

NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION QUARTERLY PERFORMANCE REPORT

Date	Activity Description	Number of Attendees
February 2011	<p>Meetings: No General Meeting was held in February 2011, due to cancellation of our use of the meeting room at the East Lawrence Recreation Center because of a Parks & Rec class moved into that time slot. Rather, the Officers of the BCNA and the coordinator met at President Julie Mitchell's home to revise the (very old) By-Laws of the Association.</p> <p>Communications: The December/February/March newsletter included the information that there was to be no February meeting.</p>	NA
March 8, 2011	<p>Meetings: The BCNA General Meeting was held on Tuesday, March 8, 2011 at the East Lawrence Recreation Center.</p> <p>Communications: The date was publicized in the newsletter for December, February, March</p> <p>Email communications were sent on March 1, 2010.</p>	9
<p>April 12, 2011</p> <p>April 23, 2011</p>	<p>Meetings: The BCNA General Meeting was held on April 12, 2011 at the East Lawrence Recreation Center.</p> <p>Communications: The meeting information was in the April / May / July newsletter.</p> <p>An email communication was sent to the members on the email list on April 11, 2011.</p> <p>The annual BCNA Spring Park Cleanup, plus an Easter Egg Hunt for neighborhood children was held on April 23, 2011 in Brook Creek Park.</p> <p>Communications: The clean-up was announced in the April / May / July newsletter.</p> <p>An email communication was sent to members on the email list on April 22, 2011</p>	<p>15</p> <p>13</p>

MINUTES

March 8, 2011

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Julie Mitchell, with 9 members in attendance. Dickie Heckler passed out pertinent information regarding issues before LAN.

Margaret Tran gave a PowerPoint presentation about the Take Charge Lawrence Campaign. A Q&A session followed.

Treasurer Susan Miller gave the treasurer's report, which was unanimously approved

A discussion ensued about the possibility of opening our newsletter to paid advertising. A vote unanimously approved gathering of further information about additional newsletter costs and bringing the information for a decision to the April meeting.

Dickey Heckler gave the LAN report with updates to the Lawrence Elementary School Facility Vision Task Force recommendations inclusive of a bond proposal.

A brief discussion followed regarding the Lawrence City Commission's suggested revision of the allotted parking spaces per resident of a multi-family dwelling less than 3,500 square feet, from 0.75 spaces per resident to 1.0 space per bedroom of said residence. A motion was made by Secretary Larry Kelley, that BCNA make a formal objection to this proposal due to the possibility that this could lead to congestion in East Lawrence properties. The motion was seconded by Dickie Heckler and the motion was unanimously approved.

The revised By-Laws were passed out for review. They will be published in the newsletter and voted upon by the membership at the April meeting.

KU's Big Event was briefly discussed, and President Julie Mitchell said she is willing to help anyone without Internet access get the form requesting assistance filled out.

Vice President Andrea Repinsky gave an update on the Haskell Recycling Center, noting that proposed changes to provide relief for surrounding residents of the neighborhood were probably futile, at best, and that any site plan apparently only needs the approval of the Lawrence Planning Director.

Roy Wimmer proposed that BCNA save money by emailing the newsletter instead of mailing it. It was pointed out that many Brook Creek residents do not have access to email, and many who do have not signed up for the email list. In addition, to remove some residences from the USPS Carrier Sort order would result in a higher postage rate than what we now pay, thus increasing our costs.

Our Spring Park Clean-Up is scheduled for Saturday, April 23, from 10:00 – 2:00. It was decided that, in addition to the Clean-Up, we will have small Easter Egg Hunt for the children of the neighborhood. The rain date for the Clean-Up is Saturday, April 30. Lunch will be provided.

The Big Brothers and Big Sisters fund raiser at New York School was discussed

Roy Wimmer noted that Tenants-to-Homeowners, with some welcomed improvements, is now managing the apartments at 1409 Haskell.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

April 12th, 2011

Julie Mitchell, president, opened the meeting promptly at 7:00 P.M. with 15 people present.

Susan Miller, treasurer, read the treasurer's report and the report was approved.

