

2025 Annual Meeting Draft Minutes

Wednesday, April 23, 2025, 7:00 PM

West Middle School Cafeteria

2700 Harvard Rd, Lawrence, KS 66049

- I. Gary Webber welcomes attendees and introduces SHNA Executive Committee members. Members in attendance: Jon Dunham, James Jordan, David Mucci, Marianna Nieto, Matthew Paul, Joan Stone, Gary Webber.
- II. Treasurer's Report was given by James Jordan and approved.
- III. Minutes of 2024 Annual Meeting were accepted.
<https://sunsethillna.org/2024/05/01/annual-meeting-minutes-2024/>
- IV. New Business:
 1. Election of Nominations to 2025-2026 SHNA Executive Committee:
 - a. Gary Webber to serve an addition 3-year term on the committee (not as President).
 - b. Betsy and Chris Ostrander to serve an additional 3-year term.
 - c. Nomination of Rusty Monhollon to replace John White to serve a 3-year term. Motion to elect the slate from Dunham, seconded by Paul, passed unanimously.
 2. Gary Webber presented a summary of SHNA Executive Committee Actions for 2024
 - d. Nine (9) Applause Awards were presented in 2024:
(<https://sunsethillna.org/2025/01/10/applause-award-winners-2024/>)
 - e. SHNA published a newsletter quarterly
 - f. Centennial Park and Ludlam Park were cleaned 3 times by volunteers. We will no longer clean Centennial Park until housing issues are addressed by the city. We will continue to clean Ludlam Park.
 - g. Application to Neighborhood Traffic Management Program to calm traffic on Crestline between 9th Street and Bob Billings was submitted and ranked by the city. We ranked third out of 25 applications.
 - h. \$50.00 donations were given to Sunset Hill Elementary, West Middle School' and Community Mercantile Education Foundation
 - i. Worked with Municipal Services & Operations to advocate for street maintenance and traffic safety.
 - j. "Welcome Neighbor" packets were delivered to 27 new property owners

- k. Gary Webber attended the monthly Lawrence Association of Neighborhoods (LAN) meetings. A brief description of what LAN does and guidelines were given
 - l. Committee members hand delivered Sunset Hill Neighborhood Association 2025 Annual Meeting flyers.
 3. Webber was thanked by the members for his time as president and the wonderful accomplishments he has made for SHNA.
 4. Gary Webber presented: review of the SHNA, and a need for a new President, report on the Land Development Code Update and its effect on the community' and detailed history on the SHNA application to the Neighborhood Traffic Management Program and distribution NTMP Yard Signs.
- V. Questions from participants:
 1. Can we reapply for the Traffic management request? Yes, but our application will be re-ranked.
 2. What are the SHNA Boundaries? Iowa, Bob Billings, 6th Street & Kasold
 3. Do we have an assigned police officer? Yes, LPD has a public relations officer.
 4. How can we request sidewalk repair? Gary provided information regarding the SeeClickFix app the City of Lawrence has for various service requests such as sidewalks, potholes, stormwater issues, curb & gutter, spills, sewer odors, traffic sign requests, water quality issues, sinkhole issues.
Community members can access an online request for city services at: <https://lawrenceks.org/request-services/>
 5. The sidewalk leading to Sunset Hill Elementary was mentioned as needing repair. Rainwater runoff has eroded the soil on the south side of the sidewalk. Webber will request repair.
 6. A member asked if we had a directory for all residents in the SHNA. No, we do not, this may be a privacy issue.
- VI. Adjourn meeting at 8:00 PM.

EC Meeting Draft Minutes – Spring, 2025

SHNA Executive Committee Meeting

Wednesday, May 7, 2025, 6:30 pm

Via Zoom

Draft Meeting Minutes

- I. Members in attendance via Zoom: Jon Dunham, James Jordan, David Mucci, Matthew Paul, Joan Stone, Gary Webber and guests, Nadine Button and Ms. Cook.
- II. Minutes of the winter meeting, March 7, 2025, accepted and approved by acclamation.
- III. Treasurer's Report, presented by James Jordan, approved.
- IV. Old Business
 1. LAN update given by Gary Webber. Description of how LAN is transparent about the process and guidelines. Citizens can connect with LAN for land development codes.
- V. New Business
 1. Elect 2025 officers for a 3-year term. Gary shared a summary of the current executive committee. No person has volunteered to be President. Joan moved to elect the current officers without a President. David Mucci 2nd.
 2. Nadine Button and Ms. Cook described the parking situation on Jana Drive and concern for safety. Gary had previously sent them an email with details regarding guidelines, violations and the process to report violations. Gary gave a brief description of this process and the 48-hour violation (MSO-EOD.org).
 3. Matthew Paul asked the committee to review the officer election again and discuss it. Matthew agreed to accept the position of President rather than have no President for this committee. Matthew Paul made a motion to re-elect the officers with him in the President position. James Paul 2nd – all approved.
 4. A date of Wednesday, August 27, 2025, via Zoom was set for the next meeting.
 5. Meeting adjourned.

SHNA News

Welcome Rusty Monhollon to the Executive Committee!

At the 2025 Annual meeting in April, Rusty Monhollon volunteered to serve on the executive committee (EC) and was elected as a member-at-large. Thanks so much to Rusty and all the EC members for volunteering their time to serve our neighborhood!

