

**NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION QUARTERLY PERFORMANCE REPORT**

| <b>Date</b>  | <b>Activity Description</b>  | <b>Number of Attendees</b> |
|--------------|--|----------------------------|
| Nov. 2008    | <p>Meetings: General Meeting on November 11, 2008.</p> <p>Communications: The Sept./Oct./Nov. newsletter was prepared and mailed to members in late August</p>   | 10                         |
| Dec. 2008    | <p>Meetings: General Meeting on December 9, 2008, combined with our annual Holidays Party..</p> <p>Communications: The December/February/ March newsletter was mailed to the members in early December, with information about the meeting and party.</p> <p>Email reminders were sent to the members of the email list for the meeting and party.</p> | 14                         |
| January 2009 | Meetings: .Brook Creek does not hold a meeting in January  |                            |

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## **MINUTES**

**November 11, 2008**

*(submitted by Secretary, Doug Miller)*

The meeting was called to order on November 11, 2008 at 7:10 PM by Vice-President Julie Mitchell with 10 members present. The Treasurer's report was read and approved.

Julie Mitchell gave a report on the City Commission's homeless shelter guidelines. The guidelines for type A shelters was as follows:

1. to notify the neighborhood that a church was being used as a temporary shelter
2. maximum of 15 nights per church
3. follow the city's building codes
4. renew the requests yearly.

The guidelines for type B shelters was a special use permit.

There had been mention of a homeless campground in the Journal World newspaper and the

membership decided that we do not want a homeless campground in our neighborhood.

Julie Mitchell reported that she is on the Community Development Advisory Committee.

It was reported that the house at 1207 E. 13th St. is set for a public hearing on December 9th to discuss the condition of the dilapidated structure and to consider declaring the structure unsafe & ordering its repair or removal within a specified period of time. Since this is the same night at our December meeting, we will send a representative to attend this hearing.

It was requested to remind Chuck Soles, the city engineer, that the park trails need to be worked on. It was also requested that trees be planted along the sidewalk of the new flood drainage ditch west of 12th and Haskell. Someone is advocating planting fruit trees on the public right of way, but no one had any further information.

Also, we encourage the city to repair or replace the sidewalk from Connecticut to Haskell on the north side of 13th St.

The next meeting is December 9, 2008 at 7 PM and it will be our Holiday Party, so bring something to eat to share with your neighbors. We will also have the election of the officers for next year.

The meeting was adjourned at 8 PM.

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**December 9, 2008**

*(submitted by Secretary Doug Miller)*

The meeting was called to order by Vice President Julie Mitchell at 7:08 p.m., with 14 members present. The Treasurer's report was read and approved.

It was announced that the demolition permit meeting about 1207 E. 13<sup>th</sup> has been delayed until a later time which is to be announced.

Julie Mitchell informed us that the *Lawrence Journal-World* website has a place in their Marketplace section for neighborhood associations to create a website on which they can post contact information, mission statements, meeting times, notices of activities, photos, and anything else neighborhood related. It was decided that she should begin the process of creating a BCNA website.

Julie Mitchell and Julie Banhart would like residents who are willing to relate stories about life in the old days in the Brook Creek neighborhood (e.g., stories about the 1900s circus and the horse track, or anything else you remember) to fit into an oral history of the neighborhood they would like to produce.

There is nothing to report about the 13<sup>th</sup> and Oregon Homeless Shelter site.

Elections for 2009 were held. Those nominated were:

President: Julie Mitchell

Vice President:

Andrea Repinsky

Secretary: Doug Miller

Treasurer:

Susan Miller

The nominated officers were elected unanimously.

The next newsletter will be delivered prior to the April 14<sup>th</sup> meeting.

The next meeting will be on February 10, 2009.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m. for the Holidays Party.