Rebecca Buford and Jerime Lewis, from Tenants to Homeowners, gave an update on their five new homes, three with basements, on Laura Street, all to be owner occupied. A discussion of the drainage problems along Laura Street ensued, with recommendations to take the issue up with Matt Bond, City Stormwater Engineer. Russ Wiggins suggested that removal of underground pipes and the creation of open ditches might fix the current problem with drainage. Mention was made of the fact that heavy trucks, particularly those carrying forms for the pouring of the basements for the new Laura Street homes, caused some of the severe rutting problems.

It was resolved that Julie Mitchell would email Matt Bond to set up a meeting about the drainage problems and copy Rebecca Buford, Tenants to Homeowners representative.

Some mention was made of the new roof and siding for the apartments at 1411 Haskell, plus the tremendous advantage of the new Tenants to Homeowners oversight.

We were apprised that the former Pelathe center would now be the Four Winds Native Center.

The new by-laws with the change, graciously suggested by Michael Almon, were unanimously approved.

Also discussed was the drainage problem Brook Creek was having as it runs under Brook Street. The idea of “day-lighting” the area was proposed. This would create two new cul-de-sacs, and, essentially, close Brook Street to through traffic between 13th and 15th streets.

Mark Taylor reported to Julie Mitchell last week that the city removed a large pile of debris from the creek back in the woods.

Mention was made of the Community Development Block Grant funding, including the funding for community organizations, such as BCNA, with an emphasis on the fact that funding may be cut, but has not yet been finalized.

The Spring Park Clean-Up was discussed and the members were informed that, so far, The Merc and Wheatfields have made donations for lunch for the volunteers. . In addition, this year we will have an Easter egg hunt for the neighborhood children.

An estate sale at Mr. Eggert’s home was announced and discussion followed about the active role Mr. Eggert played in the neighborhood and the history of his home.

Rachel Moedina raised concerns about the safety of neighborhood children because, with no sidewalks, they often play in the street – and our streets are busy, with too many cars traveling too fast. The general consensus of the meeting was that some benefit would be gleaned by traffic calming devices. A committee composed of Rachel Moedina, Dana Parfitt and Michael Almon was formed to study the situation and give recommendations.

The meeting was concluded at 8:15 P.M.

COMMUNICATIONS

Messages to email list:

2/15/11	News of the Take Charge Challenge and the New York Elementary Walking School Bus plan
4/6/11	Forwarding to the BCNA email list the City’s announcement of its Earth Day events.
4/11/11	Reminder of April General Meeting.
4/22/11	Reminder of the annual Park Clean-up.

NEWSLETTER (follows)



BROOK CREEK BREEZE

April, May, July 2011

<p>Tuesday, April 12, 2011 7:00 p.m. East Lawrence Rec. Center</p>	<p>Wednesday, May 11, 2011 7:00 p.m. East Lawrence Rec. Center</p>	<p>Wednesday, July 13, 2011 7:00 p.m. East Lawrence Rec. Center</p>
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UPCOMING BCNA EVENTS

TUESDAY, APRIL 12, 2011	General Meeting and discussion / approval of updated By-Laws; Discussion of Park Clean-up and Easter Egg Hunt
SATURDAY, APRIL 23, 2011	Spring Park Clean-up and Easter Egg Hunt for neighborhood children. Rain date for the Clean-Up is Saturday, April 30.
WEDNESDAY, MAY 11, 2011	General Meeting
WEDNESDAY, JULY 13, 2011	General Meeting

REVISED BCNA BY-LAWS

In February 2011, the officers and coordinator of BCNA met to revise and update the Association's By-Laws. We believe that everyone should have a chance to read and consider the By-Laws before asking for a vote of the members present. Below are the revised By-Laws. They will be up for discussion and a vote at the April 12th meeting.

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS of the BROOK CREEK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

ARTICLE 1

Section 1: Name
The name of BCNA is the Brook Creek Neighborhood Association (BCNA).

Section 2: Boundaries
That area of the City of Lawrence, Douglas County, Kansas, bounded on the east by the City limits, on the north by the Kaw River, on the West by the Santa Fe Spur Line and Burroughs Creek Trail, and on the south by the north side of 19th Street. Edgewood Homes is not part of the Brook Creek neighborhood.

