

BCNA Neighborhood Accomplishments
3rd Quarter (February - April 2015)

- Sale of print ads in the newsletter continues unabated.
- We continued collecting email addresses to reach more members with announcements of importance to the neighborhood.
- We continued email announcements to members with reminders of meetings and notices of special events of interest from the City.
- The website is up and running, with more items added to the archives regularly. The BCNA Facebook is also up and running.
- A list-serve for the neighborhood is being fine-tuned and prepared for use by neighborhood residents.
- We participated in LAN

BROOK CREEK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

ACTIVITY LIST FOR 2014-2015 QUARTER 3

February 4, 2015 General Meeting

Method of Notification:

February/March 2015 Newsletter

Email notification to those on the email list.

Telephone calls to those on the call list.

Estimated Attendance: 15

March 4, 2015: General Meeting.

Method of Notification:

February/March 2015 Newsletter.

Email reminder to those on the email list.

Telephone calls to those on the call list.

Estimated attendance: 10

April 1, 2015 General Meeting.

Method of Notification:

April/May 2015 Newsletter.

Email reminder to those on the email list.

Telephone calls to those on the call list.

Estimated Attendance: 11

Annual Brook Creek Park and Creek Clean-up

Method of Notification:

April/May 2015 Newsletter

Email reminders to those on email list

Telephone calls to those on the call list

Originally scheduled for Saturday, April 18, 2015

Postponed until April 25 because of storms and rain

Postponed again until May 2 because of storms and rain

Estimated Attendance: 6 (in the intermittent rain)

Brook Creek Neighborhood Association
Meeting Minutes (DRAFT), 4 February 2015
(by Michael Almon, Secretary)

Present: Rena Figures (President), Byron Wiley (Vice President), Jenna Coker (Treasurer), Michael Almon (Secretary), and five other Association members.

Guests this month: five

Agenda: Rena passed around an agenda which we reviewed and approved.

Introductions: Rena asked everyone in the room to introduce themselves.

Treasurer's report: as of 31 January 2015, \$43.00 petty cash. \$1446.00 in checking account. \$1489.00 total revenues.

Motion made by Fred Sack, seconded by Byron to approve the report. Passed unanimously.

Our former Treasurer had suggested we not disclose our finances in our on-line minutes. We decided that because we are not a profit-driven business that has proprietary needs, but rather a not-for-profit organization that is open to the public, we have an obligation to maintain transparency in our financial dealings.

Motion made by Michael, seconded by Matt Fahrenbruch, to include our finances in our on-line minutes. Passed unanimously.

We had received a request to print an advertisement in our Newsletter for the Visiting Nurses Association seeking volunteers. This seemed more like a P.S.A. than an advert, but until we learn more, we tabled it.

Minutes of prior meetings: Michael presented the draft minutes from the December 2014 meeting, which included approval of the September, October, and November minutes. He also presented draft minutes from April, May, and June, which had been completed before Summer but overlooked after the July-August break. We approved April, May, June, and December.

Verizon microwave tower Special Use Permit status:

On 17 November 2014, the Planning Commission unanimously approved a Special Use Permit for Verizon's Bullene Ave. microwave tower, without ever seeing a third party "burden of proof" document that was less than adequate. On 9 December 2014, the City Commission unanimously denied the SUP based on testimony revealing that the application was in violation of the "burden of proof" requirement and the Burroughs Creek Corridor Plan. We had filed a successful legal protest petition forcing a super majority vote, and dozens of people from three neighborhoods attended the meeting. Verizon has sued the City in Kansas City Federal District Court, which could take a year.

Burroughs Creek Corridor Plan:

The Verizon tower issue has prompted a reexamination of zoning amortization of the inappropriate industrial zoning near the site. One of the main objectives of the Burroughs Creek Corridor Plan is to modify existing zoning to be “consistent with use”. Because all of the business uses along and near Bullene Ave. and Lynn St. are light commercial and not industrial, the plan calls for the zoning to be changed to commercial zoning. After eight years, this zoning amortization still has not been done, and is long overdue. We will discuss this in upcoming meetings to learn how it might be done.

