

Sunset Hill Neighborhood Association Newsletter

SEPTEMBER 23rd, 2019

SUMMER, 2019

SHNA Executive Committee

Officers

Gary Webber -
President

Matthew Paul -
Vice President

John White -
Secretary

Mariana Nieto -
Treasurer

At-large Members

Jesus Garcia

Faye Hale

Marlene Merrill

Chris and Betsy
Ostrander

Past President

Jeanne Pees

Notes from the Summer 2019 Executive Committee Meeting

Monday, August 26, 2019, 6:00 pm

Fellowship Hall, Christ Covenant Church, 2312 Harvard Rd

I. Presentations

- a. Traffic on Crestline after school, Brad Kempf, Principal of West Middle School. Brad noted that activities & athletics have increased this school year, which may help reduce the rush at 3:00 p.m. He is using Tips to Kids, communication to parents, and open house discussion to educate parents on the need to keep Crestline clear. They are trying to get traffic moving "east to west" and stay off the hill on Crestline. The neighborhood association will do everything we can to help alleviate the problem of cars stopping for pick up on Crestline. Webber suggested we see how parents react during the first semester, and go from there.
- b. Aging in Place presentation: SH resident Steve Ozark introduced Habitat for Humanity. They work to increase affordability of housing in Lawrence. Habitat would like to pilot a program in Sunset Hills Neighborhood to make CDBG funds available to low-to-moderate income homeowners over 55. Home repair for seniors is a growing need identified by communities. Gary, Steve, & Erika will visit with Dani Walters at CDBG.

II. Old Business

- a. Ludlum Park Toddler Playground (All): Things are happening in Ludlam Park. Approximately \$40,000 has been earmarked for a toddler playground in Ludlam Park. Equipment has been ordered and when P&R has the staff, they will move forward with construction.

III. New Business

- a. Consider appointing Dillon Heter to fill Eliza's Darmon's at-large EC position. The term expires 5/1/2021. Dillon is from Hiawatha, and returned to Lawrence three years ago. Lives at Meadowbrook. Eliza's is a 3 Year term, 1.5 years remaining (April 2021). Gary will add this to the December meeting agenda where a vote will be taken to appoint Dillon.
- b. Transit Hub Location (Pees): Director of Transit has taken a job in Topeka. This may delay the Transit Hub. Gary reported that much remains to be done. He responded to Jeannie's written questions about Transit Hub. Gary will keep a watch on this and inform the EC when progress occurs.

IV. New agenda items from participants

- a. Christ Covenant Church has offered to host our quarterly meetings. Are we interested in a more permanent meeting space? We will reserve the space and discuss in December.
- b. Webber is working with IRS to establish non-profit status for SHNA.

Contact Us

President

president@sunsethillna.org

785-312-4840

Website

<http://sunsethillna.org/>



[Facebook](#)

Quick Links

Lawrence Police Department

Non-emergency Dispatch
785-832-7509

Neighborhood Resource Officers
785-830-7408

Report Traffic Safety Concerns
[Online form](#)

City Code Enforcement
785-832-3111

[Code Violation Form](#)

Animal Control
To report a loose or captured animal, call
785-832-7509

- c. Unity Church wants to rezone to Residential/Office from Residential in order to rent out office space. City commission will consider this within the next couple of months.

[Complete minutes for this meeting are available on the SHNA website.](#)

What's Happening?

New Sidewalks for Sunset Hill Schools

At their August 20 meeting, The City Commission authorized construction of new sidewalks as part of the [Safe Routes To School \(SRTS\) Phase 2 Program](#). Three of these sidewalks are in Sunset Hill. They are:

- V. Harvard Road - From Kasold Dr. to Lawrence Ave. (North Side)
- VI. Yale Road - From Centennial Dr. to Crestline Dr. (both North & South Side)

In Lawrence, the program is called "[Be Active Safe Routes](#)", and is possible because of many partnerships within the community all working toward one common goal: safe routes for all. One component is the installation of missing sidewalks around schools to improve safety and encourage students and staff to walk to school.



The sidewalks listed above provide pedestrian access to Sunset Hill Elementary and West Middle School from both the west and east. The Yale Road sidewalks are especially important, as they provide a direct route east from West Middle School, and connect to both bus routes and Hillcrest Shopping Center.

