



Sunset Hill Neighborhood Association Newsletter

FEBRUARY 24, 2024

WINTER EDITION

SHNA Executive Committee

Officers

Gary Webber –
President/Newsletter
Editor

Matthew Paul –
Vice President

John White –
Secretary

Bill Arick –
Treasurer

At-large Members

Jon Dunham

James Jordan

David Mucci

Mariana Nieto

Chris and Betsy
Ostrander

Past President

Jeanne Pees

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[Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/sunsethillna)

EC Meeting Draft Minutes – Winter, 2024

SHNA Executive Committee Meeting
Monday, February 12, 2024, 6:30 pm
Via Zoom

Meeting Minutes

In attendance Jon Dunham, James Jordan, David Mucci, Mariana Nieto, Chris Ostrander, Matthew Paul, Gary Webber, John White

- I. Approve [minutes of fall meeting, Nov. 13, 2023](#). Minutes approved by acclamation.
- II. Treasurer’s Report, Jordan reported \$850.79 at last meeting. Received \$40 in dues. Paid LAN dues and Joanie Stone for gift certificates. Current balance \$815.79. So far 8 renewals - \$40, \$30 dollars applause award, LAN Dues.
- III. Old Business, Webber
 1. LAN update: Webber reported that LAN discussions for the quarter included Licensing & Inspection, Air BNB’s, See-Click-Fix/New Re-Imagined, A Place For Everyone-Unhoused People, and Rep for Downtown Transit Steering Committee. Presentations included:
 - i. November: Treni Prescott presentation and discussion of code enforcement and rental licensing.
 - ii. December: Cori Wallace presentations on See-Click-Fix and “A Place for Everyone.”
 - iii. January: Selected representative for Downtown Transit Location Steering Committee and discussed code enforcement and rental licensing and enforcement.
 2. Recruiting one additional EC member and secretary for 2024: Webber reminded participants that they should be recruiting a new EC member and recruiting a secretary. We currently have 8 members and should look for 1 more; the annual meeting might be fruitful for an additional member. The Secretary position is open.
 3. Discuss Christ Covenant Church as venue for fall potluck: CCC is an option for our fall picnic. The Fellowship Hall will seat about 40 and can be used to serve food. We are already supporting CCC with a \$50 annual donation to use the Fellowship Hall 1-2 times per year, so no additional expenditure would be required.

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

(with links to SHNA Members)

- Absolute Pawfection
- Acres Realty
- Advanced Health Center
- Alvin's Wine & Spirits
- Atma Clinic
- B. A. Green Construction

Webber will work on reserving a date. Nieto suggested we add "something fun" and budget friendly.

IV. New Business

1. Discuss agenda of Annual Meeting on April 22, 2024.
 - i. Discuss logistics: Webber asked if Ostrander could bring his sound system as a backup to the cafeteria system.
 - ii. Finalize new officer slate and 1 new EC member: Webber and Paul will continue as Pres. and VP, Jordan will take over as Treasurer, ?????? will serve as Secretary. The EC elects 2024-2025 officers in May.
 - iii. James Chiselom, Executive Director of Lawrence Community Shelter has expressed interest in speaking. Webber will contact and invite.
 - iv. Additional ideas for speakers?
2. Set date for May EC Meeting: Webber recommended Monday evening, May 20, 2024.
3. Set date and reserve venue for September Potluck: Webber suggested Saturday or Sunday, Sept. 21 or 22. KU football is away on Sept. 21. Webber will work CCC to reserve the Fellowship Hall.
4. Donation to Community Mercantile Education Fund: Webber suggested \$50. Approved by acclamation.

V. New agenda items from participants

1. Nieto asked about rumors of a Sam's Club on west Sixth St. Some members had heard similar, but nothing concrete. Nieto commented on left turns into the Merc causing backups and dangerous traffic. Webber stated he has received emails with a similar complaint. Webber will talk to Merc about this.
2. Jordan asked about timing of traffic signals. Webber replied that the arterial signals were are on a 2-minute cycle, but that that can seem like a long time, and can vary with traffic demands.

VI. Set date and time for spring meeting in late May: Monday, May 20, 2024

VII. Meeting adjourned at 7:10 PM.

Neighborhood News

Improving 6th Street, or The Return of the Orange Pylons

The City of Lawrence is watching with anticipation (and for some, dread) as construction work kicks off on various projects along 6th Street. This bustling thoroughfare, which was last repaved over a decade ago, is about to receive a much-needed makeover. Let's delve into the details of what's in store for this vital road and how it will benefit both travelers and residents.