The Burroughs:

James Grauerholz, BCNA member, introduced Kyle Meyers, one of two owners of Silverback Enterprises, an events promotion business, and two other guests. Silverback is one of the most prominent event production companies in the country, with their corporate headquarters located in the old Zimmerman Steel Company building at 701 East 19th St. But more than being a sports center, Meyers and his partner want to have their facility become part of the fabric of our neighborhood. They have a plan for “The Burroughs”, a destination that would host community events, galas and receptions, art exhibitions, performances, food festivals, and athletic events.

They recently purchased the land to the north across 19th St. (which is in Brook Creek Neighborhood) to be used for their open air events. They are aware that the Burroughs Creek Plan designates this site for a trail head with rest rooms, drinking fountains, bicycle service, rest area, and auto parking. Their design will incorporate trail head amenities into their plan, and they intend to downzone this site from industrial to open space zone. They have already downzoned their building site from General Industrial to Limited Industrial zone. We thanked them for approaching us, a wise move that most developers don't do, and said we want to keep the dialog going.

Guest speaker:

Our guest speaker was Stuart Boley who is running for City Commission. Though no other candidates could speak this evening, we made it clear that we are not endorsing Mr. Boley, but simply are interested in hearing his thoughts. He grew up in Kansas and graduated from K.U., and his wife is from Lawrence. He is a retired I.R.S. corporate auditor, and currently works part time for the Douglas County Community Foundation. He did not think the financing for the Rock Chalk Park was handled properly. He discussed models for taxation and methods of prioritizing City spending. He also discussed the proposed transit hub at 21st and Iowa Streets, the bus routing logistics, and the populations to be served.

L.A.N. Representative:

Melinda Henderson had volunteered last meeting to be our L.A.N. Representative. We held a brief discussion.

Motion made by Michael, seconded by Jenna, to elect Melinda as our L.A.N. Representative for this year. Passed unanimously.

Nominations for five Director positions:

We considered what range of skills we needed for new Directors, including: member recruitment, list-serv moderator, webmeister, newsletter editor, land use chair, fundraiser, event planner, history chair. The people proposed were: Andrea Repinsky (newsletter editor), Emily Winters (list-serv moderator, webmeister), and Nathan Jeffries. We will contact them to see if they are interested in serving.

Anticipated action: contact these three, and possibly others, and elect them next meeting if they are willing.

Meeting adjourned

Brook Creek Neighborhood Association
Meeting Minutes (DRAFT), 4 March 2015
(by Michael Almon, Secretary)

Present: Rena Figures (President), Byron Wiley (Vice President), Jenna Coker (Treasurer), Michael Almon (Secretary), Julie Banhart, and five Association members.

Agenda: Rena passed around an agenda which we reviewed and approved.

Introductions: Rena asked everyone in the room to introduce themselves.

Guest speaker:

Stan Rasmussen, a City Commission candidate, came to our meeting to present his reasons for running. He has been an attorney in environmental and energy law for the Army Corps of Engineers and the Department of Defense. Prior to that he worked for Black & Veatch Engineers, and he is a graduate of Leadership Kansas and Leadership Lawrence. In 1993, he helped draft Horizon 2020, Lawrence's comprehensive plan, and he was responsible for its recommendation of the "wagon wheel" bicycle network form. He also worked on the H2020 update while a Planning Commissioner in 2006. He served on the Board of Zoning Appeals for a few years also.

He said he favors urban growth through density, not sprawl, and that growing industry is the best way to grow our economy. For bicycle and pedestrian funding, he would dedicate a percent of sales tax to a budget line item. The Infrastructure Sales Tax is due for renewal by a vote in 2017, currently funding streets, trails, sidewalks, sewers, and the bus system. He would work for the next two years to reallocate some of that tax for bicycle transportation. When asked about a local living wage he said "Rather than living wage, I would say a sustaining wage. If someone is working at a productive job such as primary manufacturing, yes they should have a sustaining wage. But not people in service jobs like fast food, which are mostly temporary jobs for young people before they move on to better jobs".

Minutes of prior meeting: Michael presented the draft minutes from the 4 February meeting.

Action taken: We approved the minutes unanimously.

Treasurer's report: as of 28 February 2015, \$47.00 petty cash. \$1358.88 in checking account. \$1405.88 total revenues.

