

NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION QUARTERLY PERFORMANCE REPORT

Date	Activity Description	Number of Attendees
August 2011	<p>BCNA holds no meetings in the month of August. Meetings: Meetings:</p> <p>Communications: Meeting information for September, October, and November was published in the September – November 2011 newsletter. The newsletter was in mailboxes in September.</p>	NA
Sept. 2011	<p>Meetings: Annual Picnic in the Park was held on September 7, beginning at 6:30 p.m., in Brook Creek Park. This is a social event</p> <p>The September general business meeting was held on September 17, 2011 at 7:00 p.m., at the East Lawrence Recreation Center. City Manager David Corliss was our special guest / speaker.</p> <p>Communications: Information for both events was in the Sept. – Nov. newsletter. Email reminders were sent to residents (see communications section of this report).</p>	<p>25 (including children)</p> <p>30</p>
Oct. 2011	<p>Meetings: The BCNA General Meeting was held on October 13, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. at the East Lawrence Recreation Center.</p> <p>Communications: Meeting information was in the September – November 2011 newsletter.</p> <p>An email reminder was sent to residents on the email list (see communications section of this report).</p>	9

MINUTES

September 14, 2011

The meeting was called to order by President Julie Mitchell at 7:00 p.m. There were 20 attendees.

The treasurer's report was given, inclusive of an explanation of expenditures, by Susan Miller, and the treasurer's report was approved.

President, Julie Mitchell, announced the upcoming meetings: Thursday, October 13th and Tuesday, November 15th. Due to low participation during previous fall cleanups of the park, there will be no official park cleanup this October. However, supplies are available if anyone desires to host an informal/impromptu cleanup.

Michael Almon gave an overview of our potential Brook Creek drainage improvement project, which would involve daylighting Brook Creek where it runs under Brook Street between 13th and 15th Streets. Michael and Cash Hyatt had spoken with neighbors on that block and gathered signatures. The majority of the neighbors were in favor of the city pursuing this project. One neighbor at the meeting expressed concern about people turning around in her driveway. Mary Taylor made a motion that BCNA send a letter to the City recommending appropriate staff pursue looking into the daylighting project. Roy Wimmer seconded the motion. Thirteen were in favor, seven abstained, and the motion passed.

Lawrence City Manager Dave Corliss spoke about the acquired Farmland property east of the city, which is to be incorporated into the East Hills Business Park. Eight and one half million dollars was given to clean up the project. Mr. Corliss hopes that some of this money will be left over to help with projects associated with the park, such as the proposed improvements to 19th Street. Mr. Corliss expressed the desire for “complete” streets, inclusive of bike lanes and pedestrian walkways. The issue of the narrow nature of 19th street was raised, and Mr. Corliss noted that a street can still be “complete” with narrow parameters. To the amazement of most of us, we learned that some of the ground water from the Farmland site, which is, essentially, fertilized from previous dumping, runs through a pipe under the Kaw River into North Lawrence, and is used for agricultural purposes.

The issue of our infamous recycling center at 12th & Haskell was raised with objections about the perpetual noise and loss of adjacent property values. Legitimate objections to the improper site plan were raised again, along with the fact that the city has dragged its heels with regard to implementation of code enforcement. One thing remains clear, and this is that more objections, more petitions, and more meetings will be necessary to resolve this ongoing issue. Meanwhile, anyone who loves peace and quiet can sympathize with those living next to the recycle center.

The meeting was cordially concluded at 8 p.m.

October 13, 2011

The meeting was brought to order at 7:00 p.m. by Vice President Andrea Repinsky. Nine members were present.

The first order of business was the reading of the treasurer’s report by Susan Miller. The treasurer’s report was approved without objection and without any new claims.

It was noted that Gwen Klingenberg, president of the Lawrence Association of Neighborhoods (LAN) is collecting stories of historical significance for the 25th anniversary of LAN (officially January 29, 2012). Of particular interest will be the various battles the neighborhood organizations have fought on behalf of their neighborhoods. Stories can be submitted to Gwen at gklingenberg@sunflower.com.

An update was given on the progress being made with the 12th & Haskell Recycling Center. Apparently, more informal meetings have been organized, again, without resolve. Byron Wiley has added more to the historical significance section of the letter addressed to the city commissioners.

To the best of our knowledge, no alternate site has been selected for the center. Those living next to the center noted that there is a continuous barrage of noise with the frequency of heavy truck traffic. In spite of repeated objections raised by BCNA, the noise has actually increased.

A volunteer project was suggested for the coming winter months. BCNA will coordinate volunteers who are willing to help with snow removal on driveways and walkways for neighbors in need of such assistance. Anyone willing to donate some time to this project, please contact either BCNA Coordinator Julie Banhart, either via email (BrookCreekNA@gmail.com) or by telephone at 841-4997, or BCNA President Julie Mitchell (juliahenrym@yahoo.com).

