

NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION QUARTERLY PERFORMANCE REPORT

Date	Activity Description	Number of Attendees
February 2008	<p>Meetings: General Meeting on February 12, 2008 February minutes found below</p> <p>Communications: The February / March newsletter is prepared and mailed to members in late January. Email reminder sent to those on email list in early February</p>	14
March 2008	<p>Meetings: General meetings on March 11, 2008</p> <p>Communications: Email reminders of the meeting were sent to those on the email list in early March.</p>	16
April 2008	<p>Meetings: General meeting on April 8, 2008.</p> <p>Communications: Email reminders of the meeting were sent to those on the email list in early April.</p> <p>Park Spring Clean-up: April 26, 2008.</p> <p>Communications: Email reminders were sent to the members on the email list during the week of April 21.</p>	15 36

MINUTES

February 12, 2008

The meeting was called to order by President Craig Comstock at 7:05 p.m., with 14 members present. The treasurer's reports for January and February were read and approved. The January Minutes were read and approved.

Craig reported that, in response to a request from the City's Public Works Department, he had written a letter indicating BCNA's support for the use of Federal funds to build, repair and replace sidewalks in our neighborhood. The sidewalk plan extends outside of our neighborhood into adjoining neighborhoods. Julie Mitchell provided maps showing the areas that would have repair and construction.

It was reported that there are no major changes to the Lawrence flood plain maps.

The City sent proposal forms for the 2009-2014 Capital Improvement Plan to neighborhood associations. Proposals for the current year are due February 29th. Capital improvement projects must have a minimum budget of \$50,000 over a 6 year period. It was decided that we would not be able to put a plan together in the time available, but we will take the next year to research, decide on, and produce a plan for the next year. Andrea Repinsky had proposed work on Brook Creek and landscaping for the park and adjoining Nature Trails as a capital improvement project for our neighborhood. There was a general discussion about landscaping the park and improving the nature trails. Andrea Repinsky and Beth Ann Mansur volunteered to serve on a committee to study this.

It was suggested that a future CDGB Proposal could be the installation of benches along the Brook Creek & Edgewood Park pathways.

Concern was raised about the City mowing the flood control ditch between Haskell and Oregon last July or August. It was noticed that the wildlife habitants disappeared after the mowing. We need to inform the City about this action and ask do it later in the year.

We are asking for ideas for a fund raiser for Brook Creek to purchase items for our neighborhood projects.

It was brought up that the curbing and guttering on Prospect between 13th and Oakhill is in need of repair.

A concern was raised about sewer odor in the area of 1600 block of Bullene was brought up. The odor occurs in the evening hours when no one from the city is on duty to check it. If this continues, we will need to inform the City for resolution.

The Spring Brook Creek Park Clean-up will be on Saturday April 26th beginning at 10 AM and concluding when everyone decides to quit. Julie Mitchell will obtain items for lunch. The cold/rain day is May 3rd, also at 10 AM.

The next meeting is Tuesday March 11, 2008 at 7 PM... The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM.

March 8, 2008

These minutes are a combination of the information in preparatory material sent out to the email list before the meeting (thanks to information from Michael Almon and Craig Comstock), what happened at the meeting, and what has happened in some instances since the meeting. Information that has become available since the meeting is in *italics*. The meeting was called to order by President Craig Comstock at 7:05 pm with 16 people in attendance. The treasurer's report was read and approved. There were 3 substantial issues to be considered at this meeting. They were:

1) The Lawrence **Community Shelter** (LCS) wants to buy Dean Penny's building at 13th & Oregon, and simultaneously have the City change zoning regulations to allow them to have a homeless shelter there (or in ANY industrially zoned district). Dean Penny's property is zoned industrial. This shelter has the potential to be even more disruptive to our community than the Salvation Army one, because it is a drop in, short term, transient shelter (the SA shelter was to be for long term family rehab, job training, etc., as well as a soup kitchen). If the neighborhoods could stop the zoning amendment that would allow a shelter in any industrial zone, it would prevent the LCS from locating at 13th & Oregon

Loring Henderson, LCS director attended our meeting and gave a presentation about what they hoped to do. LCS is attempting to move from 214 W. 10th (downtown) to 13th and Oregon (850 E. 13th), which is across the west edge of our neighborhood. He provided information about zoning, building requirements, and access to services needed for LCS and its clients. He also spoke about the operation of LCS and the services that they provide. He said that LCS is an emergency shelter and clients are referred to other agencies for long term housing and services. After Mr. Henderson's presentation, the membership agreed that the 13th & Oregon location was not a good one for the clients LCS serves, that the proposed area was not good for the adjoining neighborhoods, and that we would oppose a change in the zoning for that area.

