

# Sunset Hill Neighborhood Association Newsletter

## EC Meeting Draft Minutes – Winter, 2025

SHNA Executive Committee Meeting

Wednesday, February 26, 2025, 6:30 pm

Zoom Meeting

Draft Meeting Minutes

- I. Attending members were Gary Webber, James, Jordon, Joan Stone, Mariana Nieto, Jon Dunham, David Mucci, and Matthew Paul. The November 18, 2024, Spring meeting minutes were approved.
- II. Treasurer’s Report was presented by James Jordan and approved.
- III. Old Business
  1. LAN update: Gary Webber presented LAN update. Parking change: one (1) parking space for every residence. Residence change: No more than 4 unrelated residents (reduced from 5). Ongoing discussions regarding brick sidewalks and bicycle path plans.
  2. In 2025 the Park Cleanup Manager, Phyllis Farrar, will need to be replaced. A volunteer was requested. The Committee members discussed, and we will continue to clean Ludlam Park not Centennial. A manager was not designated.
  3. Should SHNA continue to donate to the Merc for the school garden? Matthew Paul moved to approve and Dunham 2nd. Approved.
  4. In 2025 Gary Webber, current SHNA President, will retire from this position. Gary would like to remain active on the board and has offered to continue managing the website. Gary gave a short review of the history of SHNA. The Executive Committee is the governing body for SHNA. General members elect us and we make decisions. No one volunteered to take over the President position. The Vice President, Matthew Paul, acknowledged he would step up to the position if no one volunteered. Mr. Paul has many professional obligations and limited time. A new EC Member is needed. We will see if anyone volunteers during the SHNA Annual Meeting on 4-23-25.
- IV. New Business
  1. We normally invite a City Representative to talk during the annual meeting. Becky Pepper from City Staff was invited to speak about the Land Development Code Update,

however a representative is unable to attend. It was suggested that Sunset Hill residents would enjoy hearing some history of SHNA from Gary Webber and a report on the update to the LDC. Gary agreed to present at the annual meeting.

2. David Mucci volunteered to pass out flyers throughout the neighborhood. Gary agreed this would be helpful and would create a flyer with a QR code for residents to pay their annual due online. Webber, Stone, and Nieto will also help pass out flyers. Joan Stone will put out reminder signs at various spots in the neighborhood.

V. The date of the Annual Meeting is April 23, 2025, at West Middle School. 7:00 p.m.

VI. Next Meeting, Wednesday, May 7, 2025, 6:30 PM, via Zoom. Adjourn meeting.

## **SHNA News**

### **Please Join Us at the 2025 Annual Meeting!**

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

**Wednesday, April 23, 7:00 p.m.**  
**West Middle School Cafeteria**  
**2700 Harvard Rd, Lawrence, KS 66049**

Please enter by the north door adjacent to the auditorium. You will receive an email invitation with an agenda around the first of April. We will also be flyering the neighborhood this year, so look for an invitation in your door.

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. The SHNA President will update attendees on the Land Development Code Update recently approved by the City Commission, and report on our application to the Neighborhood Traffic Safety Program (see article below). We will also be asking participants to volunteer to fill one open position on the Executive Committee. I look forward to seeing you there!

### **Neighborhood Traffic Management Program Update**

Lawrence Municipal Services and Operations hosted an Open House to update the community on the latest round of the Neighborhood Traffic Management Program (NTMP) on Thursday evening, March 6, at the Public Library. Staff were present to discuss the program and report on applications for funding in 2025. You may remember that SHNA and area residents submitted a proposal for funding to slow traffic on Crestline Road between Harvard Road and Bob Billings Parkway.

The city received 25 applications for funding in 2025. They were ranked by several criteria, including; speed limit vs. measured speed, traffic volume, crashes, sidewalks, school crossings, and pedestrian generators. The Sunset Hill application received 78.3 total points, which ranked third highest out of the 25. It also met the speed and volume thresholds which were required for consideration for funding. You can view a summary including criteria, an application flowchart, a listing of all scoring, and a map of projects at <https://lawrenceks.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/NTMP-Poster-Boards-03062025.pdf>.

The next step in the process is to select project(s) based on support, available funding, and staff capacity. Approximately \$175,000 is available for the program this year. The selected projects will then be refined, recommended, evaluated, and finally approved. The refinement stage involves a public survey, establishing a stakeholder working group, gathering additional data, and determining locations and treatment options.