Action taken: Approval of the report passed unanimously.

Park & Creek Clean Up:

The Brook Creek Park and Creek clean up will take place on Saturday, 18 April (rain date 25 April) from 10am - 2pm. We'll meet by the gazebo. The K.U. Big Event volunteer day is the 18th, and we will have a number of volunteers to help like last year. Someone also mentioned that some high school students volunteer for National Honors Society credit. Julie will

coordinate with the Big Event organizers, with the City for trash bags and trash pick up, with Julia Mitchell to get the supplies she has in storage, and with groceries and bakeries who might donate food. If we have enough people, we might also clean up parts of Burroughs Creek.

CDBG 2016 funds allocations:

The Community Development Advisory Committee met on 26 February and made funding allocations to applicant neighborhoods and others. Even though we didn't include a "survey" item in this year's application, the CDAC cut \$750 from our request for a survey. The only neighborhoods getting any funds were Brook Creek, East Lawrence, North Lawrence, and Pinckney. Overall, there was less money allocated this year than last. Our current FY 2014-15 funds are \$6381, and we will get \$5356.50 for FY 2015-16, an overall cut of \$1024.50. The CDAC funding level for this coming year makes it impossible to have our planned four newsletters, making it difficult to maintain adequate communications in our large neighborhood. To cover the missing funding, we would have to sell so many advertisements that the newsletter would have hardly any room for news. If we do want to survey our neighborhood, Emily could create a free on-line, ten question survey. The problem with that is that one of the main objectives of a door-to-door survey is to gather e-mail addresses, and without many addresses, we can't conduct a meaningful survey.

Anticipated action: Rena will work with Emily on drafting a survey.

Nominations for Director positions:

We have three people interested in being Directors: Andrea Repinsky (newsletter editor), Emily Winters (list-serv moderator, webmeister), and Nathan Jeffries.

Action taken: Moved by Byron, seconded by Rena to appoint these three as Directors. Passed unanimously.

BCNA feedback forms:

Rena has created some feed back forms to have available at meetings as a way to gather opinions informally, and to provide a way for folks to bring up issues of concern.

Action taken: Rena is bringing feed back forms to all meetings.

Code enforcement:

Fred Sack asked Julie if the complaint about TV dish antennae in front yards had been answered. She answered "no as far as she knew". Someone suggested that complaints like these could be filed on the City website, daily if desired. We weren't sure if there would be a "paper trail" if filed on-line though. The proliferation of trash and recycling carts that are left at the curbside for days is another area of complaint. We think this would be a Code enforcement issue.

Horizon 2020 meetings with neighborhood rep:

Michael mentioned that the Horizon 2020 Update Committee has designated John Gascon as

their “neighborhood contact”. Anyone can give him their viewpoints about how parts of the Comprehensive Plan may affect neighborhoods. John had e-mailed us with an offer to meet with him in small groups to discuss any issues. To make an appointment, call his secretary at (785) 272-1301. The H2020 Committee is considering many aspects of urban development like: greater density, taller buildings, historic resources, how much open space is desired, row houses, traditional neighborhood development code, etc. If anyone has ideas about these and other things, contact John.

11th & Haskell Recycle Center SUP:

At this point we don't know what the Special Use Permit application stipulates. Bo Killough is expanding, but what does that mean? We continue to be concerned by his lax attitude toward complying with the City Code. His level of site requirements seem to be significantly lower than those at Advantage Metals Recycling at 1545 N 3rd St., and this seems to be unfair competition by Bo. Other concerns are pollution of the ground water through the gravel, and surface runoff pollution into the Kansas River.

Anticipated action: We will contact Planning to learn more.

Sunrise Project:

Byron gave a background brief of the Sunrise Project, officially called the Lawrence Community Food Alliance. Their mission is the “Intersection of food, environment, and social justice”. They are considering various activities like: youth gardening, cooking classes, horticultural greenhouse, and other classes. They have made an offer to purchase the property at 15th and Learnard, contingent upon raising the money, the zoning uses, and environmental testing. They are partnered with Central Soy.