2) **1300 Haskell Ave.** (Bennie & Ethyl Stewart home) is for sale. This is one of the three historic homes of "Haskell Row," along with 1320 Haskell Ave. and 1340 Haskell Ave. These three homes were designed and built around 1870 by John G. Haskell, the renowned State of Kansas Architect. He designed many noteworthy buildings like the Kansas State House, Douglas County Courthouse, the old Fraser Hall, Snow Hall, United Presbyterian Church, First Methodist Church, and many more. John Haskell lived at 1340 Haskell. Dudley Haskell, John's brother, lived at 1320 Haskell, and Elizabeth French, John's sister, lived at 1300 Haskell with their mother, Almira Haskell.

Because of our concerted effort in 1998, with Bennie's help, we petitioned the City Commission to down-zone 4½ square blocks of Brook Creek Neighborhood from apartment to single family zoning. This zoning change included 1300 Haskell Ave. None of us want to see these efforts vaporize if a new buyer tries to rezone this large lot for multi-family or commercial use. It was decided that the realtor (and the ultimate buyer) need to be put on notice that we will oppose any zoning change, and they should plan to keep it single family zoning. Because none of these three homes on Haskell Row are on the National Register of Historic Places or the Kansas Register of Historic Places, there is no historic protection there.

Since the meeting, Craig Comstock has been in touch with the realtor, and reports: I had a nice conversation by phone with Harold Marcum, the Broker for the property at 13th & Haskell. He said he continues to get inquiries, and has had a builder inquire previously. That builder apparently found that the infrastructure required (sewer work, etc.) was likely too expensive to make developing worth his while. Harold mentioned that the current zoning is RS-7 and that required 7,000 sq. ft. per lot. Apparently in the old zoning code it was M-3, which was some sort of multi-family classification. I told him I would send him a letter expressing our wish that the property remain more single-family residential than otherwise, that there was a good amount of history involved with the properties on the east side of Haskell and include details of said history.

3) The proposed rezoning of the East Heights School property: Most of our neighborhood is RS-7, and so is the school right now. GPI is a new zoning category in the new, July 1 2007, Zoning Code that was created for public institutions like schools, hospitals, libraries, etc. It's appropriate for East Heights School. But, there are some permitted uses that USD497 could engage in that the neighborhood might want to make sure are never pursued, such as: multi-dwelling structure, mobile home, commercial parking, light wholesale storage & distribution. And, if USD497 ever sells the property, a new owner could pursue these same uses. It was suggested that BCNA write a letter to the Planning Commission saying we never want to these land uses to be allowed on the property, and ask that USD497 to enter into an agreement with BCNA to that effect

Since the meeting, Michael Almon reports contact with the Planning Commission: I spoke with Mary Miller at the Planning Office. She is the planner handling the East Heights School rezoning request from RS-7 to GPI (General Public Institutional). Related to this is another item on the agenda, to initiate a zoning code text amendment to change some of the permitted uses in the GPI zoning district. Mary had put this on the agenda because she had noticed that there were permitted uses in the GPI district that seemed inappropriate to her--the same uses that we are opposed to in a GPI district - manufactured home, mobile home, multi-dwelling structure, commercial parking facility, light wholesale storage & distribution.

I asked her if the rezoning of the East Heights School property should be deferred until the Commission makes a decision on these land uses. She agreed that deferring the rezoning would be wise, so the cart is not before the horse. She wanted to know if we wanted to request the deferral, or if she should request it. We agreed that we would both request the deferral. Brook Creek would make their request in a letter. (See below).