ARTICLE 2: Purpose

Our mission is to stabilize and maintain the neighborhood as a quality, primarily single-family residential neighborhood. Our goals are to preserve, maintain, and improve the quality of living conditions in the neighborhood, identify and respond to its changing needs, and provide an infrastructure for communication on relevant issues. Our goals are also to increase communication and interaction between residents in all parts of our large neighborhood.

ARTICLE 3: Membership

Section 1

Any person 18 years of age, residing in or owning property within the boundaries of the BCNA, as defined above, whose dues are paid, shall be a voting member of BCNA.

Section 2

Interested people living outside the neighborhood boundaries shall be non-voting members by paying dues.

ARTICLE 4: Officers

Section 1

The officers of BCNA shall be President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer.

Section 2: Term of Office

The officers of BCNA shall be elected for one (1) year.

Section 3: Resignation of Officers

A written resignation to the BCNA officers shall be required of an officer wishing to resign from office. The books of the office must be in order and/or audited before the resignation of the Secretary or Treasurer can be accepted.

Section 4: Vacancies

In the event of a vacancy in any office except that of President, the successor shall be appointed by the BCNA officers, Such successor shall hold office for the remainder of the term.

ARTICLE 5: Duties of Officers

Section 1: President

In addition to the duties already listed in these By-Laws, the President shall preside at meetings as well as holding the usual power and authority vested in the office of the President of an unincorporated association, and shall execute the plans and policies of BCNA.

Section 2: Vice-President

The power and authority of the Vice-President shall be to preside at meetings in the absence of the President; perform such other duties as shall be assigned by the BCNA officers (AO); become President in case of the vacancy of the office of President.

Section 3: Secretary

The Secretary shall attend all sessions of the BCNA officers and all BCNA meetings. He/she shall record all votes and the minutes of all proceedings in a book and/or digital files to be kept for that purpose; keep an accurate list of committees; prepare ballots for elections; contact media outlets with news of all meetings; and perform other duties as may be prescribed by BCNA Officers or President under whose supervision he/she shall perform his/her duties.

Section 4: Treasurer

The Treasurer shall have general custody of the funds of BCNA and shall keep full and accurate accounts of receipts and disbursements in books belonging to BCNA, and shall deposit all money in the name and to the credit of BCNA in such manner and in such depository as shall be designated by BCNA Officers. He/she shall cause the funds of BCNA to be disbursed in such manner as shall be designated by BCNA Officers and see that proper receipts cover all disbursements. He/she shall report at regular meetings of the membership, collect all dues and assessments, issue membership cards, and furnish the BCNA officers with an accurate list of members entitled to vote.

ARTICLE 6: Nomination and Election of Officers

Section 1

The nomination of officers shall be held annually at the regular meeting in November, with the election held at the regular meeting in December.

Section 2

No member shall be nominated or be a candidate for more than one office at the same election.

Section 3

Nomination for offices shall be made by a nominating committee of three members. One shall be appointed by the President and the other two shall be elected by the members in October.

Section 4

The nominating committee shall report at the November meeting, submitting one nominee for each office, after which nominations are in order from the floor. No one whose consent has not previously been attained shall be nominated by the committee.

Section 5

Election shall be either by ballot or by voice vote and a plurality vote shall elect.

Section 6

Any member in good standing who has attended at least one-fourth of the business meetings of said year, up to and including the nominations meeting, shall be eligible for election to any office. Any member not currently qualified shall be deemed eligible for any such office by vote of the BCNA officers. Candidates-elect to office may accept by letter if unable to attend the December meeting.

Section 7

Officers elected shall officiate at the first regular meeting following the election.

ARTICLE 7: Meetings

Section 1

Regular meetings of the BCNA shall be held at least seven (7) times a year.

Section 2

Meetings of the BCNA officers shall be called by the President as necessary or at the request of another Board member.

Section 3

Special meetings of the members for any purpose may be called by the BCNA officers. The business transacted at any special meeting shall be confined to the announced purpose of the meeting.

Section 4

Notice, either written, email, or telephone, will be given stating the nature of the business to be conducted at any special meetings of the members called by the BCNA officers. Such notice will be given seven (7) days in advance of said meeting.