In the May meeting of the Executive Committee, a new slate of officers was elected. The new officers are:

- Matthew Paul, President
- James Jordan, Treasurer
- Joanie Stone, Secretary

None of the members of the Executive Committee were able to serve as Vice President. If any resident of Sunset Hill is willing to serve as Vice President of SHNA, they are encouraged to contact Matthew Paul, SHNA President, at president@sunsethillna.org.

Crestline Drive Selected for Neighborhood Traffic Management Program

City of Lawrence Municipal Services and Operations (MSO) has announced that Crestline Drive between 9th Street and Bob Billings Parkway has been selected for the second Neighborhood Traffic Management Program (NMTP) project.

SHNA and area residents have been involved in efforts to make Crestline Dr. 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 pleased that MSO has selected Crestline for safety improvements. Additional information on the NTMP can be found at: <https://lawrenceks.org/mso/safer-speeds/>.

Most of the neighborhood will receive a postcard in the next two weeks, inviting public comment. **All Sunset Hill residents are encouraged to learn more about the proposed project and, if you wish, comment on the input form on the community engagement web page: <https://www.lawrenceks.org/community-engagement/crestline/>. The deadline for comments is July 13th.**

If you have any questions, please contact Matthew Paul, SHNA President at president@sunsethillna.org.

Camps in Centennial Park to be Closed in August

SHNA recently reached out to Misty Bosch-Hastings, Director of the City Homeless Solutions Division, about the unsanctioned camps in Centennial Park. Trash in the northeast sector of the park has become a major problem. Misty replied that the city has been working with the Kansas Dept. of Transportation (KDOT) who owns the land bordering the northeast corner of the park. Tentative plans are to relocate the current park residents as part of a larger initiative to house campers throughout the city starting 8/15/2025. Watch for a follow-up article in the August newsletter.

Funds for Block Parties are available

Many SHNA members may not realize that the neighborhood association provides funds for block parties upon request. SHNA provides up to \$25 to encourage small groups of neighbors to get together periodically to renew friendships and discuss issues that affect them. Groups interested in organizing a block party should email a proposal to Matthew Paul, SHNA President, at president@sunsethillna.org.

SHNA Donates Bench for Bus Stop near Community Mercantile

Last year SHNA member Gary Webber built the first prototype of a bus bench designed by KU Architecture students and donated it to Lawrence Transit on behalf of SHNA. That bench was recently installed, along with a metal canopy, bike parking, and trash container, at the bus stop on 9th street just northwest of the Community Mercantile grocery store.

A Ribbon Cutting ceremony for the upgraded bus stop was held on Tuesday afternoon, June 24, at 4:00 p.m. Neighborhood residents and City and Transit staff met to celebrate SHNA's contribution to what has become one of the premier transit systems in the Midwest!

Lawrence Transit offers free rides on all routes through 2025. Your city bus is an excellent way to travel to city destinations in cool comfort with no fee or parking hassles. The handy "Transit" app helps you plan trips and provides information on route options, when to leave your home, the location of the nearest stop, and an estimated arrival time. Check it out today at <https://lawrencetransit.org/>.

Neighborhood News

Neighbors Helping Neighbors: CERT Training and Community Support

Here is a guest article from an SHNA member, Molly Nevius, about her training as a CERT volunteer.

Hello Sunset Hill Neighbors,

I wanted to take a moment to introduce myself and share information about a valuable, free, and local certification training offered through Douglas County Emergency Management. In April, I completed the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training program. This FEMA-supported program teaches the general public how to prepare for and safely respond to emergencies in our neighborhoods. Through this training, I gained hands-on experience in disaster preparedness, fire safety, first aid, search and rescue, and how to assist neighbors in times of crisis.

One of the more valuable parts of the training, for me, was learning simple, practical safety tips that could save lives. Here are three tips that I wanted to pass along to you:

1. Keep a pair of shoes by your bed in case of a fire at night, so you can safely move through your home without stepping on debris or broken glass.
2. Tap the bottom of your fire extinguisher every six months to prevent the insides from hardening and clogging, which could make it useless in an emergency.
3. One of the primary causes of house fires in Douglas County is the use of cheap, old extension cords, especially when they are run under rugs where people walk. It is a good reminder to check your cords, replace old ones, and avoid running them under carpets.

I am available as a neighborhood resource. I am new to Sunset Hills and work a hybrid schedule. As an able-bodied person, I am happy to assist in situations where a neighbor might need extra help — whether it is someone with limited mobility, a person living alone, or anyone facing an emergency. Feel free to save my contact information or reach out if you would like to connect.

I encourage others in our neighborhood to consider joining the next CERT training. It is a great way to meet neighbors, learn life-saving skills, and strengthen our neighborhood's resilience. The next CERT training will take place October 3–5 in Lawrence. You can register at:

<https://www.dgcoks.gov/emergency-management/cert-course-offerings>

To learn more about the CERT program, visit The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) at:

<https://www.dgcoks.gov/emergency-management/community-emergency-response-team>

And check out the article about the CERT training class in the April 2025 Douglas County Newsletter at:

<https://myemail.constantcontact.com/Douglas-County-Newsletter-April-2025.html?soid=1138853145745&aid=UKuMjZ1eLZM>

I look forward to meeting more of you and supporting our wonderful neighborhood!

Warmly,

Molly Nevius

mollynevius@yahoo.com

That's all for now. Stay Cool and Safe!

And thanks for supporting SHNA!