

Sunset Hill Neighborhood Association Newsletter

SEPTEMBER 1, 2021

SUMMER EDITION

SHNA Executive Committee

Officers

Gary Webber –
President/Newsletter
Editor

Matthew Paul –
Vice President

John White –
Secretary

Bill Arick –
Treasurer

At-large Members

Jesús Garcia

Dillon Heter

Marlene Merrill

Mariana Nieto

Chris and Betsy
Ostrander

Past President

Jeanne Pees

Contact Us

President

president@sunsethillna.org

785-312-4840

sunsethillna.org/



[Facebook](#)

Notes from the EC

SHNA Executive Committee Meeting

Monday, August 16, 2021, 6:30 pm

Fellowship Hall, Christ Covenant Church, 2312 Harvard Rd

In Attendance: Bill Arick, Dillon Heter, Mariana Nieto, Matthew Paul, Gary Webber

- I. Approve May 24, 2021, minutes: Heter moved to accept, Nieto seconded, passed by acclamation.
- II. Treasurer's Report: Arick reported starting balance of \$1297.77, \$222 mailing expenses, no new members. \$1075.77 ending balance.
- III. Old Business
 1. Lawrence Association of Neighborhoods (LAN) update: In May, Lawrence Front and CENTER presented a collection of design ideas for downtown pedestrian and bicycle facilities. Heatherwood Heights NA announced they are opposing the installation of an Every substation adjacent to their neighborhood. In June, LAN received a presentation by City Transit Staff regarding proposals that will be submitted for KDOT's 2021 Access, Innovation, and Collaboration Grant (AIC). In July Webber reported to LAN regarding the Climate Controlled Mini Warehouse proposal for Centennial and Yale.
 2. Plan for Annual Meeting and Picnic, Saturday, Sept. 18
 - i. Stuff and stamp member invitation letters
 - ii. Volunteer(s) to take apps and \$ for Bill Arick: Nieto volunteered to collect apps and \$
 - iii. Plan for Potluck entrée order and pickup: Paul will order and bring pulled pork for 35. Webber will bring place settings and beverages.
 3. Recruiting new EC members (2) for 2021-2022: No candidates have been willing to serve on the EC. If we are unable to find replacements, we will conduct EC business while continuing to recruit.
 4. Business Membership Drive update: The subcommittee has 20 applications and 5 traffic safety posters each. They will be visiting businesses this fall.

Quick Links

Lawrence Police Department

Non-emergency Dispatch
(785) 832-7509

Neighborhood Resource Officers
(785) 830-7408

Report Traffic Safety Concerns
[Traffic Safety Reporting Tool](#)

City Code Enforcement
(785) 832-3111

[Request City Service Online](#)

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

[Chapter C City Code: Regulation of Animals \(pdf\)](#)

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
- Atma Clinic
- B. A. Green Construction
- Barnes Homes
- Beautiful Music

5. Spring new neighbor packets update: John and Kristy White delivered 17 new neighbor packets and visited with 4 new property owners.
- IV. New Business (Webber)
1. Webber proposed purchasing 4 trash grabbers for \$120 and 4 buckets for \$10 for Centennial cleanup crew. Webber moved to purchase, Paul second, passed unanimously.
 2. Neighborhood Traffic Management Program update
 - i. SHNA Member Survey: 39 responses; Webber will send data from survey to members after closure on Aug. 20.
 - ii. Crash data: Webber will make this available with survey data.
 3. Bus route redesign and Transfer Hub design update: both are ongoing, City Commission decides whether to proceed with suggested design on Aug 17. *(Note: The commission voted to proceed with the Bob Billings facility as designed but deferred the Downtown facility design decision pending further study and input by downtown businesses.)*
 4. Hillcrest Storage Proposal update: City Commission did not initiate a text amendment.
- V. New agenda items from participants
1. Unity Church storm shelter: Paul reported that he has contacted Unity Church and they have provided access to the church during tornado warnings. Paul is finalizing a method to send out emails and text messages to the 10 member households nearest the church.
 2. Set date and time for fall meeting in early December: Monday, Dec. 6, 2021.
 3. Adjourn meeting: Merrill moved to adjourn, Paul seconded, motion passed by acclamation at 8:25 PM.

Sunset Hill Happenings

Please Join Us for the SHNA 2021-2022 Annual Meeting

ANNUAL MEETING

You are cordially invited to join your neighbors for the SHNA Annual Meeting! This year we are combining the Annual Meeting with a Neighborhood Picnic and will hold both outside at the Centennial Park East Shelter on September 18, 2021, 5:30 PM.

As in past years, SHNA will provide a barbecue entrée from Biggs BBQ, plates, utensils, and lemonade. Members should plan on bringing side dishes and desserts. Following our meal we will hold our Annual Meeting, which will include election of new EC members, a questions and answer session, and some "getting acquainted" activities. We are encouraging masks while not eating and

- Belltone Hearing Aid Center
- Biemer's BBQ
- Body Boutique
- [Buckingham Palace Cleaning Services- SHNA Member](#)
- 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
- 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
- Orchards Executive Golf & Footgolf

social distancing. You should have received your invitation in the mail by the time you read this newsletter. [More information about the meeting/potluck here.](#)

Call for Applause Award Nominations

It is time again to nominate our neighbors for the annual SHNA 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 2021-2022 Applause Award recipients will be published in the Winter issue of this newsletter.



