

**NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION QUARTERLY PERFORMANCE REPORT**

Date	Activity Description	Number of Attendees
February 2010	<p>Meetings: General Meeting on February 11, 2009 at the East Heights School..</p> <p>Communications: The February/March/April 2010 newsletter was prepared and mailed to members in late January 2010. It included meeting information for each of these months.</p> <p>Email communication sent on February 3, 2010.</p>	12
March 2010	<p>Meetings: BCNA’s General Meeting was held on March 11, 2010.</p> <p>Communications: This date was publicized in the newsletter that reached everyone in February 2010..</p> <p>Email communication was sent on March 7, 2010.</p>	11
April 2010	<p>Meetings: BCNA’s General Meeting was held on April 8, 2010.</p> <p>Communications: This date was publicized in the newsletter that reached everyone in February 2010..</p> <p>Email communication was sent on April 7, 2010.</p> <p>The BCNA annual spring park clean-up was held on April 17, 2010.</p> <p>Email Communication sent April 16, 2010.</p>	14      17

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## **MINUTES**

**February 11, 2010**

The meeting was called to order by President Julia Mitchell at 7 PM with 12 members present. The Treasurer's report was read and approved.

Byron Wiley gave an update on the Twelfth Street Bargain Center. He said the following is a history of the site at 1146 Haskell:

- 1951-1993      Rays Salvage and Auto Garage
- 1993-2003      Auto Repair and Towing Company

2003-Present Twelfth Street Bargain Center.

Byron Wiley is sending a letter of complaint to City Officials.

A motion was made that BCNA send a letter supporting Byron Wiley, which was seconded. The motion passed. The membership then had a general discussion about the property.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 PM.

### **March 11, 2010**

The meeting was called to order by President Julia Mitchell at 7 p.m with 12 members present. The Treasurer's report was read and approved. February's minutes were read and approved.

Haley Travis from Tenants to Homeowners gave an update on the house at 1230 Laura Ave., which is nearing completion. Ms. Travis said that when this home sells, building will begin on the other 3 lots on Laura Ave. No open house is planned at the completion of 1230 Laura Ave. Ms. Travis said Rebecca Buford, 2518 Ridge Court, Suite 209, (telephone: 785-842-5494), can be contacted with any questions about the plans for the lots on Laura Avenue.

Byron Wiley gave an update on matters pertaining to the 12<sup>th</sup> Street Bargain Center, and said that the City is investigating the violations and non-enforcement of City codes on the property. KDHE has ordered the removal of a 20x40x2 foot section of land in the yard area of the Bargain Center. Mr. Wiley has met with two City Commissioners and has plans to meet with the others. He has given a presentation to the East Lawrence NA, and plans to give presentations to LAN and the League of Women Voters.

The Douglas County Health Department, 200 Maine Street, will have a 1 hour Emergency Preparedness Information meeting on March 30th at 6 p.m.

It was reported that duplexes are planned for construction in the 1900 block of Learnard (Barker Neighborhood) across from the Burroughs House. The Barker Neighborhood Association has not complained about this construction.

The CDGB funding committee has finalized the funding for the next year and it is now up for public debate. Two of the changes affecting Brook Creek is that CDGB will no longer pay for LAN dues or for a subscription to the Lawrence Journal World.

There was a complaint regarding an abandoned house on the southeast corner of Oak Hill and Elmwood., and the concerned resident was directed to the appropriate City office. A complaint was also noted about a truck that has been sitting in the front yard on the north side of 15th Street, next to the cemetery.

The spring cleanup is April 17th with an inclement weather date of April 24th.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 PM.

The next meeting is Thursday, April 8, 2010 at 7 PM in the East Heights Early Childhood Development Gym, 1430 Haskell.

### **April 8, 2010**

The meeting was called to order by President Julie Mitchell at 7 p.m. in the East Heights Early Childhood Development Gym, 1430 Haskell Avenue, with 14 members present. The treasurer's report was read and approved.

No new information about the status of the 12th Street Bargain Center at 1146 Haskell Avenue. However, it was noted that the Lawrence Journal World reported that the Bargain Center had a floodplain

application for a grading permit in response to KDHE issues. The Bargain Center is removing contaminated soil and replacing it with clean dirt, which was the reason for the floodplain application.