The Brook Creek Park Cleanup is scheduled for April 26th beginning at 10 AM. A lunch will be provided. A rain/cold day is May 3rd also at 10 AM. The meeting was adjourned at 9 PM

April 8, 2008

The meeting was called to order by Vice-President Julie Mitchell at 7:05 PM with 15 people in attendance. The Treasurer's report was read and approved. The minutes were approved as printed in the newsletter.

There was a discussion about the historic Haskell House (1300 Haskell) being for sale. The neighborhood association opposes any change in the zoning from single family. It was discussed that a letter was sent to the realtor informing him of the opposition to any zoning change. It was voted on and approved that the neighborhood association would also oppose any additional curb cuts or significant change to the historic history of the house and property.

There was a discussion about the demolition permit for 1616 E. 15th Street.

The Lawrence Community Shelter (LCS) has requested the city's support in asking for a \$600,000 Federal Grant for purchasing property. LCS has expressed interest in the property at 850 E. 13th (13th & Oregon), which, even though it's not in Brook Creek Neighborhood, it is at the western border of Brook Creek Neighborhood. Brook Creek Neighborhood has previously stated reasons for opposing LCS moving to the area.

The Brook Creek Park Clean-up is scheduled for April 26th at 10 AM. Julie Mitchell obtained bread from Wheatfields Bakery and Dillons and Wal-Mart each donated \$30.00 so lunch could be provided to the volunteers cleaning up the park. Thank You to Wheatfields, Wal-Mart, and Dillons for their donations. The cold/rain day is May 3rd at 10 AM.

It was mentioned that the Hitchcock's new siding looked nice on their house. A concern was mentioned about the fire damaged house at E. 13th.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 PM.

COMMUNICATIONS

3/6/08 Forwarded message:

Severe weather season is just around the corner.

As a part of Severe Weather Awareness Week (March 10 - 14), the statewide tornado drill will commence at 1:30 p.m. on March 11th with a test tornado warning issued by the National Weather Service in Topeka. The backup date for the drill is March 13th. This drill is a great time to practice your severe weather plan at home, school, or work. Attached is the press release that will be going out to the media on Friday regarding Severe Weather Awareness Week and the statewide tornado drill.

If you have any additional questions, please call or e-mail me.

Thanks,

Jillian Blair, Assistant Director, Douglas County Emergency Management

3/6/08

All --

Please mark your calendars and plan to come to the March BCNA meeting: Tuesday, March 11 at 7:00 p.m. at the East Lawrence Recreation Center.

I just received a letter from the Lawrence-Douglas County Metropolitan Planning Office that contains information possibly of interest to Brook Creek Neighborhood. At the next meeting of the Planning Commission (March 24, 2008, 6:30 p.m. in the City Commission Meeting Room at City Hall), they will consider "a request to rezone a tract of land approximately 4.09 acres, from RS-7 (Single-Dwelling Residential) to GPI (General Public and Institutional). The property is located at 1430 Haskell Avenue."

This is the East Heights property. The Planning Commission will give the public the chance to make oral comments on this request at the meeting. If you cannot attend, but have something you wish heard, you can submit written comments no later than 10:00 a.m. on Monday, March 24. You can see a complete legal description of the property at the Planning Office, 6 East 6th Street on Monday-Friday from 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. You can also direct questions about the matter to Mary Miller at 832-3147.

The Planning Commission's mailing address is: P.O. Box 708; Lawrence, KS 66044.

Again, please plan to attend the BCNA monthly meeting on the 11th. (And don't forget that Daylight Savings Time starts on March 9).

4/8/08

All --

BCNA has its monthly meeting tonight at 7:00 p.m. at the East Lawrence Recreation Center. More community shelter business (among other things) to discuss. Please try to make the meeting if you're not already planning to attend the City Commission's discussion of the Community Shelter's plans for 13th & Oregon. (see forwarded messages coming).

Also, don't forget our park clean-up on April 26 -- that information is detailed in the newsletter. We'll start about 10:00 a.m., and go on as long as anyone's willing to keep working.

Thanks.