One sidewalk serving the schools still remains to be installed. That is Harvard from Crestline Dr. to Wellington Rd. This sidewalk is on a prioritized list of future SRTS projects, and will be addressed as funding becomes available.

Work begins on Harvard Trench



The residents of the south side of Harvard west of Crestline recently received notices that some work is scheduled for the power line behind their homes. It looks like is paying attention to the outage reports, and has decided to address the power outages we have been experiencing.

The power line runs along what Westar calls the "Harvard Trench". Gary recently spoke to Ben Heston, Westar Project Engineer, and he stated that they are recently finished work on a large junction box on the north side of Harvard Street south and west of West Middle School. That junction box will allow the Harvard Trench electric power line to connect to a main line on 9th Street rather than the current main line connection at Iowa. That change, in combination with replacing the current three phase supply lines with new single phase lines, will improve reliability for all the homeowners serviced by the Harvard Trench line.

Thanks to all who called the Westar hotline to report power outages, and thanks to Westar for responding with a significant expenditure to improve service in this part of Sunset Hill.

City Code
[Regulation of Animals](#)

City of Lawrence

[City Information for Residents](#)

[Forms for Residents](#)

[Good Neighbor Ordinances](#)

[Snow Removal](#)

[Dispose of Hazardous Waste](#)

Sunset Hill Businesses

- Absolute Pawfection
- Acres Realty
- Advanced Health Center
- Alvin's Wine & Spirits
- Arcpoint Labs
- B. A. Green Construction
- Barnes Homes
- Beautiful Music
- Belltone Hearing Aid Center
- Biemer's BBQ
- Body Boutique
- Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Kansas
- Busey Home Mortgage
- Capitol Federal Savings
- Capitol Agency Insurance
- Central Bank of the Midwest
- CEK Insurance
- The Chiropractic Element
- Chops Comics
- Chris Munk State Farm Insurance
- Christal K-9
- Color Studio
- Commerce Bank
- Connie K. Grob, Bookkeeping
- Conroy's Pub
- Cosmos Indian Store & Cafe

There's no timeline now for the actual work along the Harvard trench. It will begin once the main line connection is ready to go.

Call for Applause Nominations

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 junkerjo@sunflower.com.

Be proud of your neighbors! Mention them in an email to Joan! The names of the 2019 Applause Award recipients will be published in the Winter issue of this newsletter.

Ludlum Park Toddler Playground Nearly Finished

Have you seen it? If you've driven down Ninth street in the last few days, you must have noticed the brightly colored toddler play equipment and new curving sidewalk going up in Ludlum Park! The old swing, berm, and chips are gone, and Cunningham Recreation is installing Game Time playground equipment complete with concrete walk and surround, bench pad and bench, and CT-Impax poured-in-place surfacing.

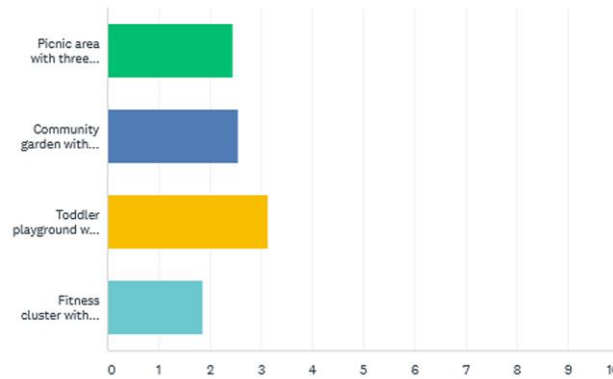


Crimson & Brew's
 Dazzlers Christian
 Dance
 Econo Lodge
 Edie Insurance
 Empire Bar & Billiards
 Ernie Williamson
 Music
 Everest Liquors
 Excalibur of
 Westminster Hair
 Styling
 Family Psychological
 Services, LLC
 Family Therapy
 Institute Midwest
 Farm Bureau
 Financial Services
 The Fit Flavor
 Free State Insurance
 Free State Ride
 Genstler Eye Center
 Orchards Executive
 Golf & Footgolf
 Goodcents Deli
 Great Plains Media
 Heartland Meat
 Market
 Hillcrest Laundromat
 Hillcrest Styling
 Center
 Hite Collision
 Hi-Q Massage
 In the Zone Pro Shop
 Ignacio's in Empire
 Bar & Billiards
 Iowa Massage
 Jade Garden
 Restaurant
 Jayhawk Nail
 Jayhawk Trophy
 Jazzercise Lawrence
 Joda & Friends
 John R. Hooge,
 Attorneys at Law P.A.
 Kansas Secured Title
 Kathy's Alterations
 Kobe Japanese
 Steakhouse
 Kwik Shop
 La Petite Academy
 Lawrence Center for
 Entrepreneurship
 Lawrence Family
 Vision Clinic
 Lawrence Shirt
 Factory
 Lawrence Suitel
 Lawrence Tattoo
 Leeway Franks &
 Butcher Shop
 Lewis Veterinary
 Linux New Media