It is noted, with gratitude, that due to the efforts of neighborhood activists, yield signs have been added to the intersections of 13th & Prairie, 13th & Prospect, and 13th & Summit Streets.

Announcements were made for the November 15th meeting during which, among other agenda items, there will be nominations for officers for the upcoming year. Please attend, and bring your suggestions. Election of officers will take place in conjunction with our December meeting / Holidays party.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m..

COMMUNICATIONS

Messages to email list:

8/31/11	Message forwarded from Douglas County Emergency Management re September events..
9/04/11	Invitation to BCNA Picnic in the Park and reminder of the 9/14 business meeting.
9/13/11	Reminder of 9/13 meeting, plus information from Dg. Co. District Attorney re Internet scams..
9/22/11	Forwarded information from Together Prepared and events.
9/28/11	Message from BCNA LAN rep. Dickie Heckler about potential problems with boarding houses.
9/28/11	Invitation from East Lawrence NA to join their Block Party on 10/1/11.
10/03/11	Forwarded invitation to FEMA Best Practices Forum. Plus reminder of 10/13 BCNA meeting.
10/05/11	Forwarded request for volunteers for Bert Nash Dash & Bash event.
10/25/11	Forwarded Dg. Co. District Attorney info on latchkey kids – problems & solutions.

Messages from/to individuals:

9/16/11 – 9/22/11	Communications with residents Sarah and Erik Peltzman re nearby abandoned property, squatters, how and where to report the problem. Results.
09/06/11 – 10/17/11	Communications with Jeanne Pees, who is organizing a neighborhood cleanup in her neighborhood. She asked for information about how ours was organized, how we dealt with recycling materials, particularly scrap metals, etc.

NEWSLETTER (follows)



BROOK CREEK BREEZE

September, October, November 2011

<p>September 7, 2011 Picnic in the Park 6:30 p.m.</p> <p>September 14, 2011 7:00 p.m. East Lawrence Rec. Center</p>	<p>Thursday October 13, 2011 7:00 p.m. East Lawrence Rec. Center</p>	<p>Tuesday, November 15, 2011 7:15 p.m. East Lawrence Rec. Center</p>
---	--	---

UPCOMING BCNA EVENTS

- WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2011** Picnic in the Park, 6:30 p.m., Brook Creek Park
- WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2011** General Meeting. Special Guest: City Manager Dave Corliss, to discuss plans for Farmland property and 19th Street.
- THURSDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2011** General Meeting
- TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2011** General Meeting

Because of potential scheduling problems at East Lawrence Recreation Center, we suggest that you check our website (through Lawrence Marketplace) for possible changes to meeting days or times.

CITY MANAGER DAVE CORLISS TO SPEAK AT SEPTEMBER MEETING

Lawrence City Manager, Dave Corliss, will join us for our September 14th meeting at 7:00 at the East Lawrence Recreation Center to discuss how development plans for the Farmland property could affect the Brook Creek Neighborhood. The plans currently include a stop light at K-10 and O’Connell Road and extending 19th Street east onto the property. A frontage road would connect 19th Street and O’Connell Road. This will increase traffic on 19th Street, although it is not meant to be a truck route for the property. This additional traffic will mostly affect residents in the southeast portion of the neighborhood, especially Brookwood residents. This is a great opportunity to ask Mr. Corliss questions that directly relate to our neighborhood, so please be sure to put the September 14th meeting on your calendars.



*Come to our annual
Pot-Luck Picnic
in the Park*

*Wednesday, September 7, 2009
Brook Creek Park Gazebo*

Come anytime after 6:00 p.m.

Food will be out & ready to eat by 6:30 p.m.

BCNA will provide: Fried Chicken & Soft Drinks
You bring: Side Dishes or Desserts
Table service for yourself & your family

We'll all get to try new things by sharing the side dishes and desserts.

Come see old friends, meet new neighbors, and enjoy good food and good company.

In case of rain or overwhelming heat, we'll meet at the East Lawrence Rec. Center:
If you are unsure about where we'll be, call Julie Banhart (841-4997) on Sept. 7,
before 5:30 p.m.



MINUTES

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 Jerome 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 drainage problem. 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 a 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.

May 11, 2011

President Julie Mitchell convened the general monthly meeting with 12 members present. The treasurer's report was given by Treasurer Susan Miller. All approved.

There was no update from the Lawrence Area Neighborhood Association.