4/8/08 – forwarded message from Michael Almon

The Lawrence Community Shelter has a request for the City Commission to endorse their application for \$600,000 in Federal funds to help them relocate. The letter is attached. I'm going to the City Commission this Tuesday to voice our opposition to them relocating at 13th & Oregon. Even though this meeting is not about a Special Use Permit, a rezoning, or amending the zoning code to allow shelters. Nevertheless, I think it's important to state our opposition early and often. Homeless shelters don't attract homeless people to downtown; downtown attracts homeless people to downtown. This is a downtown NIMBY issue.

Also, here's the LJW article about the latest LCS intentions http://www2.ljworld.com/news/2008/apr/05/shelter_ask_city_support/ hope to see some of you there,

Michael Almon

4/24/08

Don't forget that the Brook Creek annual spring park and creek clean-up is scheduled for this Saturday, April 26. Please come join us. The clean-up will start around 10:00 a.m. and will go until the last person wants to leave. Lunch will be provided. Several area groceries have contributed food, so we should eat well and plentifully.

Our regular participants know that the park clean-ups are always fun -- if you haven't participated before (or not recently), come join us and have a good time with your neighbors and do something good for this green space that's important to us all.

No specific time commitments are required. If you can stay the whole time, that's great. If you can give us only a shorter period of time, that's great, too. All help is appreciated.

We hope to see lots of you in the park on Saturday.

4/24/08

I forgot this in the previous message -- we have lots of supplies for everything. We have boots for those who want to work in the creek. We have gloves for everyone. We have plates for our lunches.

So, you don't have to bring anything except yourselves. See you there.

4/28/08

The Lawrence Community Shelter's zoning text amendment, consideration of which was deferred a month ago, will be placed before the City Commission again tomorrow, Tuesday, April 29. It is Agenda Item #6.

The proposal is the same one that was deferred a month ago. LCS requests a "use by right" amendment in ALL industrial districts. The Staff Report recommends initiating the amendment to then go to the Planning Commission for a hearing. But the Staff Report also says, "...or consider initiating a text amendment classifying transient and homeless shelters as SPECIAL USES in industrial zoning districts." This, too, is exactly what the staff recommended last month.

Although no amendment will actually be passed tomorrow, those of you who can do so are urged to attend the City Commission meeting to express both our opposition to the "use by right" approach (which would eliminate the right of the public to comment on the siting of homeless shelters) and our support for the Special Use Permit approach (which allows public comment on such issues).

[Thanks to Michael Almon for bringing this information to our attention.]

NEWSLETTER



BROOK CREEK BREEZE

February/March 2008

FEBRUARY GENERAL MEETING

Tuesday, February 12, 2008

7:00 p.m.

East Lawrence Recreation Center

Agenda:

Discussion of CIP Proposal Requests

Discussion of current City sidewalk proposals

New and Old Business

MARCH GENERAL MEETING

Tuesday, March 11, 2008

7:00 p.m.

East Lawrence Recreation Center

Agenda:

To be determined

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN (CIP) REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The City sent a letter requesting Capital Improvement Project Submissions. This is an annual part of preparing their 6-year Capital Improvement Plan. This "allows the City to identify the needs of the community and to prepare a long-term funding strategy to meet those needs. It includes any projects that involve needed repairs or improvements to our existing infrastructure (streets, parks, city facilities, sewers, etc.) and the acquisition or construction of new infrastructure (fire stations, traffic signals, roundabouts, etc.) with an estimated cost of \$50,000 or more." The projects can address a need either in a specific neighborhood or elsewhere in the City.

The form and guidelines are available online at http://www.lawrenceks.org/cmo/capital_improvements_program. The deadline for submission is 5:00 p.m. on February 29, 2008.

We would like to begin discussion of this at our February meeting. The proposal is not a simple one to prepare and requires research of all parts of a proposed project, the costs and time involved for each part, and how the costs and work would spread out over at least 6 years. The kind of time involved in that research may be more than we could do to meet the February 29 deadline. Given the time constraints, it would be difficult for BCNA to discuss and approve a project (or projects) to propose and complete the research within that time frame.

However, since the City does this each year, now is the time to begin the process of coming up with something that the neighborhood could really get behind and then doing what we could to put a proper proposal together, even if it means breaking out into sub-committees and allotting time at meetings for collaborative work among the sub-committees and membership in general to work up a solid proposal for the next year's requests.