SHNA members chose this project from among four options. Here are the poll results:

Please rank the following possible upgrades to Ludlam Park.

Answered: 76 Skipped: 0



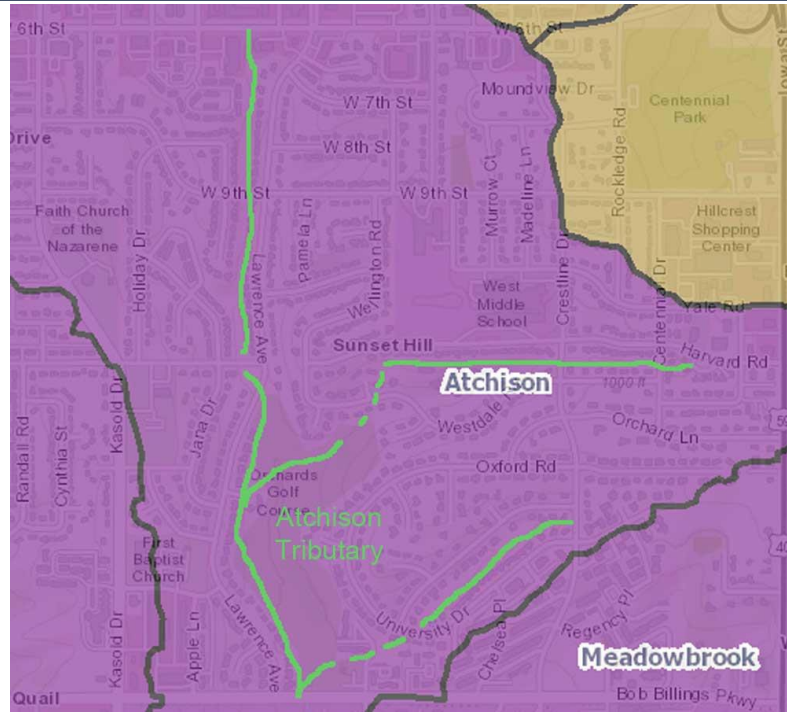
	1	2	3	4	TOTAL	SCORE
▼ Picnic area with three picnic tables, three grills, and sidewalk.	17.11% 13	30.26% 23	32.89% 25	19.74% 15	76	2.45
▼ Community garden with fenced garden space, sidewalk, bench, and water.	30.67% 23	22.67% 17	18.67% 14	28.00% 21	76	2.56
▼ Toddler playground with three pieces of equipment, sidewalk, and two benches.	45.33% 34	28.00% 21	21.33% 16	5.33% 4	76	3.13
▼ Fitness cluster with two or three stations and sidewalk.	7.89% 6	17.11% 13	27.63% 21	47.37% 36	76	1.86

Your neighborhood association worked closely with Hark Hecker at Lawrence Parks & Recreation to select the equipment and choose the best color scheme (Carnival) for this beautiful upgrade. Watch for an email later this fall inviting you to the Ribbon Cutting-Ice Cream Social!

Summer Rains Stress Storm Water Runoff

These last few months have seen one of the wettest springs on record, characterized by heavy rainfalls of 6, 5, and 3 inches. These extremely high volumes of water in short periods of time overwhelmed the city's stormwater management system in some places, resulting in damage to streets, stormwater sewers, and drainage channels throughout the city. In many parts of town, if your basement stayed dry, you were fortunate.