Meeting adjourned

Brook Creek Neighborhood Association
Meeting Minutes draft, 1 April 2015
(by Michael Almon, Secretary)

Present: Rena Figures (President), Byron Wiley (Vice President), Jenna Coker (Treasurer), Michael Almon (Secretary), Andrea Repinsky, Nathan Jeffries, Melinda Henderson (Directors), and three other Association members.

Agenda: Rena passed around an agenda which we reviewed and approved.

Introductions: Rena asked everyone in the room to introduce themselves.

Treasurer's report:

As of 31 March 2015: \$55.00 petty cash; \$1528.00 checking account; \$1583.00 total revenues. Michael had a \$10.00 receipt for reimbursement – plat maps for cell tower issue used during City Commission presentation.

Action taken: we unanimously approved the report and the reimbursement.

Minutes of prior meetings:

The 4 March 2015 minutes were not ready. Emily requested that Michael send her all the final minutes from last year for the Newsletter, because the versions she has all say “draft” on them. Our former Treasurer had thought that February's minutes in the Newsletter hinted at improper motives. We discussed it and concluded that the wording is accurate, states the facts only, and makes no reference to motives. We decided to let the minutes stand.

Anticipated action: Rena will talk with our former Treasurer about it.

Speaker topics for upcoming meetings:

“Gardening” in May, “Safe Routes To Schools” in September, “history” in October, “weatherization” in November, and “Just Food” (no date yet).

Creek & park cleanup:

Scheduled for Saturday, 18 April, 10:00am-2:00pm. Julie Banhart is coordinating, and will contact grocery stores for food donations. Julia Mitchell has some supplies stored in her shed such as dinnerware, trash bags, etc. Julie B. will arrange to get these supplies from Julia M. early that morning. As in past years, the City will provide gloves and trash bags, and will pick up the accumulated trash in the evening. The K.U. Big Event will help with 20 or so volunteers. We'll work out other details by e-mail. Rain date will be 25 April.

Ottawa Co-op grain elevator expansion:

James Grauerholz had brought it to our attention, but he was not in attendance. Melinda Henderson had researched it and said that that it would be at the Planning Commission on 18 May. They plan to build an 80 foot diameter by 75 foot tall metal elevator, which will

effectively double their grain storage capacity. We have concerns about encroachment on the Burroughs Creek Trail right-of-way, increased truck traffic, and increased noise from the grain drying blowers.

Anticipated action: We will have a letter ready (Melin?) at our May meeting for presentation to the Planning Commission.

Neighborhood yard sale:

As a very needed fundraiser, we discussed two options for a yard sale. One, we could hold it at a single visible location like Struct/Restruct or Silverback, or two, we could have multiple sites at participants' homes throughout the neighborhood. This second option would be easier than coordinating everyone bringing stuff to one site and then disposing of the excess at the end of the day. But we liked the visibility and pizzazz of a big sale which could include music, etc. Participants would be charged a percentage to have a booth. Silverback could host it indoors or under one of their tents.

Another question was if we preferred Spring or Autumn? Spring is a prime time for yard sales, but rain is unpredictable, and organizing would be rushed before K.U. students leave town. Autumn is a good time for returning students to buy stuff, but it needs to be when they are furnishing apartments, which is in late August, and it's hot then.

Action taken: we decided that August is preferable.

Anticipated action: Emily will contact Struct/Restruct, and Rena will contact Silverback to learn of the possibilities at each.

Guest speaker at March meeting on Facebook?

Stan Rasmussen, a City Commission candidate, had come to our March meeting to present his reasons for running. Some of the things he said about growth and economic development and a living wage struck some of us as controversial. Because ours is a public meeting under City guidelines, the question was whether Mr. Rasmussen's statements could be posted to our Facebook page for voters to know about before the election. However, even though BCNA did not make statements about electoral events (Mr. Rasmussen himself made the statements), we are forbidden from taking a political stand, and the act of posting Mr. Rasmussen's statements on the BCNA page could be interpreted as taking a stand.

Action taken: we decided not to post his statements on our official BCNA Facebook page (though an individual is free to post something on the public Facebook page).