We will have a copy of the guidelines available at the February meeting so that we can all understand what will be required for this.

NEWS ABOUT POSSIBLE SIDEWALK REPAIR AND CONSTRUCTION

--- Julie Mitchell, BCNA Vice President

The Lawrence Department of Public Works recently requested Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds to repair sidewalks and build new sidewalks in target neighborhoods. If the grant funds are approved, some of these improvements will be made in the Brook Creek Neighborhood.

Although sidewalk repairs are technically the responsibility of the property owners, the city understands that many people, especially in some of the older neighborhoods, may not have the financial resources to repair their sidewalks. Sidewalk repair and replacement can be quite expensive. In addition to repairing sidewalks in poor condition, the city hopes to add new sidewalks where needed, including along parts of Haskell.

Join us at the February 12th Brook Creek Neighborhood Association meeting and take a look maps showing the conditions of current sidewalks and where the city hopes to build new sidewalks.

Minutes

November 13, 2007

The meeting was called to order by President Craig Comstock with 12 members in attendance.

The Treasurer's report was read and approved.

Jenna Coker reported that she was denied a permit to put up a privacy fence on her property, and she is appealing.

Someone dumped concrete chunks in the north ditch of Brook Creek Park. It was reported previously that a load of tires had also been dumped here. We thank the City for removing these eyesores in a speedy manner. BCNA hopes that if anyone sees this illegal dumping, they will please call the police to report it

The fall Brook Creek Park Clean-up was a success. Hazel Bryant used a leaf blower to clean off the picnic tables and gazebo. Julie Mitchell prepared lunch for the clean-up volunteers. Larry Kelley and Andrea Repinsky worked extra hard by going down into the creek and pulling out some large items.

It has been noticed that there have been new modular homes moving into the mobile home court on 15th street. The membership appreciates the modernization of this area.

The current officers were nominated for 2008 and elections will be held at our December meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 PM.

Our next meeting will be the holiday party on December 11th at 7 PM.

December 11, 2007

The December meeting was cancelled because of the winter storm pummeling Lawrence that day.

January 8, 2008

President Craig Comstock called the meeting to order with 13 members present.

The Treasurer's report was read and approved.

The unfinished business of the elections of officers for the next year was undertaken. The nominations were:

Craig Comstock, President
 Julie Mitchell, Vice President
 Douglas Miller, Secretary
 Susan Miller, Treasurer

No other nominations were made. The members approved the slate of Officers nominated.

The meeting was adjourned for the delayed holiday party

New Business

We alluded to new kinds of new business in the last newsletter - and here's more. The Brook Creek neighborhood is a very large one, geographically, and we need to figure out how to get more of our residents actively involved in neighborhood business and activities. We have a core membership that is wonderful about this, and we thank all of you who are part of this, and we need your assistance in expanding the number of residents who participate in BCNA. We need all of you to reach out to your neighbors who do not come to meetings, invite them to come with you, bring them, and introduce them to the neighborhood association so that we can welcome them. Below, you will find a list of new residents in the neighborhood. Please welcome them and invite them to come see what we have to offer.

We would also like to expand the kinds of things we cover in the newsletter. Please let us know about any events in your lives that you would like to share -- good things like the birth of a child or grandchild, a birthday, anniversary, major success at your job; or, on the other side, news of an illness or injury to yourself or a neighbor. We're a caring group of neighbors, but often don't express that care and concern because we don't know that a friend or neighbor might need it.

We would also like to feature individual residents in each newsletter -- people who are long-time residents who can tell us stories about the "old days" in the neighborhood, people who are doing things now that help make this neighborhood a special place to live, e.g., creating a special yard. Let Julie know of any such persons for brief inclusion in the newsletter. In the same general category, part of the quarterly reports that we must now submit to NRAC includes instances of "good neighboring." If you observe any such instances, please let Julie know about these, either through an email at brookcreek@sbcglobal.net, or by calling her at 841-4997. It doesn't have to be big things -- little instances add up to big things.

WELCOME TO THE NEIGHBORHOOD!