Living Financial
 Solutions Center
 Life Enrichment
 Center
 Manpower
 Mediterranean Market
 & Café
 The Merc Co+op
 Midwest Property
 Management
 Muddy Waters Studio
 Munchers Bakery
 NAPA Auto Parts
 Optometry, F. J.
 Florey, O.D.
 Orchards Drug
 Phoenix Furniture &
 Home Goods
 Point A School of
 Dance
 Pops-N-More
 Prestige Hair Studio
 Property
 Management Services
 Quality Inn Lawrence
 Red Pepper Chinese
 Restaurant
 Reuschhoff
 Automobiles
 Dr. Robert Werner,
 Chiropractor
 Royal Crest Lanes
 Salon Renew
 The Scone Lady's
 Coffee Shop
 Scotch Cleaners
 Screen Express
 The Selection Autos
 Sew Forth
 Shelter Insurance
 Sizzors
 Sonic Drive-in
 Southern Accent
 Catering
 The Spectacle
 Stephens Insurance
 Stephens Real Estate
 Stoneback Appliance
 Stuart Chiropractic
 Sue Mulcahey, D.C.,
 Chiropractor
 Sunflower Natural Pet
 Supplies
 Sunflower Rentals
 Sunset West Laundry
 The University
 National Bank
 VA Medical Center
 Virginia Inn Suites
 Waddell & Reed
 Walgreens
 Watson's Barbershop
 Wayne & Larry's



The southwest 80 percent of Sunset Hill is in the watershed of the Atchison Tributary of Yankee Tank Creek. The headwaters of the Atchison Tributary are behind Conroy's Pub, south of 6th between Lawrence avenue and Kasold.

The Atchison Tributary flows (when it rains) through Orchard's Gold Course, and joins Yankee Tank near where Kasold turns east to 31st Street. Yankee Tank Creek joins the Wakarusa just south of the South Lawrence Trafficway at what would be Lawrence Avenue.

Only the northeast 20 percent of Sunset Hill, including Centennial Park and Hillcrest Shopping Center, drains to the Centennial Tributary and then to the Kansas River.

Houses along the drainage channels in Sunset Hill are vulnerable to high water. These include homes north and south of the Harvard Trench, and houses on the north and south side of Stratford Trench, on Stratford and University Drive in the 2600 - 2900 blocks.

Complicating downpours is the problem of debris on the floor of the trench that floats downstream on rising runoff and blocks stormwater entrances, and stormwater pipes. Some of the debris falls from trees and shrubs, and the city is responsible for keeping this from accumulating. One of our tasks at SHNA is to make certain they do this job. Your president called the city, and Stormwater Engineer David Krause assured him that when the channels dried out this fall, their crews would clear them of debris.

However, individual homeowners can also help keep the system working efficiently by gathering and recycling yard waste before it gets into the stormwater system. That means keeping biomass from your yard from entering both the trench at the rear, and the street in front. Gutters are an important part of the stormwater sewer system, and keeping your gutters clean goes a long way toward keeping the entire system working. Please avoid mowing or raking leaves into the street.

Lawrence has an excellent yard waste recycling and composting system. Please use your brown yard waste container, and cut and bundle tree and

Wakarusa Valley
Credit Union
Westside 66
Yellow Brick Yoga

**Sunset Hill Houses
of Worship**

Christ Community
Church
Christ Covenant
Church
First Baptist Church
Free State of
Lawrence
Immanuel Lutheran
Church
Saint Nicholas
Orthodox Christian
Church
Unity of Lawrence
West Side
Presbyterian Church

Sunset Hill Parks

Centennial Park
Ludlam Park
Quarry Park

Sunset Hill Schools

West Middle School
Sunset Hill
Elementary School

shrub debris. Never throw yard waste (or any type of waste) into drainage channels. If we help the city keep our stormwater channels clean, we will save money and reduce the chance of damage to our homes.

Worshiping in Sunset Hill Neighborhood

Unity Church, located at Ninth and Madeline Lane recently requested and received a zoning change for their building. The City agreed to rezone the lot from RS7 (single family residential) to RSO (single family office). Unity requested the change to allow them to sublease part of the building to appropriate small businesses to supplement their income.

They are currently looking for small businesses, such as day care or small office, to sublease part of the building. The types of businesses that would be allowed to locate in an RSO zone are limited to small, low impact businesses.

Centennial Park Cleanup

The third and final date in 2019 for the SHNA Centennial Park Cleanup is Saturday, October 26, 2019, at 1-2 PM. Mark your calendars! All SH residents are welcome to attend and help out. Wear work clothes, including gloves.

That's it for now!

Enjoy the **dry** fall weather! Thanks for supporting Sunset Hill Neighborhood Association!