SHNA and area residents have been involved in efforts to make Crestline Rd. safer for several years. Concerns include speeding traffic, children walking to West Middle School and Sunset Hill Elementary, and hills and curves that reduce visibility. We are hopeful that this favorable ranking will make it possible to improve safety of everyone who uses Crestline Rd. Additional information on the NTMP can be found at: <https://lawrenceks.org/mso/safer-speeds/>.

The NTMP is also making more yard signs available for neighborhood residents to display in their yards. You may remember these colorful signs encourage drivers to slow down, stop when needed, and look out for each other. The executive Committee will be distributing signs at the annual meeting. If you are not able to attend, simply email [president@sunsethillna.org](mailto:president@sunsethillna.org) and I will deliver single signs, or sets of three to you at your home. If you want single signs, specify which you would like, and provide your address.

### **Membership Renewal**

It will soon be time to renew your membership to SHNA. SHNA asks members to pay \$5 annual dues for residents and property owners, and \$10 for business owners to support initiatives and administration of the neighborhood association. These dues have not changed since they were established in 1994. Most of the funds generated are used for office supplies and postal fees for an Annual Meeting invitation to members and a neighborhood flyer, and \$50 annual donations to West Middle School, Sunset Hill Elementary, and the Community Mercantile Education Foundation. We also provide \$25 grants for block parties when requested.

Last year SHNA upgraded our membership dues options to include online dues payment via Zeffy. This has proven to be a popular and convenient option for members and saves

SHNA money and time. One very helpful option is the ability to set up an autopay order that pays your dues automatically at the end of March each year. If you selected this option last year, you will be receiving an email from Zeffy reminding you that your dues will be paid automatically on March 31. If you paid with Zeffy but did not select auto-renew, you will be receiving an email from Zeffy asking you to renew your membership. If you would prefer, you can use the renewal form on the Annual Meeting invitation letter to renew, or renew at the Annual Meeting with a check or cash.

Whichever way you chose, we hope that you will renew in 2025! Your dues keep the NA running, and enables the Executive Committee to pursue initiatives on your behalf and communicate with members. Thanks for your support!

## **Neighborhood News**

### **Helpful Apps**

The City of Lawrence is working hard every day to keep our city safe, clean, and moving forward. You can help by reporting problems with streets or properties in Sunset Hill and using solid waste and recycling services correctly. The city has created two apps that help you do just that.

The first is called “Lawrence Waste & Recycling” and is available for free from the Play Store for Android and from the Apple App for Apple. The app provides garbage and recycling schedules and reminders for the City of Lawrence. You can view your garbage and recycling schedule and receive collection notifications all from within this app. Since recycling is only collected every other week, this app helps you know what bins to place on the curb. If you prefer the Web, you can view this information at the city trash collection page at: <https://lawrenceks.org/swm/trash/>.

As you undoubtedly know it is again pothole season in Lawrence. The city provides two main methods to request pothole repair, and also ask for other city services. The first is the “SeeClickFix” app, available from Apple App and the Play store. The SeeClickFix app is a powerful mobile platform for collectively improving cities and counties. Take a photo of a pothole or other problem, describe the location with an address or intersection, and hit submit. The request is then sent to Lawrence Municipal Services and Operations for resolution. You will be notified via email when the request is received, and again when it is resolved.

The second way to request a city service is to use SeeClickFix on your web browser. For the link and more information about city services, please visit the city web page at: <https://lawrenceks.org/request-services/>.

## **One More Awesome App**

You may not know it, but Lawrence has one of the finest bus systems in the Midwest. For the second year, bus service is free to all riders, and the biannually updated routes are busy. Lawrence now has five quiet, efficient all-electric buses in its fleet with more expected every year.

The bus just makes sense:

- No driving in busy traffic,
- No need to search and pay for a parking spot,
- Reduced gasoline and maintenance bills,
- Read or listen to a podcast (with headphones) as you travel,
- Warm in the winter and cool in the summer.

To make using the bus easier, the city has adopted the “Transit” app this year. The Transit app is used in over 800 cities and is quick and easy to use. Riders simply input their destination, and the app will suggest the best route options. Select your choice, click on “GO” and the app will tell you when you need to leave your current location to walk to the bus stop, provide audible cues when the bus approaches, and prompt when you should exit or transfer. You can even see where the bus is on its route so that you will know how long you will need to wait at the stop.

The current round of route updates has added a new route (3) that connects Sunset Hill with Downtown. What are you waiting for? Download “Transit” and get started today!

In other Transit news, the city has adopted a downtown bus transfer station plan that locates the downtown station where there is currently a parking lot on the northeast corner of 8th and Vermont. Construction is planned for 2025.

**That’s all for now. Thanks for supporting SHNA!**