President Julie Mitchell reported on the reply received to an email she sent to Rebecca Buford, Executive Director of Tenants to Homeowners, in response to questions at our previous meeting about the development of the 3 lots on Laura Avenue. A discussion then ensued about the drainage issues on Laura Avenue., including the concern that, as the 3 lots on Laura Avenue are developed, the water runoff will increase for the surrounding neighbors. It was further stated that, since water runoff is already a problem for the neighbors, development will only exacerbate it. Julie Mitchell said that she will contact Tenants to Homeowners and find out their next meeting date and time so that BCNA members can attend.

President Julie Mitchell provided information about the Douglas County Health Department's Emergency Preparedness program. The Health Dept. is currently attempting to identify people in neighborhoods who would need help and those who could provide that help in a disaster emergency.

The Spring Clean Up at Brook Creek Park is next Saturday, April 17th from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., with lunch being provided. The rain date is Saturday April 24th.

The Community Development Advisory Committee had a public comment meeting on April 8th. At this time, nothing has changed for Brook Creek's budget.

Our LAN (Lawrence Association of Neighborhoods) representative, Dickie Heckler, gave a report. Mr. Heckler said that LAN is in the process of reorganizing and will be more outspoken on future issues.

In other matters, a request was made for more benches and picnic tables at Edgewood Park.

On March 28th, the Lawrence City Commission set a public hearing date of May 18th for review of the condition of the dilapidated house at 1313 Haskell and the order for the removal or repair of the structure. It was mentioned that this is not the only house/structure in our neighborhood in need of repair or removal. President Julie Mitchell will ask the Lawrence Code Enforcement Officer and the Neighborhood Resource Officer to attend a future meeting.

After our July 8th meeting, Brook Creek N. A. will have to find a new meeting place. Next year, East Heights Early Childhood Development is moving to Kennedy School and the Boys and Girls club has expressed an interest in the building.

A question was posted in the Lawrence Journal World about using left over funds from the construction of the Burroughs Creek Hiking & Biking Trail to pave the hiking and biking trail south on Haskell. The answer was "no," since paving the Hiking & Biking Trail south on Haskell was not in the original bid. The LJW also reported that there are pedestrian crossing signals at 11th street for the Burroughs Creek Trail.

Dorothy Roper, a long time East Lawrence resident and BCNA member, was featured in an article in the Lawrence Journal World talking about the 1910 Daisy Dozer, a roller coaster in the Woodlands Amusement Park which was north of 12th and Prospect.

The Lawrence Electronics Recycling Event will be on May 15th, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Free State High School. Computer Monitors will be recycled for \$10, TV's will be recycled for \$15 and all other electronics will be recycled for free.

The next meeting is on May 13th at 7 p.m. in the East Heights Early Childhood Development Gym, 1430 Haskell Avenue.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

## COMMUNICATIONS

### Regular messages to email list with reminders of upcoming meetings. Sent:

February 3, 2010 re monthly meeting.  
March 7, 2010 re monthly meeting.  
March 10, 2010 re agenda for March meeting.  
March 10, 2010 reminder to Haley Travis (TTH) that she is speaking at the meeting  
April 7, 2020 re monthly meeting  
April 8, 2010 re agenda for April meeting  
April 16, 2010 reminder re Park Clean-up

### Sent to email list on 2/3/10:

Following is a notice, with attachment, from Nicole Allensworth, PTO president at New York School, inviting us to a march in support of our neighborhood schools. The march will be February 6, starting at Liberty Hall, around 11:00 a.m. If you can participate, see the attachment for more details.

### Received February 19, 2010

Greetings:

A couple of months ago, I received a letter from the City saying that they wanted to build a sidewalk on my property. The letter stated that no private property would be disturbed. I have been talking to several of the city people and have found out that a very big part of my landscape and property would be disturbed. The previous owner had put a fence up so that drivers would not drive across the yard. This would have to be changed. In addition, there is a pine tree that the previous owner planted and it would have to be torn up. The city is expecting me to re-plant this. I have told the City that I commute over 150 miles a day out to Manhattan. I cannot pay to clean up the damage done by the sidewalk.

