

Sunset Hill Neighborhood Association Newsletter

SEPTEMBER 14, 2024

SUMMER EDITION

SHNA Executive Committee

Officers

Gary Webber –
President/Newsletter
Editor

Matthew Paul –
Vice President

Joanie Stone –
Secretary

James Jordan –
Treasurer

At-large Members

Jon Dunham

David Mucci

Mariana Nieto

Chris and Betsy
Ostrander

John White

Past President

Jeanne Pees

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[Facebook](#)

EC Meeting Draft Minutes – Summer, 2024

SHNA Executive Committee Meeting
Monday, August 19, 2024, 6:30 pm
Christ Community Church

Attending members were Gary Webber, James Jordon, Joan Stone, Mariana Nieto, Jon Dunham, and David Mucci. The guests present were Stephen Mason and Kady Carson. The May 13, 2024 Spring meeting minutes were approved.

- I. Presentation: Stephen Mason, City Transportation Planner, presented The Lantern Walk activity scheduled for October 9th, 2024, 6:30 PM. October is National Pedestrian Safety Month. Sunset Hill / 9th Street is a good mixed-use neighborhood for this event. Mr. Mason has been in touch with the Principals from Sunset Hill and West Middle School to coordinate this event. Mason will write up a message describing the event, requesting volunteers and also encourage people to walk. Webber will email the Lantern Walk Information to the neighborhood. There will be a rain date option. Mason is planning to coordinate this activity with the schools.
- II. Presentation: Kady Carson, West Middle School Principal, introduced herself. West Middle School has new school hours this year. The traffic during school drop off and pick up has always been a problem. They have communicated with parents and do try their best to help with the flow of traffic. Carson will share the Lantern Walk Information with the West families when received.
- III. Treasurer’s Report was presented by James Jordan and approved.
- IV. Old Business
 1. LAN update: Gary Webber presented a LAN update. No changes have been made regarding the proposed change from the current minimum off-street parking requirement for new construction to no minimum parking requirement. This is a concern in the neighborhood. LAN has recommended a minimum be retained. Code enforcement is understaffed and has minimal supervision (Code Enforcement is complaint based). The brick sidewalk replacement policy was discussed. In the “Area of Permission”, brick sidewalks can be voluntarily replaced.

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

2. The fall potluck is tentatively scheduled for September 21, 2024. Webber suggested that given the recent surge in COVID and moving from outside to inside warrants discussion of this event. The Lantern Walk is a great community event that will include all ages. A motion by Nieto to cancel this event and 2nd by Mucci was approved by all members.
3. In 2025 the Park Cleanup Manager, Phyllis Farrar, will need to be replaced. A new coordinator is needed if we continue to adopt cleaning Centennial and Ludlam Parks.
4. In 2025 Gary Webber, current SHNA President, is planning to retire from this position. Gary would like to remain active on the board and has offered to continue managing the website.

V. New Business

1. Update on Centennial Park Cleanup. A general discussion on the park concluded that the park is fairly clean but does have a few campsites concentrated in one area of the park. A significant amount of trash is located by the drainage ditch and this information has been reported to the city. This park is on the city's list to review campsites and clean up. A picture was shared of needles and syringes found under some bushes. A few local people will be invited to help us with park clean up, Amy Brockman, Live, Love Lawrence Facebook Site Manager, Adam Aldritt and Autumn Jones Bishop.
2. SHNA has submitted the completed application to the Neighborhood Traffic Management Project Division regarding the danger on Crestline/Orchard/Oxford and the blind spot and traffic speed. The dangerous blind spot needs to be addressed. Mike Malone gathered over 80 signatures. We are waiting for their consideration of the application.
3. The topic of striping and new left turn signal on Crestline was reviewed by Webber. The "Light Cabinet" at the intersection of Bob Billings and Crestline has been updated to include a designated turn signal. Crestline has been striped from Bob Billings to 9th.
4. An SHNA member who lives adjacent to Centennial Park wished for the association to report to all members about homeless crime in the park. We will review this topic next meeting.