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## **COMMUNICATIONS**

**Email messages, reminding members of the upcoming meeting were sent in early November and early December to members on the email list. When I changed ISPs recently, copies of the sent mail got lost in the transfer of data, so the exact wording cannot be reproduced.**

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## **NEWSLETTER (follows)**



# ***BROOK CREEK BREEZE***

December 2008 / February / March 2009

## **UPCOMING MEETINGS**

This issue covers our meetings in December, February, and March. Remember, we do not meet in January. Please mark your calendars for our meetings for the 3 months of this newsletter. The meetings all start at 7:00 p.m., and we meet at the East Lawrence Recreation Center.

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9:**                      **HOLIDAYS PARTY (*INVITATION INSIDE*)**  
**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2009:** Meeting for Business  
**TUESDAY, MARCH 10, 2009:**      Meeting for Business,

## **UPDATE ON CITY COMMISSION APPROVAL OF TEXT AMENDMENTS REGARDING HOMELESS SHELTERS**

*(reported by Julie Mitchell)*

On October 14<sup>th</sup> the Lawrence City Commission reviewed and approved text amendments to the land development code defining and permitting various homeless facilities. The previous city code made no distinction between large shelters serving the general population and smaller shelters serving families with children. The text amendments to the land development code will divide the shelters into two groups, Type A and Type B. Most of the discussion and text amendments focused on Type A shelters.

According to a report from the Community Commission on Homelessness, there are approximately 273 homeless people in Lawrence. This number includes 79 families and 111 children. Thirty-two individuals were classified as chronically homeless. Lawrence currently has no short term housing options for families with children.

Type A shelters are small shelters focused on housing families with children. They are restricted to being housed in religious institutions, such as churches. These shelters are permitted in any zoning, but they require annual registration with the City. The shelters must follow the following guidelines:

- A meeting with the neighborhood must take place prior to the registration application being filed with the city.
- The organization must supply a management plan with the registration application.
- Type A shelters may house no more than 15 people per night for no more than 15 nights per calendar quarter.
- Only families with children may be housed.

These conditions apply to both day and night Type A shelters.

Type B shelters are larger shelters serving the general population. There was very little discussion regarding text amendments for Type B shelters. A public request for a buffer around Type B shelters locating adjacent to residential housing was denied. East Lawrence has many small pockets of industrial zoned land within neighborhoods. The 13<sup>th</sup> and Oregon property the Lawrence Community Shelter is possibly looking at fits this description. A Type B shelter could potentially locate right in the middle of a residential neighborhood.

Type A shelters should have relatively little impact on the Brook Creek Neighborhood, as there are very few churches located within our boundaries. The possibility of a Type B shelter locating in the neighborhood is much greater and would have a larger impact on the neighborhood.

Complete minutes of the October 14<sup>th</sup> City Commission meeting can be found at [www.ci.lawrence.ks.us](http://www.ci.lawrence.ks.us).

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## A CHANCE TO MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD ON FUTURE PLANNING ISSUES

Bart Rudolph, Transportation Planner for the Lawrence Douglas County Metropolitan Planning Office, asked that the following information be passed to the neighborhood, and participation by individuals be urged:

The Lawrence-Douglas County Metropolitan Planning Organization is currently updating its public participation plan, which serves as a guide to improve the process for involving citizens in regional transportation decision making. As part of this update, an online survey has been developed to help give regional transportation planners an understanding of the best ways to inform and engage the citizens of Douglas County in the transportation planning process. We need your help. In an effort to involve all stakeholders we would appreciate you taking the time to fill out a brief survey.