I am seeking information from you on what rights a property owner may have when a City proposes to build a sidewalk where there will be significant damage to an owners landscaping.

Thanks

Fred Lowery

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### Sent Feb. 21, 2010

Fred –

I've just quickly scanned through the City Code ([www.ci.lawrence.ks.us/city\\_code](http://www.ci.lawrence.ks.us/city_code)) but, while there is a section there dealing with sidewalks, I didn't see anything that seemed to fit your situation.

Please consider attending our March meeting, if that's possible with your commute. It's possible that some of our members have faced a similar problem. We meet from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. on the 2nd Thursday of the month (March 11) at the East Heights school We enter from the rear of the building (where there is parking) at a door at the north part of the east side of the building.

-- Julie Banhart  
BCNA Coordinator

**Sent February 21, 2010 re Bargain Center problems**

Dear Mayor Chestnut and City Commissioners,

The Brook Creek Neighborhood Association requests that you require the salvage yard activities at the 12<sup>th</sup> and Haskell Bargain & Recycling Center, 1146 Haskell, to cease immediately. An industrial salvage yard does not belong in a neighborhood. When the Bargain Center was “grandfathered in” by the City of Lawrence, there was no indication that the property would be used for an industrial salvage yard. This business is not even remotely similar to the types of businesses that previously operated on this property. We have many concerns with having an industrial salvage yard located in our neighborhood:

- The recent fire involving 6 cars filled nearby homes with noxious smoke. This was the 6th car fire in the past six years. The owner has been cited by the KDHE for improper handling of fluids. What happens when instead of 6 cars, 50 cars catch fire?
- The noise, trash and truck traffic are ongoing. The crushing and moving of salvage causes nearby homes to shake. The noise is sometimes so loud that residents cannot hear their TVs for the sound of the crusher. Trash from customers dropping off recycle and salvage items line yards along 12<sup>th</sup> Street, including plastic grocery bags in the trees and shrubs. Heavy trucks are damaging the narrow chip and seal streets by using the neighborhood as a shortcut instead of using the truck route on Haskell.
- Salvage is piled higher than the fence. A complaint regarding mobile homes stacked higher than the fence was recently filed using the City’s online system. The problem was corrected almost immediately, but apparently because a nearby homeowner paid a Bargain Center employee to move the mobile homes.
- The property is located in the 100 year flood plain. Burroughs’s Creek and Brook Creek merge on this property. Pollutants can easily find their way into the Kansas River, as this property does flood during heavy rains.

The Brook Creek Neighborhood Association understands that recycle centers and salvage yards serve a very important purpose by reducing the amount of waste in landfills. We want people to recycle everything they can, including cars, but a neighborhood is not the right location for this type of facility. The industrial salvage activities at the 12<sup>th</sup> and Haskell Bargain Center need to cease immediately.

Sincerely,

Julie Mitchell, President  
Brook Creek Neighborhood Association

**Email correspondence March 2 –10, 2010, between Jessica Miescher, Julie Mitchell, and Julie Banhart re BCNA’s participation in the Neighbor-to-Neighbor program. The final response is below, sent March 10, 2010 to Ms. Miescher.:**

Jessica –

I passed your email to our association president so she could put it on the agenda for our meeting tomorrow evening. I'm sorry it took so long to get back to you - I was waiting for a reply to be sure it got on the agenda. Once we have presented this to our membership, we will let you know if there will be a representative from the Brook Creek neighborhood. [*Note: there was a BCNA representative there.*]

Julie Banhart, BCNA Coordinator

**Emails received/sent March 11-13, 2010 with resident re abandoned house**

**Received March 11**

Hi. My name is Sarah Peltzman. My husband, Erik and I live at 1447 Summit St. The gray house directly behind ours (address?) has been abandoned since November. There is no sign in the yard for sale and we haven't seen our neighbors since November. Our thoughts are this is a foreclosure. However, the owners left stuff all over the yard front and back. And our main concern is safety this summer along with yard care being neglected. What can we do to help this situation?

Sincerely,  
Sarah & Erik Peltzman  
1447 Summit St.  
749-4415

**Sent March 11, 2010**

Sarah --

Thank you for bringing this to our attention. My suggestion is that you call the City offices responsible for checking into blighted homes / areas. If you call 832-7700 and tell the receptionist that you want to talk with someone about a blighted property, she will direct you to the appropriate person for your area.