VI. New agenda items for our November 18th ZOOM meeting

1. Gutter deterioration.
2. Centennial Park Crime Committee. Mariana Nieto will contact Amy Brockman, Live, Love Lawrence Facebook Site Manager, Adam Aldritt and Autumn Jones Bishop and invite them to our next meeting.

- VII. Mariana Nieto asked if Officers of the SHNA Board had to be residing or owning property. Gary Webber reviewed the bylaws, and it was determined that:

- 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
- 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
- Goodcents Deli

"Any person residing or owning property within that area of the City of Lawrence, Kansas, defined above, 18 years of age or older, and whose dues are paid, shall be a member." So SHNA regular members must live or own property in SH. We have 83 regular members.

"The Executive Committee shall consist of nine regular members elected by the general membership, plus any ex officio officers". EC members must be regular SHNA members.

"Regular members of the Executive Committee shall be elected for all open positions at the annual membership meeting each year. A slate of nominees from the Executive Committee shall be included in the written notice for the meeting, but nominees can also be proposed from the floor." The members elect 3 new EC members plus any additional open EC positions at the Annual Meeting.

"Officers shall be elected by the Executive Committee at a special meeting to be held immediately after the annual membership meeting. In the event of a vacancy in any office, a replacement officer shall be elected by the Executive Committee and shall serve out the remaining term of office. Officers shall serve for three years, or until the election of their successors. Upon election, any officers who are not already members of the Executive Committee shall become ex officio voting members of the Executive Committee for the durations of their terms of office." The EC elects the officers to 3-year terms. Nowhere in the bylaws does it state that officers must be SHNA members. Therefore, as I read the bylaws, the answer to Mariana's question is no, officers are not required to be members of SHNA or members of the EC. If they are not members of the EC when elected, they become voting, ex officio members of the EC.

VIII. The date of November 18th fall Zoom meeting is set.

IX. Adjourned meeting at 8:30 PM.

SHNA News

Crestline Traffic Calming Application Submitted

SHNA and neighbors on and near Crestline Drive have applied to the second round of the Neighborhood Traffic Management Program. The first round addressed traffic issues in Old West Lawrence neighborhood. Traffic circles and speed humps are currently being installed in Old West Lawrence, and completion is scheduled for next year.

The application submitted by SHNA stated that vehicles on Crestline were speeding, and that the hill between Orchard Rd. and Oxford Ln. on Crestline, plus a turn in the street north of Oxford, created visibility issues for motorists. These issues made this stretch of Crestline dangerous for pedestrians, cyclists, and vehicle drivers.

- Great Plains Media
- Happy Hour Liquor
- Heartland Meat Market
- Hillcrest Laundromat
- Hillcrest Styling Center
- Hite Collision
- In the Zone Pro Shop
- Jade Garden Restaurant
- Jayhawk Nail
- Jayhawk Trophy
- Jazzercise Lawrence
- 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 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
- Muddy Waters Studio
- Munchers Bakery

SHNA member Mike Malone gathered 67 signatures in support of this application, and two area businesses signed statements of support. City staff will review the applications received in this round and notify applicants of their decision at a future date.

SHNA Membership has been Declining

Starting in 2019, membership in SHNA has been on the decline. Here are the total membership numbers for the last few years:

- 2019 – 145 members
- 2020 – 134
- 2021 – 96
- 2022 – 97
- 2023 – 95
- 2024 – 85

I think it would be safe to assume the pandemic had some effect on membership numbers, but there has not been any improvement in the downward trend since then. The Executive Committee has not delivered flyers announcing the Annual Meeting since 2020, which may have cost us new members. The EC will continue to discuss and address this reduction in our membership numbers.

Centennial Park Cleanup Report

The third Centennial Park clean-up for 2024 is scheduled for Saturday, October 19, at 1 p.m. Volunteers are asked to bring one trash bag or 5-gallon bucket. Wear sturdy shoes and gloves. Meet in the south parking lot (on 9th street next to Bucky's drive-in) for instructions. This chore will last approximately 1 hour. For further information, contact Phyllis Farrar, 785-272-0818.