Guest speaker:

Our guest speaker was Nathan Jeffries (one of our Directors) who works for the Kansas Dept. of Transportation (KDOT). He gave us an update on the construction of the South Lawrence Trafficway. He brought a great 12 foot wide map, and explained the schedule into 2016 for completion. There will be soundwalls on both sides of the roadway through the Haskell-Baker Wetlands, and 31st St. will be removed from Louisiana St. to Haskell Ave, and relocated along the trafficway. A bicycle track will connect with the one at south Iowa St., and go south of the

roadway from Louisiana St. to Haskell Ave, where it will connect with the bicycle track along the newly constructed 31st St. from Haskell Ave. to O'Connell Rd. The existing connection of E. 1750 Rd. (Noria Rd.) with K-10 will be eliminated, and E. 1750 Rd. will have a bridge over the trafficway.

We are concerned that trucks from the East Hills Business Park that use E. 1750 Rd. will tend to go north to 15th St. and through our neighborhood. Nathan said they are supposed to go east on N. 1400 Rd. to the overpass at E. 1900 Rd. to get on K-10. Alternately, they are supposed to exit from the E.H.B.P. at the current K-10 interchange, or else go through the new Venture Business Park to O'Connell Rd..

12th & Haskell Salvage Yard SUP:

Although we had briefly touched on this at our 4 March meeting, we didn't know the details until Julie sent us the City's notification four days before the 23 March 2015 Planning Commission official public hearing. So knowing we had missed our chance for public input, we didn't even discuss it at our Officer's meeting on 26 March, which was devoted to future goal setting.

From what Andrea knows, this SUP is to expand Bo Killough's salvage operation. Though some members are weary of this issue, Andrea maintains it is still important to watch Bo closely. She wants to research it more and write a letter for when it comes before the City Commission.

Action taken: moved by Rena, seconded by Ron Bishop, to oppose the SUP for expansion of the 12th & Haskell Salvage Yard.

Anticipated action: Andrea will research it and write a letter from BCNA this week, and send it around by e-mail.

Announcements:

Plant exchange: will be at the "gardening theme" May meeting.

Next newsletter – not until Autumn?: contingent on printing charges that are being increased.

Julie is still researching and will report back.

Brook Creek flood control: Michael said that Matt Bond, City Stormwater Engineer, asked if BCNA would support widening Brook Creek between the new Brook Street culverts and the 13th & Oak hill culverts. We thought that adding stormwater storage capacity there would be a good idea. Matt's longterm plan is to replace the 13th & Oak hill culverts with a reinforced concrete bridge, contingent on funding.

Meeting adjourned



The Brook Creek Breeze

The Newsletter of the
Brook Creek
Neighborhood Association

February — March 2015

Neighborhood Events

February

- 4 BCNA Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
East Lawrence Rec. Center,
Board Nominations

March

- 4 BCNA Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
East Lawrence Rec. Center,
Board Elections

April

- TBD BCNA Meeting

Brook Creek Board Now Recruiting Directors

Do you have fund-raising skills? Do you enjoy event planning? We are looking for folks in the neighborhood to help with these tasks and many more. At our February 4 meeting we will be taking nominations for new Director positions, which will be voted on at the following BCNA meeting. Possible tasks/positions include: Webmaster, Member Recruitment, Neighborhood History, Code Enforcement, Fund-raising, and Event Planner. Send in your voluntary nomination to the board and come to the February meeting!

At the December 2014 Brook Creek meeting, attendees voted to amend the bylaws to create five new Director positions. The Directors will join the four existing Officers to create an expanded Board with greater capacity for neighborhood improvement. You can be a neighborhood leader and contribute to Brook Creek!

Brook Creek Leads Response to Cell Tower Proposal

Verizon Wireless brought an application to the November 2014 Planning Commission, asking for a Special Use Permit to construct a 120 foot tall microwave cell tower next to the Burroughs Creek Trail. It would be on a commercial property on Bullene St., 135 feet away from the nearest Tenants To Homeowners home, with several other homes nearby.

Brook Creek Neighborhood, with the leadership of Brook Creek Secretary Michael Almon, launched a campaign to protect our residential neighborhood from blight, protect the property values of surrounding homes, and protect the land use provisions of the Burroughs Creek Corridor Plan. We engaged the help of the Barker Neighborhood and The Woods on 19th Street to express the concerns of surrounding residents, but the Planning Commission voted to grant the permit. Before the City Commission hears the proposal and makes the final decision, City Code provides 14 days to file a "legal protest petition" of surrounding property owners. The petition requires a super-majority vote by the City Commission. We managed to gather enough signatures. Dozens of people attended the City Commission meeting, many gave comments in writing or orally, and the Commission voted unanimously to deny the permit.

