



Sunset Hill Neighborhood Association E-Newsletter, September, 2017

Dear Sunset Hill Neighborhood Association Members,

The Executive Committee (EC) met on Wednesday evening, Sept. 6, and worked through a very full agenda. I have lots to report, so let's get started!

- SHNA treasurer, Joanna Wiorkiewicz-Kuczera, reported that the Association has a balance of \$828.95 on Sept. 6. She also reported that we have 138 members as of the same date, a record number of members!
- Jeanne Pees reported on the curb and gutter inventory, and submitted a list of curbs that need repairing. On the whole, our neighborhood streets are in great shape after the recent resurfacing project, but some rough spots remain. Gary Webber will submit to the appropriate city staff. Look for the streets and gutters inventory to be posted to the web site in the future.
- **It is time again to nominate our neighbors for the Applause Award! Once a year the Sunset Hill Neighborhood Association recognizes neighbors who have recently enhanced their home through renovations, landscaping or other improvements. If you know of someone that has been working hard on their home and would be a good candidate for this award, please send a nomination email to Joan Stone at jmstone@usd497.org.**
- **Your input is needed on a survey currently being conducted on "Lawrence Listens". The survey asks you to select your preferences for routes to complete the Lawrence Loop. You may provide input until September 19 at <https://lawrenceks.org/lawrence-listens/>.**
- **The SHNA Facebook page needs a moderator! Our FB page needs someone who is social media savvy to moderate the content. Basically this means visiting the site periodically and removing any inappropriate content, and posting items that would be of interest to your neighbors. If you are interested, reply to this email and I will submit your name to the Executive Committee for consideration. If they approve, you will be added as an administrator and will be given editing rights. See the page at: <https://www.facebook.com/SHNALawrenceks/>. We really need some help, so please volunteer if you are interested!**
- City staff has recommended approval of traffic calming "pillows" on Rockledge between Sixth and Ninth streets. This proposal will be discussed at the next [Transportation Commission](#) meeting on **September 11, 2017**. Public comment is welcome at this meeting. If you would like to express your opinion on installing speed humps on this block, please attend and comment after city engineers present this proposal. If approved by the Transportation Commission, it will come before the City Commission for consideration at a later date.
- A resident who lives across from West Middle School has requested a cross walk across Crestline on the north side its intersection with Harvard. City engineers did not recommend a crosswalk at this location, since city guidelines call for only one crosswalk on any one street near a school, and there is already a crosswalk at Yale. The Transportation Commission went against city recommendation and approved a crosswalk at Harvard. The city commission will consider this crosswalk at a future meeting. You are encouraged to attend and comment. Check the [agenda online](#) for this item to appear.

- SHNA has a new website! Thanks to the hard work of EC member Matthew Paul, the site is up and running and the EC is in the process of adding content. Look for lots of helpful information to be added over the next few months. You can view the site at: <http://sunsethillna.org/>.
- The Safe Routes to School Champions program has begun with an all-day training session on August 29. Two Champions have volunteered to support Sunset Hill Elementary, and one will support West Middle School, but we need three at each school. If you are interested in helping our neighborhood schools create safe routes for their students and encourage all kids to be active and healthy, you can become an SRTS Champion! If you are interested, contact me at gwebber@sunflower.com. You can learn more about this program at: <http://ldchealth.org/266/Be-Active-Safe-Routes>.
- The [Voter Education Coalition](http://www.votereducationcoalition.org) is sponsoring a number of candidate forums for the upcoming election, including one at our own Centennial Park! Learn more about these forums at: <http://www.votereducationcoalition.org/vec-events>, and plan to attend!
- The Lawrence Pedestrian Coalition (PedCo) and the Lawrence-Douglas County Health Department are hosting a "Safe Routes for All" town hall meeting from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Sept. 21 at Liberty Hall, 644 Massachusetts St. The goal is to raise awareness about the importance of having bicycle and pedestrian transportation infrastructure that is safe and accessible for all ages and abilities. The SHNA EC voted to donate \$25 to this event to cover expenses. SHNA will be listed as a Community Supporter for this event.
The keynote speaker will be Mark Fenton, a national public health, planning and transportation consultant, adjunct associate professor at Tufts University's Friedman School of Nutrition Science and Policy and former host of the "America's Walking" series on PBS television. He's the author of numerous books including the bestselling "Complete Guide to Walking for Health, Weight Loss and Fitness." Fenton will talk about the importance of "engineering physical activity back into American communities and lives."
After Fenton's presentation, Lawrence City Commission candidates will be given the opportunity to share their vision for safer routes in Lawrence. More at: <http://www.lawrencewalks.org/>. Please join your neighbors and get involved!
- Finally, the EC discussed the recent controversy surround new LED street lights. Last summer, the American Medical Association advised against the installation of "blue-rich LED streetlights," and some residents want the city to follow that recommendation. [Here is the LJW article](#). Both Westar and Public Works are currently installing new fixtures that are bluer than the AMA recommendation. The EC decided to take no formal action.

Whew, that was a long meeting! Thanks to our officers and Executive Committee members for volunteering their time to make our neighborhood a great place to live and work! Our next meeting is in November, so I'll be sending out another E-Newsletter at that time. If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to email me or call at 785-312-4840. SHNA is here for you!

Gary Webber
SHNA President