Why the Investment Matters

Maintaining our infrastructure is crucial to prevent further damage and ensure smooth traffic flow. The investment in 6th Street's maintenance aims to address wear and tear, enhance safety, and improve overall accessibility.

- Barnes Homes
- Beautiful Music
- Belltone Hearing Aid Center
- [Body Boutique Fitness – SHNA Member](#)
- [Buckingham Palace Cleaning Services- SHNA Member](#)
- Busey Home Mortgage
- Capitol Federal Savings
- Capitol Agency Insurance
- Central Bank of the Midwest
- [CEK Insurance – SHNA Member](#)
- 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
- 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

Key Projects

1. 6th St. - Mass St. to Iowa St.: This segment will undergo rehabilitation, including street pavement improvements. Expect some traffic impacts as crews work diligently to enhance this stretch.
2. 6th St. - Iowa St. to Folks Rd.: Like the previous section, this area will see pavement rehabilitation. The goal is to create a more durable and reliable road surface.
3. 6th St. - Queens Rd. Traffic Signal Installation: The installation of traffic signals at the intersection with Queens Rd. will enhance safety and streamline movement.
4. 6th St. - Schwarz Rd. ADA Improvements: Accessibility matters. Upgrades to sidewalks, ramps, and crosswalks will ensure that everyone, regardless of mobility, can navigate 6th Street comfortably.
5. 6th and K-10 Interchange Modernization: The Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) is spearheading a significant project at the interchange of 6th Street (U.S. Highway 40) and Kansas Highway 10. The existing interchange will transform into a diverging diamond, a design known for its safety benefits. The project aims to improve traffic flow and alleviate congestion during peak hours.



Sidewalk north of 6th near Schwarz Rd.

Stay Informed

[As construction progresses, stay informed by signing up for weekly traffic alerts and exploring interactive construction maps on the City of Lawrence’s website.](#)

Whether you’re a commuter, a resident, or a curious observer, these updates will keep you in the loop.

Remember, patience during construction is key. Soon, Lawrence will boast a revamped 6th Street, ready to serve our community for years to come!

Starbucks Nears Completion



Lawrence coffee enthusiasts, rejoice! A new Starbucks is on the horizon, set to grace the corner of Sixth Street and Crestline Drive. The aroma of freshly ground beans and the promise of cozy nooks await both caffeine aficionados and casual sippers.

The Location

If you’re a longtime Lawrence resident, you might remember this spot as the former home of the Cadillac Ranch, a country music bar. Now, it’s transforming into a vibrant coffee hub. Picture a 2,200-square-foot coffee shop with a drive-thru and patio seating—perfect for those grab-and-go mornings or leisurely afternoons.

- Free State Insurance
- 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
- 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

Stay Tuned

As construction progresses, keep an eye out for the iconic green mermaid logo. Soon, the corner of Sixth and Crestline will hum with the sound of espresso machines and lively conversations. Lawrence, your coffee fix is about to get even better!

Whether you're a latte lover, a chai devotee, or a straight-up black coffee purist, this new Starbucks promises something for everyone. Mark your calendars, Lawrence—it won't be long now!

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Facilities Make Progress

Two large projects, one in Sunset Hill and one just north of 6th Street and east of Rockledge Rd. have received city approval and are moving forward. Here is a short summary of the projects.

I. A Transformative Project

Local businessmen David Hawley, co-owner of Papa Keno's pizzeria, and Aaron Thakker, owner of a Eudora-based construction company, have filed plans to convert the Super 8 motel into a drug and alcohol treatment center.

The Vision

The proposed facility aims to provide comprehensive care for individuals struggling with addiction. Here are the key features:

1. **Extended Care:** The center will offer an extended stay, typically around 28 days, during which patients will receive a range of treatments—from medical detox to counseling and therapy.
2. **12-Step Recovery Program:** The foundation of the program will be the 12-step recovery program, known for its effectiveness in changing lives. Both Hawley and Thakker have personal connections to addiction recovery, making this project deeply meaningful to them.
3. **Professional Administration:** The facility will be professionally managed, ensuring high-quality care for patients. Other investors are also involved in the project.

Addressing a Gap

Lawrence currently lacks sufficient treatment centers for substance abuse. Many individuals seeking help end up on waitlists at facilities in Kansas City or Wichita. This new center aims to fill that gap and provide accessible, local care.