Verizon has filed a lawsuit in Federal District Court, claiming the City did not abide by its own laws, and that it also violated Federal law governing communications facilities. The three main issues the City based its denial on are: 1) this tower location violates our Burroughs Creek Corridor Plan, 2) it threatens to reduce surrounding property values, and 3) Verizon failed to provide proof that there is no nearby structure upon which they could place their antenna, such as the grain elevators three blocks south. The case should be heard in court within one month.

Curbside Recycling Dates

North of 15th Street

January 28
February 11
February 25
March 11
March 25

South of 15th Street

January 30
February 13
February 27
March 13
March 27

Yard waste collection begins
Monday, March 2.

Go to notify.lawrenceks.org to sign up for email or text notification of recycling, trash, and yard waste dates.

Neighborhood Contacts

Rena Figures, President

thegreensoaper@yahoo.com
766-7571

Byron Wiley, Vice-President

bwiley@sbcglobal.net

Michael Almon, Secretary

paradigm@sunflower.com

Jenna Coker, Treasurer

fredandjenna@sunflower.com
Send membership renewals to:
1406 Oak Hill Ave.
Lawrence, KS 66044-3638

Julie Banhart,

Neighborhood Coordinator

BrookCreekNA@gmail.com
841-4997

brookcreeklawrence.wordpress.com

www.facebook.com/
brookcreekneighborhood



A Letter from the President

Brook Creek Neighborhood welcomes 2015 with a new board, new bylaws, and expansive goals! Welcome to the new board: Rena Figures as President, Byron Wiley returns as Vice-President, Michael Almon returns as Secretary, and last but not least, Jenna Coker as Treasurer. Thank you so much to the former board members, Andrea Repinsky as President, and Susan Miller as Treasurer. We greatly appreciate the time you have put into BCNA.

In December, we voted in new bylaws to expand the board to include a team of Directors to help out with different BCNA tasks. This will help us achieve our goals, by having a larger team to help share the load. Directors may help with things such as fund-raising, event planning, newsletter editing, member recruitment, researching neighborhood history, etc. Please contact us, or join us at one of our meetings to find out how you can use your skills to help out your neighborhood!

We are also very interested in expanding our membership. If you're not already a member, please fill out the Membership form and send to our new Treasurer, Jenna Coker. At \$1 per year, it's a bargain! Don't forget to talk with your neighbors about joining too. We look forward to seeing you at one of our meetings.

Rena Figures

Brook Creek Neighborhood Association President

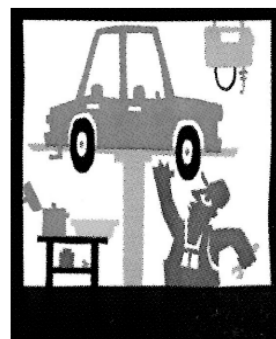


Friends and neighbors at the December 10, 2014 Holiday Party and Meeting

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DOUG & TIM PECK
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Rena Figures

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DECADE

coffee & espresso

920 Delaware St

Meet Your 2015 Officers

Rena Figures, President

Rena is a local entrepreneur who moved to the neighborhood in the summer of 2013. She lives with her 2 sons who bike and walk the neighborhood as much as possible. She looks forward to meeting more local folks and serving her community.

Byron Wiley, Vice-President

Byron served as the 2014 Vice-President of BCNA. He is involved in several organizations including the Lawrence Barn Dance Association and the Lawrence Fruit Tree Project, and he is President and a Director of the Nordic Fiddles and Feet, a national group that puts on a music and dance camp in New Hampshire. He is passionate about plants, especially food-producing plants. He is also a musician, playing and directing a local Scandinavian music ensemble.

Michael Almon, Secretary

Michael has lived in Lawrence since 1977. He worked for two years as a planning aide at the City planning office. He has started and run three businesses, one of which was Simple Goods General Store at 735 Mass. Since moving to the Brook Creek Neighborhood, he has participated in many initiatives to stabilize our single-family neighborhood. He was a cofounder, and sits on the board, of Sustainability Action Network.