Because transportation planning should reflect the community's vision for the future, it is imperative that we engage area stakeholders and the public every step of the way. For more information, please visit <http://www.lawrenceks.org/pds/PPP>

The survey does not take long to complete. It can be found at the following web address:

[http://www.lawrenceks.org/pds/transportation\\_survey](http://www.lawrenceks.org/pds/transportation_survey)

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# *‘Tis the Season*

## *BCNA’s Holiday Party*

*Tuesday, December 9, 2008, 7:00 p.m.*

*East Lawrence Recreation Center*

*It’s the season of the year when most of us have been indulging in baking favorite things for the holiday season.*

*Bring some of your favorites to share with your friends and neighbors and we’ll all celebrate the holidays together.*





## FIRE SAFETY INFORMATION



Fire and carbon monoxide safety becomes increasingly important as winter approaches. Furnaces, space heaters, candles, and ovens baking holiday treats can all present dangers if not used appropriately.

According to the National Fire Protection Association, cooking fires are the #1 cause of home fires. The **KITCHEN** is the place where 40% of home fires start... In 2005, 480 people died from injuries caused by kitchen fires. ***Stay in the kitchen when cooking, especially when frying or broiling food.***

**HEATING EQUIPMENT** is the second leading cause of home fires. In 2005, heating equipment was involved in 63,200 home fires, including 670 deaths. **SPACE HEATERS** were involved in one-third of these fires. ***Keep space heaters at least 3 feet from anything that could burn, and turn off space heaters when you leave the room.***

Other major causes of home fires are **ELECTRICAL** (do not run extension cords under carpet), **SMOKING** (a cigarette while falling asleep in the recliner or on the bed is not a good idea), and **CANDLES** (do not leave candles unattended).

In addition to fire prevention, **WORKING SMOKE ALARMS AND FIRE ESCAPE PLANS** can save lives. Battery operated smoke alarms cost between \$8 for a basic smoke alarm to \$50 for a combination smoke/carbon monoxide alarm. Smoke alarm placement recommendations range from one alarm on each floor placed near bedrooms to placing one alarm in each bedroom. Fumes, steam and exhaust can set off alarms when there is not a fire, so placing them in kitchens, bathrooms and garages is not recommended. Conduct family fire drills at least twice a year.

**CARBON MONOXIDE** is a silent killer. You cannot see or smell carbon monoxide. It is produced whenever fuel such as gas, oil, kerosene, wood or charcoal is burned. Appliances such as gas stoves, hot water heaters and furnaces not working properly or used incorrectly can emit enough carbon monoxide to kill a person. Hundreds of people die accidentally each year from carbon monoxide poisoning.

The symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning include headaches, dizziness, nausea, confusion and fainting. The symptoms are very similar to flu, food poisoning and other illnesses. This is why carbon monoxide detectors are so important. The EPA does warn that technology is still developing so carbon monoxide detectors currently on the market are not as reliable as today's fire alarm technology. Keeping appliances in good condition and using them appropriately is very important. Carbon monoxide detectors can cost between \$25 and \$50. ***If your carbon monoxide detector goes off or you suspect carbon monoxide poisoning, call the Fire Department. They will take a reading of the carbon monoxide levels in your home.***

The Brook Creek Neighborhood lost at least two homes to fires in recent years. The Old East Lawrence Neighborhood lost not only a home, but almost an entire family. Houses can be replaced. Families cannot.

For more information on fire and carbon monoxide safety visit these websites:

[www.nfpa.org](http://www.nfpa.org)

[www.larwrence.org/fire\\_medical](http://www.larwrence.org/fire_medical)

[www.epa.gov](http://www.epa.gov)

## COMMUNITY NEWS



### NEW YORK SCHOOL



Nicole Allensworth has sent us the following information about needs and events at New York School.

A Volunteer is needed to serve as Site Council Secretary. The Site Council secretary would need to attend meetings each 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the month. He/she would take minutes, post them on the NY PTO and Site Council listserv within 3-5 days of the meeting and provide a copy to the principal to post on the USD497 website and at the school. Ideally, this person should have access to email and a computer. If you are interested in this volunteer position, please contact Nicole Allensworth at (785) 331-4123 or by email at [nallensworth76@yahoo.com](mailto:nallensworth76@yahoo.com).