Section 5

Ten percent (10%) of the voting members of BCNA shall constitute a quorum for all meetings of the members. No meeting shall be dismissed in less than 30 minutes while waiting for a quorum.

Section 6

Meeting procedures shall follow those set forth in *Robert's Rules of Order*.

ARTICLE 8: Committees

All standing and special committees shall be appointed by the BCNA officers. The duties of these committees shall be determined by the President.

ARTICLE 9: Dues and Finance

Section 1: Dues

The annual dues of BCNA shall be \$1.00 per year per member, payable in advance. Those who are neither residents nor property owners in the neighborhood can become non-voting members by paying dues of \$3.00 per year.

Section 2

Memberships are due at the first of the year and are considered delinquent after the March meeting. Members who have not paid their dues by the March meeting shall be automatically dropped from the voting roster until the dues are paid.

Section 3: Expenditures

All expenditures of BCNA in excess of \$25.00 shall be approved by the BCNA officers. The President or Treasurer may authorize expenditures of \$25.00 or less.

Section 4: Checks

All checks on Association accounts shall be signed by the President or Treasurer] and those in excess of \$25.00 shall be co-signed by an additional officer.

ARTICLE 10: Inspection of Books

Any member of BCNA shall have the right to examine in person or by agent or attorney at any time for any purpose the by-laws, books, accounts and records of BCNA or of the proceedings of the members or Officers.

ARTICLE 11: Amendments

The By-Laws may be amended at any regular or special meeting called for that purpose by simple majority of the members present and voting, providing notice of such amendment has been sent to all members at least 7 days prior to the date of the meeting.

ARTICLE 12: Discipline**Section 1**

The President has the right, at any meeting, to declare any person attempting to create disruption or refusing to conform to the BCNA By-Laws out of order. If, after being declared out of order, such person continues this behavior, the President and BCNA officers shall expel such person from the meeting.

Section 2

Any officer whose conduct is such that it discredits BCNA, or who works against the interest and purpose of BCNA may be recalled from office by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members present.

MINUTES**December 8, 2010**

The meeting was called to order by President Julie Mitchell at 7:00 p.m. at the East Lawrence Recreation Center, with 11 members present.

The treasurer's report was read and approved.

Andrea Repinsky gave a report on the 12th St. Bargain Center Recycling Center. The City Staff is working with the Bargain Center to resolve issues, but they are still waiting for a site plan. The pile of scrap has been reduced and items are out of the floodway.

The BCNA officers will be meeting in February to update the by-laws and will bring them to the March meeting for approval. The meeting time and place will be announced at a later time.

The election of Officers is as follows:

President:	Julie Mitchell	Secretary:	Larry Kelley
Vice-President:	Andrea Repinsky	Treasurer:	Susan Miller

As usual, there will not be a January meeting. Due to the unavailability of a meeting room, there will be no general meeting in February, but the officers will meet to revise the By-Laws..

The next meeting is Tuesday, March 8, 2011 in the East Lawrence Recreation Center, 1245 E. 15th St. at 7 PM.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 PM for the Holiday Party where everyone had a good time.

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The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Contact Information

If you need to contact us with any questions or comments, please email us at BrookCreekNA@gmail.com. If you do not have access to email, you can call Julie Banhart at 841-4997.

Take Charge Challenge

The *Take Charge Challenge* is a friendly competition to save energy, save money, and *take charge* of our energy future.

Lawrence and Manhattan are going head-to-head, and the town that reduces its energy use the most will win **an energy efficiency or renewable energy community project worth up to \$100,000!** Improving home energy efficiency is one of the best ways to reduce energy use, save money, and make your home more comfortable. Right now, home energy audits are available for only \$100! Your energy audit will recommend the best actions you can take to get the most benefit while weatherproofing your home. Westar is offering financing, and the City offers additional ongoing low-income weatherization assistance. With all the organizational and financial assistance available, this is the time to act!

How YOU can help Lawrence win:

- **Schedule** an **Efficiency Kansas** home energy audit.
- **Make** the **switch** to compact fluorescent bulbs.
- **Enroll** in **Westar's energy efficiency programs**
- **Attend** a **Take Charge! Challenge** event.