Neighborhood News

Crestline Improvements

The city has responded to SHNA complaints and traffic changes with two improvements to Crestline Drive. The first is a renewal of the dashed yellow line between Bob Billings and 9th St. Neighbors were complaining that the line had worn away and cars were cresting the hill in the center of the street.

The second improvement was an upgrade to the traffic signals at the intersection of Crestline and Bob Billings. Drivers complained that there was no green light for left turn only on Bob Billings at this intersection, and that visibility was limited when trying to make a left turn onto Crestline while eastbound on Bob Billings. The city had planned to upgrade the signals before the completion of the Central Station bus depot, but the new traffic signal cabinet was delayed. The new cabinet has been installed, but it is unclear if a left turn green light has been activated.

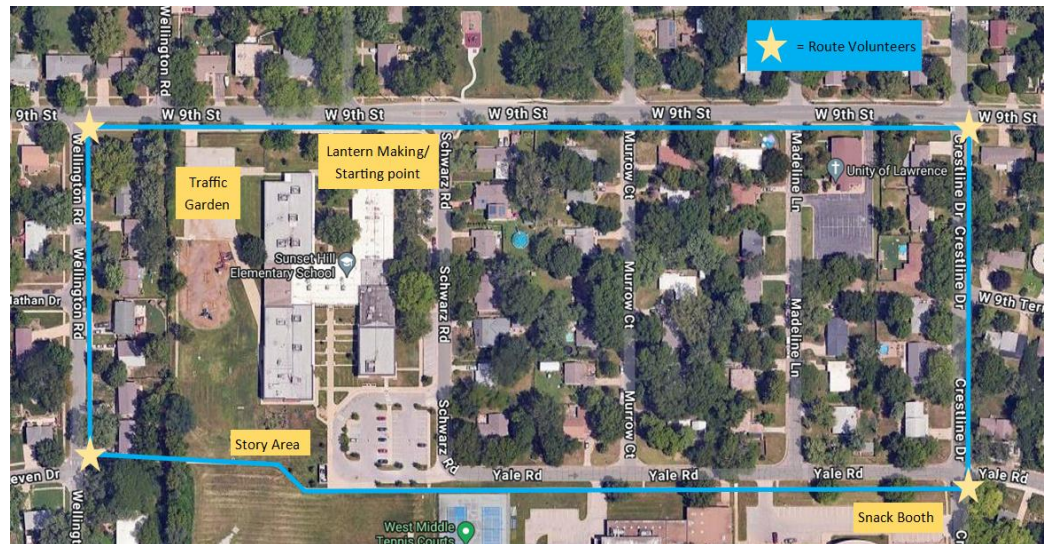
- NAPA Auto Parts
- Optometry, F. J. Florey, O.D.
- Orchards Drug
- Point A School of Dance
- Prestige Hair Studio
- Property Management Services
- Quality Inn Lawrence
- Dr. Robert Werner, Chiropractor
- Royal Crest Lanes
- Salon Renew
- The Scone Lady Coffee Shop
- Scotch Cleaners
- Screen Express
- 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
- Tortas Jalisco Mexican Restaurant
- Virginia Inn Suites
- Waddell & Reed
- Walgreens
- Watson's Barbershop

Pedestrian Safety Event Coming to Sunset Hill

The Safe Routes To School team in partnership with Sunset Hill Elementary is holding Lawrence's first ever Lantern Walk and is looking for your support! The event will be Wednesday, October 9th Starting at 6:30pm. Lantern Walks are a fun and family friendly way to promote pedestrian safety by drawing attention to those who walk in the neighborhood.

There are two ways to participate! Make a Lantern and walk the route; You can either bring a lantern from home or make one with supplies provided on site. Then walk the route at your own pace enjoying activities and snacks along the way.

Or Volunteer! We are looking for a few volunteers to help keep people on the route and lead activities. If you are interested in volunteering, please reach out to Stephen Mason at smason@lawrenceks.org or 785-832-3148. This event is all ages, so even if you don't have a child in school, we'd be happy to have you join and help promote safety for everyone! Below is a route map for the Lantern Walk.



That's all for now. Thanks for supporting SHNA!



- 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