I hope you were able to make it to our meeting tonight. I am sending your message along to BCNA's president for inclusion on our new business agenda.

Let me know, please, if you have any problems getting this reported.

Julie Banhart  
BCNA Coordinator

**Received March 11**

Julie -

Actually I was able to grab the address online which is 1512 E 15th St. The property owner is still listed as Kory Wilcoxson.

I spoke to Brian at 832-7700. He said that there isn't a whole lot they can do if this is a foreclosure issue. He said they will send out a letter to the property owner and go from there. I told Brian that we were worried about safety and the eyesore this property will become this summer. He said he understood and would look into it.

Thank you again!

**Sent March 13, 2010**

Sarah --

Good to hear that Brian will be looking into it. If nothing happens and it gets worse, keep Brian notified. And let me know how it goes, please.

Julie

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## **NEWSLETTER (follows)**

**The newsletter that follows is for April, May, July 2010. The newsletter that covered December 2009 and February and March 2010 was reproduced in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Report, submitted in February 2010. The minutes for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter (February and March) are found in the newsletter below, and April's minutes are in the "Minutes" section, above, with those of February and March.**



# ***BROOK CREEK BREEZE***

April / May / July 2010

<p><b>GENERAL MEETING</b>  <b>April 8, 2010</b>  <b>7:00 p.m.</b>  <b>East Heights Early Childhood Education Center</b></p>	<p><b>GENERAL MEETING</b>  <b>May 13, 2010</b>  <b>7:00 p.m.</b>  <b>East Heights Early Childhood Education Center</b></p>	<p><b>GENERAL MEETING</b>  <b>July 8, 2010</b>  <b>7:00 p.m.</b>  <b>East Heights Early Childhood Education Center</b></p>
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## **UPCOMING MEETINGS**

This issue covers our meetings in April, May, and July. Remember, we do not meet in June or in August. 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 Heights Early Childhood Education Center.

<b>THURSDAY, APRIL 8, 2010:]</b>	Meeting for Business
<b>THURSDAY, MAY 13, 2010:</b>	Meeting for Business
<b>THURSDAY, JULY 18, 2010:</b>	Meeting for Business
<b>SATURDAY, APRIL 17, 2010</b>	Park Clean-up
<b>SATURDAY, APRIL 24, 2010</b>	Rain Date for Park Clean-up

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## **PROBLEMS WITH THE SALVAGE YARD**

After a 6-car fire at the 12th & Haskell Recycling Center on January 27, 2010, Brook Creek resident and recycling center neighbor Byron Wiley summarized ongoing safety, environmental and nuisance problems caused by the Center to the Brook Creek February meeting.

Mr. Wiley collected signatures of many Brook Creek neighbors in a letter to the Mayor and City Commissioners providing details of many problems at the Recycling Center and requesting immediate and thorough correction. Also, BCNA President Julie Mitchell submitted a letter on behalf of BCNA to the City addressing BCNA's shared concerns and requesting that industrial salvage activities at the facility cease immediately.

The complaints of BCNA and neighbors submitted to the City include:

- Ongoing safety oversights and improper handling of auto fluids have led to 6 auto fire events in the past 6 years--a situation that threatens both safety and air quality.
- Since the property is entirely in the floodplain, with Burrough's Creek and Brook Creek on two sides of the property, pollutants can easily enter groundwater and streams.
- The near-constant noise of crushing and moving salvage causes nearby homes to shake, and disturbs residents of the neighborhood located next to the center.
- The center's activities have expanded to a greater intensity of industrial use than what the City allowed when the legal non-conforming use was granted in residential zoning.