For more details, see the Lawrence Take Charge website: www.lawrenceks.org/takecharge

New York Elementary Walking School Bus

A plan is in the works for an exciting new project for East Lawrence : New York Elementary is partnering with Douglas County Housing, Inc. to implement a permanent, neighborhood-wide Walking School Bus!

Studies show that 60 minutes of daily activity will help kids to build and maintain healthy bones and muscles, reduce the risk of developing obesity and chronic diseases, reduce feelings of depression anxiety, and ensure that kids are awake and alert when they begin their school day. We believe that a Walking School Bus will provide this healthy physical activity while ensuring the safety of children as they walk together in a group and while serving as a visible, colorful, fun way to engage our neighborhood every day.

We already have an overwhelming amount of support from local businesses and community organizations, including LiveWell Lawrence, from whom we have received a grant for safety gear, training, and youth incentives. It is our hope that this successful program will serve as a model for the rest of the district and lead to federal funding for sidewalk repair in East Lawrence, the building of bike lanes, and pedestrian safety training for all of Lawrence through the federal Safe Routes to School Program.

To plan a successful and fun program, which will benefit everybody, we need community input and involvement!

Your help is needed to:

- > Determine the safest, most convenient routes and "bus stops" for children and families.
- > Recruit more "bus drivers": parents and community volunteers who are willing to walk and have fun!
- > Talk about safety, visibility, and how this can help our school, our kids, and our community!

For more information, visit saferoutesinfo.org, or email Bonnie Cherry at bonniecherry@gmail.com.

Notes from BCNA President

Spring has finally arrived in Brook Creek! Along with the longer days, warmer weather, and flowers come a couple of things to keep in mind if you live in the Brook Creek Neighborhood.

The first is kids. Kids are enjoying the spring season and their neighborhood parks, so please slow down when driving through the neighborhood. We don't have many sidewalks, so the kids have no other choice than to walk and bike in the roads. Please help keep our neighborhood kids safe by slowing down and paying attention.

Another thing to keep in mind this spring is flooding. Flash flooding along Brook Creek is not uncommon. We experienced flash floods the past two years in May. Areas prone to flash flooding are Brook Street between 12th and 15th Streets, 13th Street between Brook Street and Oak Hill, and Haskell between 11th and 12th Streets. The water comes up fast, and it moves fast. If you can't see the pavement, turn around and find another route. Water that appears shallow enough to drive or walk through can actually be very dangerous. A stalled out car can quickly become engulfed in water. Fast moving water can carry heavy unseen objects such as logs and concrete blocks.. Luckily, these flash floods go down as quickly as they come up.

WELCOME TO THE NEIGHBORHOOD

Brett A. Watson - 926 Oliver's Court	Ashley M. Schlotzhauer - 1709 Genessee St.
Jacqueline Juhl - 1511 Hanscom Road	Kayla M. Masters - 910 Oliver's Court
Benjamin A. Cropp - 1703 Maple Lane	Mark N. & Ramona L. Schonberg - 1423 Haskell Ave.
Sarah N. Smith - 1743 Maple Lane	Michael D. & Bernadette R. Corbett - 1426 Prospect Ave.
William R. Dillon - 1522 Cadet Ave.	Karim K. Abdelbanat & Magda Abduljabbar - 921 Ward Ave.



Come to

The Spring Brook Creek Clean-Up

Saturday, April 23, 2011

10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

(Rain date: April 30, 2011)

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. There will be an Easter Egg Hunt for the children, so bring your whole family. 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 PAID Lawrence, KS Permit #570
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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

As usual in the Brook Creek neighborhood, there are many acts of good neighboring that go unreported. However, special mention must be made of the people who came to the park clean-up and stuck it out (in very cool / chilly weather), working on the creek and the woodlands. A couple of young children, who accompanied their father to the Easter Egg Hunt, pitched right in and not only got down in the creek bed, but also gave the adults a lesson in respect for the earth and its creatures by detailing how many frog eggs and snails they found, and how they rescued them and placed them where they would thrive..

Thanks also for citywide good neighboring by Wheatfields Bakery, Massachusetts St. Dillons, and the Community Mercantile, who donated luscious bread and sandwich fixings for those who worked at the Clean-up.

Gary Meyer helped Julie Mitchell put her mower together, and then she loaned it to Geoffery.