1812 Maple Lane - Davis, John C. & Linda C.
 1616 E. 15th - Jaimez, Edward R.
 1514 Harper - Lemon, Meridith
 923 Oliver's Court - Musson, Adam M. & Spinelli, Katherine I.
 1717 Maple Lane - Slocum, Terry, Arlene & Diane
 1308 Summit - Salami Gitti
 906 Oliver's Court - Howell, Robert E. & Pamela J.
 1338 Brook - Craft, Kristin M. & Stanberry, Christopher
 1643 Bullene Ave.- Wright, Bryon & Baughan, Emily
 1817 Maple Lane - Wilson, Chad C.
 1910 Haskell Ave. - Pacs Properties, LLC
 1651 Bullene Ave. - Carroll, Matt
 1307 Brook - Courtney, Ryan L. & Haddad, Christina S.
 1647 Bullene Ave. - Wolf, Chris & Laura
 1527 Hanscom Road - Sanmiguel, Sergio T. & Andrea G.

Brook Creek Neighborhood Association

1944 Miller Drive

Lawrence, KS 66046

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Lawrence, KS
Permit #542

Join Your Neighborhood Association

Dues are \$1.00 per person, per year. This gives you voting rights at BCNA meetings. Clip, fill out, and mail to: Susan Miller, Treasurer; 1235 Prairie; Lawrence, KS 66044

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ E-Mail Address _____

- I am enclosing my \$1.00 annual dues
 - I am enclosing _____ extra to help the neighborhood association.
-



BROOK CREEK BREEZE

April / May / July 2008

GENERAL MEETING April 8, 2008 7:00 p.m. East Lawrence Rec. Center	GENERAL MEETING May 13, 2008 7:00 p.m. East Lawrence Rec. Center	GENERAL MEETING July 8, 2008 7:00 p.m. East Lawrence Rec. Center
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DON'T FORGET . . .

This year, BCNA decided to have a 9th meeting – in July. So, please mark your calendars for the coming 3 meetings and plan to attend. There are several items that will probably be on-going through the summer months (see minutes and information below), so we need your input each meeting. If you would like to get advance reminders of the meetings and you are not already on our email list (or if your email address has changed), you can send us an email, asking that you be put on the list. Just remember, please, to put something like BCNA List in the subject line. Send it to brookcreek@sbcglobal.net. If you do not have Internet access, call 841-4997 and leave your telephone number and we'll notify you that way. And please do not forget the annual spring Brook Creek Park Clean-up. Details below.

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Since the meeting, Michael Almon reports contact with the Planning Commission: I spoke with Mary Miller at the Planning Office. She is the planner handling the East Heights School rezoning request from RS-7 to GPI (General Public Institutional). Related to this is another item on the agenda, to initiate a zoning code text amendment to change some of the permitted uses in the GPI zoning district. Mary had put this on the agenda because she had noticed that there were permitted uses in the GPI district that seemed inappropriate to her--the same uses that we are opposed to in a GPI district - manufactured home, mobile home, multi-dwelling structure, commercial parking facility, light wholesale storage & distribution.

I asked her if the rezoning of the East Heights School property should be deferred until the Commission makes a decision on these land uses. She agreed that deferring the rezoning would be wise, so the cart is not before the horse. She wanted to know if

we wanted to request the deferral, or if she should request it. We agreed that we would both request the deferral. Brook Creek would make their request in a letter. (See below).

The Brook Creek Park Cleanup is scheduled for April 26th beginning at 10 AM. A lunch will be provided. A rain/cold day is May 3rd also at 10 AM. The meeting was adjourned at 9 PM.

Brook Creek Neighborhood Association
1315 Haskell Ave., Lawrence, KS 66044

21 March 2008

Lawrence-Douglas Co. Metropolitan Planning Commission
6 East 6th St.
Lawrence, KS 66044

re: 24 March 2008 agenda items #6B – Z-01-04-08, and
Miscellaneous #4

Dear Chairman Eichhorn & Commissioners:

The Brook Creek Neighborhood Association is requesting that item #6B – Z-01-04-08 be deferred until after consideration of Miscellaneous #4 (a text amendment to change the permitted uses in the GPI district). We have met with Mary Miller, the Planner in charge of both these items, and she concurs with our request.

