. Just register online at: <http://thebigeventku.com/register-now/>. The deadline for applying for help is in mid-March, so register today! You can learn more about this excellent program at: <http://thebigeventku.com/>.

SHNA Annual Meeting is Just Around the Corner!

Our annual meeting is scheduled for Monday evening, April 16, 7:00 pm, at West Middle School cafeteria. All residents and property owners in Sunset Hill are encouraged to attend. Please park in the north lot off of Yale (or better yet, walk!) and enter by the door just west of the auditorium. Homemade cookies and lemonade will be served.

This is an excellent opportunity to visit with neighbors, get to know the Executive Committee and vote for the new committee members, learn more about your neighborhood association, and ask questions of invited city officials. You will be receiving an invitation in the mail in the near future, which will include a membership renewal form and addressed return envelope, so please take this opportunity to return a check for \$5 and renew for 2018.

SHNA works hard in your behalf, so please support us by renewing and attending the annual meeting!

Neighborhood Cleanup Coming on Earth Day

SHNA's first neighborhood cleanup is scheduled for Saturday, April 21, Earth Day! All Sunset Hill residents and property owners are encouraged to take time during this day to help clean up their properties and neighborhood.

This is a great time to pick up litter on your block, arrange for the city to haul away large items of trash, cut up and bundle fallen tree limbs, and do the little things that improve the quality of life of all SHNA residents.



You can request pickup for bulky items at trash using the online form at: <https://lawrence.wufoo.com/forms/residential-special-item-pickup-service/>. If your house is in good shape, offer to help your neighbors, especially the elderly and disabled, with tasks around their homes. You'll be glad you did!

First Annual SHNA Potluck Scheduled for May 5

Please join us for the First Annual SHNA Potluck! The potluck will be held at 5:30 pm, Saturday, May 5, in Centennial Park East Shelter. The East Shelter is just west of Biemer's Barbecue and access is off of Ninth St.

SHNA will provide the main dish (barbecue) and we ask Sunset Hill residents to bring side dishes or desserts, non-alcoholic beverages, and your own plates, cups and utensils. This is a great opportunity to meet fellow SHNA members and the SHNA officers and executive committee.

There is a playground and Frisbee golf course nearby, so come and play after dinner!

That's it for now! Stay warm and watch for our spring edition in April!