It was related that New York School was signing up a working consolidation group to assist the school district with consolidation issues. Final selection of the committee will be made and chosen by the district,

An update from the Traffic Solution Committee was given by Dana Parfitt who directed us to: <http://www.lawrenceplanning.org/documents/CompleteStreetFinal.pdf>. This is a 30 page document prepared for the City of Lawrence, by the KU, School of Architecture, Design and Planning; Graduate Program in Urban Planning, Transportation Planning Implementation Class, and encourages the construction of "complete multimodal corridors that provide access for all users—drivers, bicyclists, pedestrians, and transit users." Additionally, we were directed to "Street Films," which appears to be a web-based non-profit organization based in New York, and devoted to Agenda 21 and sustainability issues related to public transportation and the reduction of private automobiles on the roadways. No recommendations involving traffic calming devices were offered at this time.

Some discussion was engendered regarding a possible meeting with city manager, Dave Corliss, to discuss road improvements on 19th street and possible or probable truck lanes resulting from the industrial park.

The degradation of the alley between Laura and Almira streets was discussed. It was noted that the alley was pristine prior to recent housing construction in that area.

The meeting between Storm Water Engineer Matt Bond, and six Brook Creek residents was discussed. Apparently Brook Creek habitually clogs and causes road washout issues as it travels under Brook Street. The solution of "daylighting," with the formation of cul-de-sacs, has been proposed and tentatively approved by those present. Notably, Brook Street would no longer be a through street for automobiles, and a foot bridge for those wishing to traverse Brook Creek by foot has been proposed. As discussed, this would not necessarily improve drainage issues related to Brook Creek as it traverses Brook Creek Park, and a motion was made by Vice President Andrea Repinsky to "investigate methods of creek improvement in addition to the proposal of daylighting." Melissa Browning seconded the motion, all were in favor, and President Julie Mitchell, agreed to draft the letter.

Melissa Browning again raised the issue of dangerous, seemingly oblivious, and high-speed traffic moving along Harper Street. There are numerous children at risk, and the issue of traffic calming devices was again raised. President Julie Mitchell, agreed to draft an email to the Traffic Safety Commission regarding this issue.

The meeting was concluded at 8:15 p.m.

July 13, 2011

Julie Mitchell, president, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., with eight members present. The treasurer's report was read by Susan Miller and approved without objection.

Dickie Heckler gave the LAN report. Covered items were: developers want fewer and smaller parking spaces at development sites; whether synthetic turf should be allowed; and the reckless use of development funds, especially for unneeded retail.

Drainage improvements were discussed relating to the Brook Creek daylighting project on Brook Street, and to the alley behind Laura Street between 12th and 13th Streets. It was noted that a paved and furrowed road bed may be the best solution, but that the existing road bed was in good condition.

It was noted by Michael Almon that Matt Bond had proposed that Brook Street neighbors, especially those adjacent to the proposed daylighting site, should be polled for their reactions toward such a venture. So far we do not know if the neighborhood has been polled.

Julie Mitchell's meeting with David Corliss and Scott McCullough to discuss the Farmland Industrial Park was discussed. It appears 19th Street will be extended, and that members of the Brookwood Park may still need to be notified. It was recommended that they, as well as Scott McCullough, should be invited to our September meeting.

It was further noted that a major rebuilding project for 23rd Street is scheduled for sometime in the future and will undoubtedly affect traffic on 19th Street.

Scheduling problems with the East Lawrence Recreation Center were discussed, and it was noted that differing times of the week may be necessary for meetings of the Brook Creek Neighborhood Association in the near future, and we may have to find a new place to meet after November or December.

A moment of get-well wishing and thanks was extended to our Coordinator, Julie Banhart, as we acknowledged her recent hospital stay.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 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. Also, check us out at LawrenceMarketplace.com.

Notes from BCNA President

Join us for the annual Brook Creek Neighborhood Picnic on September 7th at 6:30 in Brook Creek Park. The annual picnic is a great way to meet new neighbors and catch up with all the news you may have missed when it was too darn hot this summer to even think about going outside. Bring your favorite side dish or desert to share and plates/utensils for your family. Brook Creek will provide fried chicken and soft drinks and water. If you have a talent such as playing the guitar or juggling (or flaming batons), we're your audience. We will also have sidewalk chalk and bubbles for the kids.

This has been a long, hot summer, and most of us are ready for Fall. With Fall comes kids heading back to school, and that means kids on foot, on bikes and on buses. Please slow down, watch for kids, and do not pass school buses when kids are loading or unloading.

Due to low participation in past years, we do not have a park cleanup scheduled for this Fall. However, please let us know if you are interested in having informal cleanups sometime in October or November. Maybe just a Saturday morning in a part of the park we don't normally cover during the Spring cleanup. We will continue to have the popular Spring cleanup.

Good neighboring is abundant in Brook Creek. We know our neighbors and are happy to help each other out. Please share your good neighboring with us. As part of our Community Development Block Grant funding for our newsletter, we report instances of good neighboring. Examples I've experienced just this summer: my neighbor using my phone to call her family when she accidentally locked herself out of the house, a neighbor giving me fresh veggies from his Mom's garden, and while storing ceramic artwork for a neighbor moving out of town I unknowingly stored his Dad's ashes in my yard. How's that for good neighboring? Share you stories with us via email to BrookCreekNA@gmail.com or calling 841-4997.