Item #6B is a request to rezone the East Heights School property from RS-7 to GPI so that the zoning correlates with the use. In general, our Neighborhood Association agrees with this in principle. But when we studied the use groups for GPI, we found some incongruous and disturbing permitted uses in that category - uses such as: Manufactured home, Mobile home, Multi-dwelling structure, Postal and parcel service, Commercial parking facility, and Wholesale storage and distribution.

Our concern is two-fold. First, we would not want any of these uses to be permitted on that site regardless of the ownership (it is fully within the realm of possibility that USD497 could sell the property). Some years ago, USD497 proposed using the property for their district-wide distribution center. We fought it off then, and we don't want that or similar as permitted uses for anyone – parcel service, distribution center, parking facility. And we are opposed to a multi-dwelling structure (dormitory) on site, because if USD497 sells the property, such a building would logically become an apartment building. Ten years ago, Brook Creek petitioned the City to downzone 4 1/2 square blocks from multi-family to single family, and we don't want to reverse that either.

Secondly, if a school or public facility wanted to have modular classrooms on site, the zoning code should be worded to allow such a classroom use as accessory with the mobile or modular technology, but specifically disallow that same technology for residential use. In other words, the term "home" as applied to mobile or modular, must not convey the use as a home in the GPI district (and for a future potential buyer).

Writing a text amendment to resolve these troubling implications will prove a challenge. Brook Creek Neighborhood Association looks forward to working with the Commission and staff to craft the appropriate wording. So rather than putting the cart before the horse, we request the rezoning of East Heights School property be deferred for a later meeting, so that a carefully worded text amendment can be written and adopted first.

Sincerely,
Michael Almon, Land Use Chair



You're Invited

to

The Spring Brook Creek Clean-Up

Saturday, April 26, 2008

10:00 a.m. – as long as you like

Come help us clean up the creek and the nature trails. If wallowing around in mud is your idea of fun, join like-minded others and get down in the creek to remove winter-time debris.

If you like to use the nature trails, come help us clean up debris and trash from the trails and the woods. We never know, from year to year, what we will find in the woods – but there are usually some interesting things (one year, we found a yard-sized tractor).

We have a good time each spring during the clean-up, so come join us. We'll get started about 10:00 a.m. Lunch will be provided. Everyone's help is appreciated, whether you can stay and help for a long time or a short one.

Come One – Come all

Individuals, Families, and Children

Are all welcome.



Brook Creek Neighborhood Association
1944 Miller Drive
Lawrence, KS 66046

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Join Your Neighborhood Association

Dues are \$1.00 per person, per year. This gives you voting rights at BCNA meetings. Clip, fill out, and mail to: Susan Miller, Treasurer; 1235 Prairie; Lawrence, KS 66044

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ E-Mail Address _____

- I am enclosing my \$1.00 annual dues
 - I am enclosing _____ extra to help the neighborhood association.
-

GOOD NEIGHBORING

The following was received from our member, Dorothy Roper:

Good Neighbor Wade, who lives in the 1200 block of Prospect. Every time it snows, he is there with his snow shovel and cleans the walks, steps, and driveway for 85 year old neighbor Dorothy – never for pay. Dorothy is so grateful and very thankful for her good neighbor.

The following was observed during the April 26 Park Cleanup, as we were gathered for lunch:

As the BCNA members who participated in the annual Spring Park Cleanup were gathered around the park gazebo and tables for lunch, two women (one carrying an infant), accompanied by a beautiful dog, came across the bridge over the creek and walked along the park. They stopped to look through the fence into Mark Taylor's yard and, on their way back to the bridge, stopped to ask us whose yard that was. They were as fascinated by the things Mark has created there as the rest of us are. Mark told them that, if they came back some day when we weren't working in the park, he would be happy to give them a tour.

The women were both pleased by this thoughtfulness and stopped to talk with me about what we were doing. They said that, although they lived just outside the Brook Creek neighborhood area, they used the park regularly and volunteered to come help us at our next clean-up day in the fall. So, Mark's "good neighboring" attitude has potentially won BCNA the help of two non-neighbor volunteers in keeping the park and creek in good condition.

[This incident also points out how important the Brook Creek Park is, not just to residents of the Brook Creek neighborhood, but to residents of surrounding neighborhoods.]