- Recycling collection activity contributes to litter in the neighbors' ditches, yards, and trees.
- Heavy trucks are damaging the narrow chip and seal streets by using the neighborhood as a shortcut instead of using the truck route on Haskell.
- The salvage is piled higher than the fence, presenting an eyesore and visual nuisance to the neighborhood.
- The Center appears to be running a non-permitted large recycling collection and processing center

BCNA President Mitchell wrote to the Mayor: "The Brook Creek Neighborhood Association understands that recycle centers and salvage yards serve a very important purpose by reducing the amount of waste in landfills. We want people to recycle everything they can, including cars, but a neighborhood is not the right location for this type of facility. The industrial salvage activities at the 12<sup>th</sup> and Haskell Bargain Center need to cease immediately." [The *complete text of BCNA's letter can be found below.*]

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) surveyed the Recycling Center and found the majority of inspected cars to contain automotive fluids. KDHE presented an emergency order to the Recycling Center to collect and properly handle automotive fluids. Their involvement is ongoing.

Mr. Wiley and other Brook Creek neighbors met with Planning Director Scott McCullough and City legal, code enforcement, and planning staff to describe the neighbors' research into many apparent City code violations and the history of the site. City staff are preparing a report for the City Manager and City Commissioners on the facility.

Mr. Wiley shared information on the issues regarding the Recycling Center with BCNA in 2006. At that time, the City requested the facility to address three code violations. However, the City and Recycling Center owners did not correct the main complaints of the neighbors.

*This is a good time for BCNA residents to let their opinions on the **junkyard** be known to the City Commissioners and Planning Director Scott McCullough.*

#### **LETTER SENT ON 2/21/10 TO THE CITY COMMISSION ON BEHALF OF BCNA**

Dear Mayor Chestnut and City Commissioners,

The Brook Creek Neighborhood Association requests that you require the salvage yard activities at the 12<sup>th</sup> and Haskell Bargain & Recycling Center, 1146 Haskell, to cease immediately. An industrial salvage yard does not belong in a neighborhood. When the Bargain Center was "grandfathered in" by the City of Lawrence, there was no indication that the property would be used for an industrial salvage yard. This business is not even remotely similar to the types of businesses that previously operated on this property. We have many concerns with having an industrial salvage yard located in our neighborhood:

- The recent fire involving 6 cars filled nearby homes with noxious smoke. This was the 6th car fire in the past six years. The owner has been cited by the KDHE for improper handling of fluids. What happens when instead of 6 cars, 50 cars catch fire?
- The noise, trash and truck traffic are ongoing. The crushing and moving of salvage causes nearby homes to shake. The noise is sometimes so loud that residents cannot hear their TVs for the sound of the crusher. Trash from customers dropping off recycle and salvage items line

yards along 12<sup>th</sup> Street, including plastic grocery bags in the trees and shrubs. Heavy trucks are damaging the narrow chip and seal streets by using the neighborhood as a shortcut instead of using the truck route on Haskell.

- Salvage is piled higher than the fence. A complaint regarding mobile homes stacked higher than the fence was recently filed using the City's online system. The problem was corrected almost immediately, but apparently because a nearby homeowner paid a Bargain Center employee to move the mobile homes.
- The property is located in the 100 year flood plain. Burrough's Creek and Brook Creek merge on this property. Pollutants can easily find their way into the Kansas River, as this property does flood during heavy rains.

The Brook Creek Neighborhood Association understands that recycle centers and salvage yards serve a very important purpose by reducing the amount of waste in landfills. We want people to recycle everything they can, including cars, but a neighborhood is not the right location for this type of facility. The industrial salvage activities at the 12<sup>th</sup> and Haskell Bargain Center need to cease immediately.

Sincerely,

Julie Mitchell, President  
Brook Creek Neighborhood Association  
1231 Brook Street

## **Kudos to the City**

Kudos to the City of Lawrence, particularly the Parks and Recreation Department! They will be widening the sidewalk along Burroughs Creek from Oregon St. to Haskell. It will soon be wide enough for bicycles to safely pass each other or pedestrians.

## **UNDERSTANDING BOARDING HOUSE/CONGREGATE LIVING ISSUES**

News from Dickie Heckler, our representative to LAN, is that we need to be aware of a city-wide concern of neighborhoods about Boarding Houses, also known as Congregate Living, issues.

The amendment being considered by the City could impact all neighborhoods. The term "boarding house" is to be replaced with "congregate living." Congregate living will be allowed in adaptive reuse areas.