WELCOME TO THE NEIGHBORHOOD

Phyllis & Edward Anderson	1518 Oak Hill Ave.	Johnnie & Elizabeth Mole	1522 Wedgewood Dr
Clint & Renee Olson	2207 Genessee Ct.	Emma Frosini & Florian Rothbrust	1519 Hanscom Rd
Tiffany M. Lemons	1512 E. 15th St	Susan D. Turner	1616 E. 15th St
Michael & Susan Morin	1613 Irving Court	Mitchell Tegtmeier & Erin Foley	912 E. 14th St
Matthew & Alisondre Baker	1229 Laura Ave	Adam & Karen Buhler	1231 Laura Ave
Duncan & Danielle Brown	1520 E. 19th St	Robert & Kaitlin Brigman	1232 Laura Ave
Paige Rathbun & David Willbrant	1522 Cadet Ave	Arnold Feinberg & Diana Dunkley	1804 Brook St
Borislav March	1626 Cadet Ave	Thomas M. Genereaux	1202 Almira Ave
Derek Frink	1510 E. Glenn Dr	Frank & Margaret Dillon	1812 Atherton Court
Tony Cheray	1742 Genessee St	Alberto A. Alvarez	1531 Cadet Ave
Lindsey Sleeper	1223 Laura Ave	Robyn Long & Benjamin Gerrard	1308 Summit St
John Jr. & Melissa Browning	1632 E. 18th Terrace	Thomas Kelley	1804 Haskell Ave
Christopher Julian & Erin Bonine	1601 Matthew Terrace	Augusta.Harris	1333 E. 18th St
Luke & Sheri Oehlert	1307 Oak Hill Ave	Matthew Armstrong, Chavis Lickvar- Armstrong, John & Ruth E. Lickvar	1413 Prospect Ave

WANT TO GET INFORMATION FASTER AND MORE OFTEN?

JOIN OUR EMAIL LIST!

BCNA keeps an email list of members and uses it to give you advance reminders of our meetings, as well as updates about issues in front of the neighborhood, notifications from other organizations in the city, and occasional requests for assistance from neighbors.

Currently, our list is comprised of a small percentage of our residents. If you are not currently receiving email messages from us and would like to be included, please send an email request to: BrookcreekNA@gmail.com. In the subject line, please say "Add me to BCNA email list" (which will keep your message from being placed in the spam folder by our Internet/email security program.

If you've been on the list but have changed your email address, please use the same procedure to notify us of that (and give us your new email address). Because we can only do three newsletters per year, this is the fastest way to get information to you.

NEWS FROM THE COMMUNITY

The **LAWRENCE HUMANE SOCIETY** uses an incredible amount of supplies every day to keep the animals clean, comfortable, and happy. Their current wish list includes:

Laundry Detergent:	We use regular, liquid or powder detergent.
Dish Soap:	Specifically, we need BLUE Dawn liquid.
Cat litter:	We use about 1,600 lbs. every week!
Bleach:	This is a constant need; we have heavy sanitation requirements to prevent the spread of disease.
Bowls:	Small stainless steel "no-tip" bowls (for cats). These are available at local pet supply stores.
Cat and Dog Toys (new):	No rope toys please.

Emily Miller, of the **LAWRENCE-DOUGLAS COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT**, asked that we pass on the following information:

Attention new moms and soon-to-be moms, a new peer group for women seeking to learn about breastfeeding, is now meeting at the Lawrence-Douglas County Health Department. B.I.B.S. (Breast is Best Social) meets Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. at the Health Department, 200 Maine St. in Lawrence.

Both pregnant women seeking information and women currently breastfeeding are encouraged to attend to learn and share their experience.

The free group is facilitated by certified breastfeeding counselors and is held in a relaxed, come-as-you-are environment.

Come as often as you like. For more information on B.I.B.S, go to the Health Department's website at ldchealth.org, look for Douglas County Breastfeeding Connection on Facebook or call 843-3060.

Brook Creek Neighborhood Association
1944 Miller Drive
Lawrence, KS 66046

PRSR STD U.S. Postage PAID Lawrence, KS Permit #570
--

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. Two that were reported include:

Larry helped two kids from the trailer park take some junk in their yard to the recycle center and threw in some scrap metal he had. The kids got around \$15.00 for the whole load (a good deal for a couple of kids).

Later, when Larry's lawn mower died, one of the kids introduced him to another neighbor who had an old one that worked that he wanted to sell (for a price well under a new one, retail). Good neighboring sometimes comes around in a complete circle.