Results of the SHNA Traffic Safety Survey

The Lawrence [Neighborhood Traffic Safety Program](#) has been soliciting applicants from among the organized neighborhood associations for the first round of the Traffic Management Pilot Program. SHNA decided not to participate in the pilot program last fall, not because we have no traffic safety issues, but because we have no data on which of several problem areas to address first. Old West Lawrence was selected for the initial pilot study.

To remedy this, the EC asked members to nominate traffic safety problem areas, and then surveyed members to rank the 9 nominated locations. You may [view the data from the survey here](#), along with information from the 2011-2021 [KDOT crash data for our neighborhood](#). You should have received this link in an earlier e-mail.

The three locations that were voted most important to address are:

1. Crestline Drive and Harvard Road at school drop-off and pick-up times where illegally parked cars and backed up traffic make the intersection dangerous,
2. Crestline Dr. from Harvard Rd. to Stratford Rd. where a hill and curve obstruct the vision of motorists from both directions, and
3. Jana Dr. from Holiday Dr. to Harvard Rd. where cars parked on both sides of the street and the absence of sidewalks creates hazards for motorists, pedestrians, and bikers.

This fall, the traffic safety subcommittee will meet to discuss the survey results and prepare to apply for the next round of city funds. If our application is

- Goodcents Deli
- Great Plains Media
- Heartland Meat Market
- Hillcrest Laundromat
- Hillcrest Styling Center
- Hite Collision
- Hi-Q Massage
- In the Zone Pro Shop
- Iowa Massage
- Jade Garden Restaurant
- Jayhawk Nail
- Jayhawk Trophy
- Jazzercise Lawrence
- Joda & Friends
- John R. Hooge, Attorneys at Law P.A.
- Kansas Secured Title
- 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
- Living Financial Solutions Center
- Life Enrichment Center
- Manpower
- Mediterranean Market & Café
- The Merc Co+op
- Midwest Property Management
- Miller & Midyett Real Estate

accepted, the subcommittee will work with city staff to evaluate the chosen location and suggest and implement possible improvements. If you would like to participate in this process, email the president at president@sunsethillna.org.

City Commission Votes Against Code Amendment

You may remember that The Raney Group tried unsuccessfully to rezone the parcel of land at Yale Rd. and Centennial Dr. (currently a parking lot) to build a 54,000 square foot, 3-story climate controlled mini-warehouse.

On [July 6, 2021 they returned to the City Commission](#) with a request to initiate a text amendment to the City of Lawrence Code adding mini-warehouse as a permitted use in a CN2 (neighborhood commercial) and RMO (multi-family residential/office) districts. In other words, if they were not permitted to change the zoning of the parcel to Commercial Strip, they proposed to change the Code to allow their project in all CN2 and RMO districts. Mini-warehouse is currently not a permitted use in these two districts.

The SHNA Executive Committee opposes this amendment to the City Code and sent a letter to the commission asking them to deny the request. In part, our letter stated:

“The owners of Hillcrest Shopping Center are now proposing to amend the Lawrence Land Development Code to allow this project to continue. The SHNA Executive Committee opposes this text amendment. We support an appropriate mixture of commercial and residential uses within and around residential neighborhoods. This amendment would expand the permitted uses of a neighborhood commercial district and a single family residential/office district to include a higher intensity, inappropriate commercial use.”

The City Commission was clear in their opinion of this type of tactic. Commissioner Shipley pulled the request to initiate from the consent agenda, and the commission voted to deny the request to initiate the amendment. The developers could bring the amendment initiation request back at a future meeting. The EC encourages the Raney Group and Paul Werner Architects to find an appropriate parcel in a properly zoned district to build their mini-warehouse.

Business Membership Drive Underway

For the first time in its 30-year history, SHNA is reaching out to the approximately 109 businesses in our neighborhood. EC members Dillon Heter, Matthew Paul, and Gary Webber are currently visiting each business in person and inviting them to become members of SHNA. We currently have two business members, Buckingham Palace on 6th St. and Sew Forth Alterations in Hillcrest Shopping Center. Business members pay \$10 annual dues, receive the quarterly newsletter, may bring issues to the Executive Committee, and may vote at the Annual Meeting.