One of the goals of BCNA and other neighborhoods is to maintain and encourage owner occupants. The escalating number of BH/CL units can make this difficult. Since the 1990s, the number of requests for BH permits has gone up 2000%. Prior to this, neighborhoods and owner occupants had been reasonably protected by the ruling that stated that no more than 4 unrelated individuals could live in a single dwelling unit/house. Single-family zoned areas allow no more than 3 unrelated individuals to live in a house.

Boarding houses used to be homes where owners rented out rooms and often provided meals for their renters. Students not only lived with a resident supervisor, they lived with families.

Students also did not commonly own cars. Years later, as society changed, BH use faded. In today's world, which often requires two incomes, few are willing to live with students and cook meals for them. However, about 10 years ago, a resurgence of BH applications began and morphed into what we have today. The code for BH should have been altered or studied at that time to discuss the intended use and the impact on neighborhoods. –It wasn't.

So, today, we are seeing dwelling units that once housed 4 unrelated individuals now house double that number and, in some cases, even more than that. The once-subdued BH has now become a residence for groups of undergraduates who generally know each other and have some kind of affiliation with a social living group on campus. So, they not only house students but they are also popular off-campus locations for parties. There are often outdoor decks and patio space for outdoor gatherings, drinking, and celebration. This kind of activity does not encourage owner occupants or peace abiding renters. It puts stress on the neighborhood and uses many city resources to address the disruption, higher crime, parking problems and ensuing blight.

The higher density that is allowed BH/CL units and the lower parking requirements than other housing types favors one type of rental unit over another. Individuals wanting to buy older homes are now being priced out of the market as home prices rise due to the income generating potential of a BH.

The amendments the city has proposed are problematic and unfair. They should be revised to be in keeping with the goals of the single-family neighborhoods and with consideration for their impact throughout the city.

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## MINUTES

**DECEMBER 10, 2009**

*(Doug Miller, Secretary, reporting)*

The meeting was called to order in the meeting room at the East Lawrence Recreation Center, 1245 E. 15th Street at 7 p.m. by President Julie Mitchell. Eleven members were present.

The treasurer's report was read and approved.

Julie Mitchell reported that BCNA is in 100% compliance with the CD Advisory Committee.

The possibility of an impromptu winter Brook Creek Park clean-up was discussed. The spring Brook Creek Park clean-up will be on Saturday, April 17<sup>th</sup>, with a rain date of Saturday, April 24<sup>th</sup>.

It was reported that the school board is discussing closing New York School, and all concerned are invited to attend a meeting on January 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:15 p.m. in the New York School Gym. There was further discussion about the school board and the closing of schools. Any questions about New York School can be addressed to Nicole Allensworth at 785-550-9478.

The Lawrence Association of Neighborhoods (LAN) is having breakfast meetings with elected city and county officials. LAN had a discussion about the city purchasing the Oread Labs to sell or lease. LAN will celebrate their anniversary at 6:00 p.m. on January 29<sup>th</sup> at the Visitor's Center Depot in North Lawrence.

Election of officers for 2010 was held. The current officers were re-nominated. Dickie Heckler moved that this slate be elected. Robert Taylor seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved. Officers for 2010 are:

President	Julie Mitchell
Vice-President	Andrea Repinsky
Treasurer	Susan Miller
Secretary	Douglas Miller

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

### **FEBRUARY 11, 2010**

The meeting was called to order by President Julie Mitchell at 7:00 p.m. with 12 members present..

The Treasurer's report was read and approved.

Triggered by the 6-car fire at the Bargain & Recycling Center, the rest of the meeting was devoted to a presentation by Byron Wiley and other concerned neighbors about the ongoing, and now crucial, problems the salvage center causes for the neighborhood.

Mr. Wiley detailed a timeline of the problems, our interaction with the center and the City. Possible steps to reach a resolution of the problem were discussed. It was decided that BCNA President Julie Mitchell would write a letter, on behalf of the neighborhood, to the City Commission, while Mr. Wiley would send a more detailed letter describing documented problems.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

### **MARCH 11, 2010**

The meeting was called to order by President Julia Mitchell at 7 p.m. with 12 members present. The Treasurer's report was read and approved. February's minutes were read and approved.