The New York School Martin Luther King Jr. Chili Feed will be held on January 13th from 5:30 – 7:00 p.m., at the New York Elementary School Gym. All are invited. There will be a small fee charged for the meal.

New York School accepts the following things as part of their fundraising efforts: box tops, ink jet cartridges, laser jet cartridges, old cell phones, and Checkers receipts.



### LAWRENCE HUMANE SOCIETY



Attention all animal lovers: The Lawrence Humane Society is sponsoring an informational meeting about the Douglas County Animal Response Team (DCART) on Sunday, January 13, 2009, at 3:00 p.m. in the Lawrence Public Library meeting room.

The meeting will discuss ways individuals can get involved in being prepared to help animals in case of either a man-made or natural disaster in our area.

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## MINUTES

**September 16, 2008**

*(submitted by Secretary, Doug Miller)*

The meeting was called to order by President Craig Comstock at 7:08 p.m., with 13 members present. The treasurer's report was read and approved.

The city is giving away compost on September 25, 26, and 27 at the City's Wood Recovery & Composting Facility located at 1420 E. 11th St.

Julie Mitchell is looking for information about the "Remembering the Good Old Days" articles to be put into the newsletter. Anyone with stories can contact Julie Mitchell.



There is a text amendment of the zoning code being discussed about the homeless shelters. Currently, homeless shelters can be in any industrial zoned area. A homeless shelter is still being discussed at 13th and Oregon and without the text amendment, it would be allowed in the area without a Special Use Permit.

There was a general discussion about the neighborhood. A complaint was given about speeders on Haskell Ave. A demolition permit has been issued for 1207 E. 13th St. Memorial Park Cemetery is replacing the roads in the park. Questions about the status of the Pelathe Center were mentioned.

Members Bob and Mary Taylor will be in the Lawrence High School Homecoming Parade on September 19th.

There was a discussion about changing our meeting day from the 2nd Tuesday to the 2nd Thursday of the month. Treasurer Susan Miller will contact the ELC and see if we can change the meeting date starting next year.

Matt Williams reported that he has a nice neighbor because his neighbor offered him and his family the use of the basement during the storms.

CDGB funded projects were discussed and some suggestions included benches along the Edgewood Park sidewalk, repair of the sidewalk near the cemetery on the north side of 15th Street and more trails in Brook Creek Park for biking and walking.

New York School is now our neighborhood school and they are in need of Site Council Members. You do not need to have a child in school to be a site council member. Also, New York School collects "Big G" box tops, Checker's grocery receipts, used printer cartridges & cell phones, and Campbell Soup labels as fund raisers.

The Fall Brook Creek clean-up will take place on Saturday, October 11th beginning at 10:00 a.m. down at the park.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m. Our next meeting will be October 14th at 7:00 p.m. at the East Lawrence Center.

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## **WELCOME TO THE NEIGHBORHOOD**

Sarah & Matt Knoll-Williams -- 1417 Oakhill Ave.

Viola M. Stevens -- 1415 E. 18th Terrace

Thomas A. Supancic -- 938 E. 19th

John Hutton -- 1306 E. 13th

Lorraine F. Cannistra -- 1601 Bullene Ave.

Steven W. & Dianne Hon -- 1547 Hanscom Road

Steven L. Eudaly -- 1725 Bullene Ave.

David Brian Hess -- 1609 Cadet Ave.

Steven & Janice Sell -- 1705 Bullene Ave.



*Happy Holidays to All!*

*Whether you're celebrating Christmas,  
Kwanza, Hanukah, or New Year's*

*We hope you have a wonderful, joyful, and  
safe holiday season.*

*May the New Year bring nothing but the best  
for our neighborhood and for each of us.*



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.
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## **GOOD NEIGHBORING**

Susan and Doug Miller exhibited serious evidence of good neighboring when, with board elections upon us and no volunteers to take on the duties of either Treasurer or Secretary, agreed to remain in the positions they have held so well, for so many years.