- Muddy Waters Studio
- Munchers Bakery
- NAPA Auto Parts
- Optometry, F. J. Florey, O.D.
- Orchards Drug
- Point A School of Dance
- Pops-N-More
- Prestige Hair Studio
- Property Management Services
- Quality Inn Lawrence
- Red Pepper Chinese Restaurant
- Dr. Robert Werner, Chiropractor
- Royal Crest Lanes
- Salon Renew
- The Scone Lady Coffee Shop
- Scotch Cleaners
- Screen Express
- The Selection Autos
- [Sew Forth Alterations – SHNA Member](#)
- Shelter Insurance
- Sizzors
- Sonic Drive-in
- Southern Accent Catering
- Stephens Insurance
- Stephens Real Estate
- [Stoneback Appliance – SHNA Member](#)
- Stuart Chiropractic
- Sue Mulcahey, D.C., Chiropractor
- Sunflower Natural Pet Supplies
- Sunflower Rentals
- Sunset West Laundry
- The EyeDoctors Optometrists
- The University National Bank

When we work together, we have more power to protect and enhance Sunset Hill, the square mile within which we live, work, or invest. And because SHNA is a long-time member of the Lawrence Association of Neighborhoods (LAN), we also have a larger voice in important decisions that affect all of Lawrence and Douglas County. The small annual dues of our members make this possible.

Please Welcome our Newest Business Member!

We are proud to welcome our newest business member, Stoneback Appliance! Stoneback Appliance, Lawrence’s only locally owned appliance store, has been in business since 1958. Originally located on Massachusetts St., they moved to 925 Iowa St. in Hillcrest Shopping Center in 2002. Stoneback carries a wide selection of new and used appliances from quality brands like G.E., Whirlpool and KitchenAid. With such a large selection of parts and a knowledgeable sales staff, they provide professional delivery and excellent customer service.

Stoneback Appliance was selected “Best of Lawrence” in appliance repair and appliance shop in 2021, and you can certainly see why from the reviews on their website. You can learn more about them on their:

- Website - <https://stonebackappliance.com/>, or
- Facebook page - <https://www.facebook.com/StonebackAppliance/>

Stoneback has been the only business so far that filled out an application and pulled \$10 from the cash register on our first visit. Thanks to Stoneback Appliance for serving the Lawrence community for over 60 years, and for supporting SHNA!

SHNA Executive Committee Seeks Volunteers

The Executive Committee needs new members! We need to replace outgoing committee members (we will really miss them!) Marlene Merrill and Jesús Garcia. Committee members serve a three-year term, meet four times each year, and attend SHNA events and the Annual Meeting.

The success and continuation of our 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.

Sunset Hill Subdivisions

Many of you may not know that in addition to living, working, or owning property in Sunset Hill, you also live, work, or own property in a subdivision within the neighborhood. These names were given to housing projects by the builders when they were platted and built in the 60s and 70s. For example,

- Tortas Jalisco Mexican Restaurant
- Virginia Inn Suites
- Waddell & Reed
- Walgreens
- Watson's Barbershop
- Wayne & Larry's
- 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

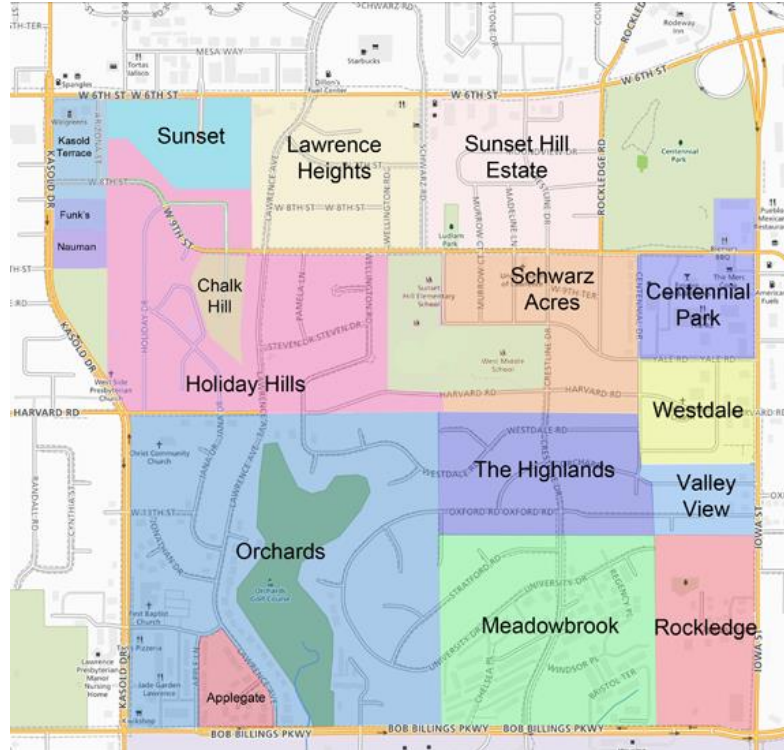
Sunset Hill Parks

- Centennial Park
- Ludlam Park
- Quarry Park

Sunset Hill Schools

- Sunset Hill Elementary School
- West Middle School

your president lives in Schwarz Acres, and our former president, Jeanne Pees, lives in Orchards.



What subdivision do you call home? Check out the map above to find out. Full disclosure: I created this map from the [Lawrence Interactive Map](#), and I can't guarantee that it is error free. If this map is familiar, you may have seen it on the home page of the [SHNA Website](#).

That's all for now.

Enjoy the cooler weather and fall colors!



Thanks for supporting SHNA!