Haley Travis from Tenants to Homeowners gave an update on the house at 1230 Laura Ave., which is nearing completion. Ms. Travis said that when this home sells, building will begin on the other 3 lots on Laura Ave. No open house is planned at the completion of 1230 Laura Ave. Ms. Travis said Rebecca Buford, 2518 Ridge Court, Suite 209, (telephone: 785-842-5494), can be contacted with any questions about the plans for the lots on Laura Avenue.

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It was reported that duplexes are planned for construction in the 1900 block of Learnard (Barker Neighborhood) across from the Burroughs House. The Barker Neighborhood Association has not complained about this construction.

The CDBG funding committee has finalized the funding for the next year and it is now up for public debate. Two of the changes affecting Brook Creek is that CDBG will no longer pay for LAN dues or for a subscription to the Lawrence Journal World.

There was a complaint regarding an abandoned house on the southeast corner of Oak Hill and Elmwood., and the concerned resident was directed to the appropriate City office. A complaint was also noted about a truck that has been sitting in the front yard on the north side of 15th Street, next to the cemetery.

The spring cleanup is April 17th with an inclement weather date of April 24th.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 PM.

The next meeting is Thursday, April 8, 2010 at 7 PM in the East Heights Early Childhood Development Gym, 1430 Haskell.

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## **NEWS AND A REQUEST FROM NEW YORK SCHOOL**

The following request was received from New York School:

New York Elementary is in need of 140 **CLEAR** plastic 2 liter bottles, with the lids if possible. We are going to make terrariums at our field day and need one for every kid. Just drop them off at the school by April 16th. We will take care of the rest.

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## **CITY HAS FUNDING AVAILABLE FOR EMERGENCY HOME REPAIRS**

For emergency situations, the City offers an emergency loan program that can provide up to \$5,000 for emergency repairs or furnace replacement. Mobile home owners may access up to \$2,500. These funds can be used for improvements that eliminate immediate hazards to health and safety or cause damage to the structure or conditions that are likely to cause health and safety hazards. Funding is only available to owner-occupied homes and must meet income eligibility guidelines.

Applications are accepted year-round. Call 832-7700 for additional information.

Applications are available in the Development Services Office and online at

[www.lawrenceks.org/pds/housing\\_programs](http://www.lawrenceks.org/pds/housing_programs).

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**WELCOME TO THE NEIGHBORHOOD**

1415 Brook St. - Joyce M. Long  
916 Anna Tappan Way - Christopher S. Peoples  
1402 E. 18th Terrace - Joshua S. Gall  
928 Anna Tappan Way - Prabhu Ramamoorthy & Maheswari Ganesan  
911 E. 13th St. - Gregory D. Seibel  
1612 E. 15th St. - Luis P., Jr. & Tamara L. Mendoza  
922 Oliver's Court - Nicole M. Madril  
1227 Prairie Ave. - Allison S. Rodecap  
1809 Miller Dr. - Donnell E. Caro



***You're Invited***

***to***

***The Spring Brook Creek Clean-Up***

Saturday, April 17, 2010

10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

(Rain date: April 24, 2010)

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 wintertime 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

PRSR STD U.S. Postage <b>PAID</b> Topeka, KS Permit #9
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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**

At least two individuals demonstrated “good neighboring” throughout the winter season. Each cleared the driveways and/or walkways to nearby homes of the (seemingly) constant snows. This was done regularly, voluntarily, unasked, and with no request for payment. These were just the two reported to us. Many more such instances undoubtedly went on throughout the neighborhood.

Although BCNA’s annual spring park clean-up is a regularly scheduled event, this year, in addition to those who regularly show up to help, some really “good neighboring” was done by 3 young boys who live in the neighborhood. Riding their bikes past Brook Creek Park, they saw us at work, stopped and offered to help. They were immediately provided with trash bags and gloves, and stuck it out for most of the time, mostly helping those who were cleaning out the creek. In addition, two moms in the park with their kids helped load our supplies back into Julie Mitchell’s car. A man named Tom, who lives on East Glen, helped unload everything back into Julie Mitchell’s shed and then played Somewhere Over the Rainbow for us on the saw.

As good neighbors, when approached for donations for food so lunch could be provided to the clean-up volunteers, both Wal\*Mart and Dillon’s came through, for which those working at the clean-up are grateful.