II. A Beacon of Hope for Recovery

Bert Nash Community Mental Health Center, a stalwart in Lawrence's mental health landscape, is embarking on an ambitious project. By early to mid-2025, they plan to unveil a 24-unit supportive housing complex—a beacon of hope for individuals grappling with both homelessness and behavioral health disorders.

The Vision

Bert Nash envisions a space that combines an apartment complex with an office. Located near the intersection of Sixth Street and Rockledge Road, this 43,000-square-foot facility will serve a dual purpose.

- Midwest Property Management
- Miller & Midyett Real Estate
- 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 – SHNA Member](#)
- 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

Office Space: The bottom floor will house staff members, including case managers and outreach coordinators. These dedicated professionals won't be confined to the office; they'll actively engage with tenants within the facility.

Single-Room Units: The top floor will feature 24 single-room units. These apartments are designed for individuals with low or no income who also grapple with serious mental illness. Qualifying residents will benefit from voucher-based housing subsidies.

Community Integration

Beyond bricks and mortar, Bert Nash aims to foster community integration. The complex will include a courtyard, a parking area, and room for future expansion. Plans even envision an additional building adjacent to Sixth Street, housing 12 more units of supportive housing.

The Journey Ahead

While the vision is clear, the journey requires substantial financial support. Donors, the state of Kansas, and local governments will play pivotal roles in turning this vision into reality. If all goes according to plan, residents could begin moving in as early as 2025.

Bert Nash's commitment to mental health care extends beyond clinical walls. With this housing project, they're bridging the gap between mental well-being and stable housing. Lawrence, get ready for a brighter future—one where compassion meets concrete!

Neighborhood Traffic Management Program Update

Changes have been proposed for a four-year-old program that is designed to improve traffic safety on local streets within Lawrence neighborhoods. Following a meeting in August of Neighborhood Association representatives and the Multi Modal Transportation Commission, city staff proposed changes to the program that would allow smaller projects to be considered and make selecting projects more efficient.



Here is a summary of the major proposed revisions:

- Simplified "Statement of Interest" and "Statement of Support" forms to replace the previous application form and process
- Staff support to meet with stakeholders after the statement of interest to review available data, identify concerns and define the project footprint
- An initial data collection and evaluation process to determine if the project meets the thresholds in the policy for traffic calming treatments
- Defined public engagement steps in the process that will be led by staff, including MMTC recommendation
- Established a finite timeline and number of iterations for the installation, evaluation and removal of temporary traffic calming devices

- The EyeDoctors Optometrists
- The University National Bank
- 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

This document describes the process neighborhood associations and smaller groups of residents will follow to request traffic management improvements under the updated program: <https://lawrenceks.civicweb.net/document/403444>.

The next step is to present the proposed changes to the City Commission for their approval.

SHNA News

Volunteers Needed

The SHNA Executive Committee is currently looking for two volunteers for open positions on the committee. These include:

1. EC at-large member. The committee meets 4 times annually for no more than an hour. The term of service is three years.
2. SHNA Secretary. The Secretary records the minutes of the four EC meetings and the Annual meeting. The term of service is three years.

If you think you might be interested in supporting SHNA by volunteering for one of these positions, contact Gary Webber at president@sunsethillna.org.

[Learn more about the SHNA Executive Committee here.](#)

Online Dues Payment is Up and Running!

Thanks to you bold pioneers who renewed your SHNA membership online! Every time a member renews or joins online, SHNA saves nearly \$2 in postage, paper, printing, and envelopes, and lightens the load of our Treasurer. With over 100 members, and a skimpy budget, these savings really add up fast!

If you would like to help SHNA by renewing or enrolling online, simply follow the link below to our "join" web page and follow the instructions. Thanks again for supporting SHNA!

<https://sunsethillna.org/join-shna/>

SHNA Annual Meeting scheduled for April 22, 2024

Spring is just around the corner, and it will soon be time for the SHNA Annual Meeting. This year the meeting is scheduled for:

Monday April 22, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.
West Middle School Cafeteria
2700 Harvard Rd, Lawrence, KS 66049

You will receive an emailed invitation with an agenda around the first of April. Please try to attend if you can. This is your opportunity to learn more about your neighborhood association and ask questions about what is happening in Sunset Hill.

That's all for now. Enjoy this unusually warm winter, and we'll see you at the Annual Meeting!



Thanks for supporting SHNA!