Jenna Coker, Treasurer

Jenna has lived at 1406 Oak Hill for 25 years in the Savage house, where one of the first Brook Creek meetings was held. She has have served Brook Creek in the past as our CDBG representative. Jenna has also been a long-time volunteer for Headquarters. She retired as emeritus staff in 2010 after 25 years of service to KU.

Her last 15 years at KU were all in accounting and budget management taking care of 63 accounts with different rules and regulations to follow. Jenna is an avid gardener with the help of her husband, Fred Sack.

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Toto ultra low-flush toilets

Excerpt of BCNA Bylaws Edited to Create Director Positions

The Bylaw changes were voted in on Dec. 10, 2014. The changes created five new Director positions, described the Director duties, and they clarified the roles of other officers. The BCNA bylaws can be read in their entirety on our website: brookcreeklawrence.wordpress.com.

ARTICLE 4: Officers and Directors

Section 1

The Board of BCNA shall consist of the four Officers (President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer), and five Directors.

Section 2: Term of Office

The officers of BCNA shall be elected for terms of one (1) year. Directors are elected for terms of two years, with no more than three (3) Directors eligible for election in any year, unless vacancies occur.

Section 3: Resignation

A written resignation to the BCNA officers shall be required of an Officer or Director 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, an interim appointment shall be made by the remaining Officers, to be ratified by the membership at the next general membership meeting. The successor officer shall hold the office for the remainder of the term. In the event of a vacancy in the office of President, the Vice President shall assume the Presidency.

ARTICLE 5: Duties of Officers and Directors

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. The President shall have the responsibility of supervision and management of BCNA staff and volunteers. The President is responsible for supervising the content of BCNA communications.

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.

Section 5: Board Members

Members of the Board supervise the management of BCNA. The Officers and Directors may assign projects, designate committees, and make preliminary decisions on BCNA business, provided that all final decisions on Association business be made by the voting members, with the exception of the hiring and establishment of duties of staff and volunteers, which is under the control of the BCNA Board only.

BCNA Meeting Notes for Dec. 10, 2014

Present: Andrea Repinsky (President), Byron Wiley (Vice President), Susan Miller (Treasurer), Michael Almon (Secretary), Julie Banhart (Coordinator), thirteen other Association members, and three guests.

1. Introductions: Andrea asked everyone in the room to introduce themselves.

2. Agenda: The agenda had been sent by Julie to the neighborhood e-mail list, and Andrea passed around copies. Susan Miller requested that items #5 and #7 be deleted, claiming they violated our Bylaws. Item #5 was whether we wanted to include on our ballot the draft Bylaws amendments in their entirety (as opposed to voting amendment-by-amendment). Item #7 was a vote of the Officers to accept the slate of nominees. It was noted that Susan is entitled to her opinion, but the membership makes the determination. Moved by Rena Figures, seconded by Emily Winters, to retain #5 on the agenda, and discuss opposing opinions at that time. Motion passed 13-4. Regarding item #7, we decided the Officers should acknowledge the validity of nominees, including any nominated from the floor; we deleted the word "slate", and retained item #7.

3. Minutes of prior meetings: Michael had the draft minutes from 10 September, 15 October, and 12 November ready for approval. They had been sent by Julie to the neighborhood e-mail list only a few days ago, so Sharon Vaughn moved to table them until folks could review them. Emily pointed out that they had been on the web site for some time and a synopsis has been in our print newsletter also, so folks had time to read them. Moved by Emily, seconded by Melinda Henderson, to approve the minutes. Motion passed 14-3 (1 abstain).

4. Treasurer's report: Susan asked if our financial reports appear on our web site, and Emily said they always have. Susan thought we shouldn't reveal them, though others thought we should maintain transparency. It was moved by Melinda, seconded by Michael, to discuss it in February, and meanwhile remove them from the web site. Motion passed 14-3 (1 ab-

stain). Our monthly BCNA financial report is only monies raised by us, not the CDBG allocations from the City. Julie reported that our CDBG 2016 application was submitted this morning.

5. Bylaws amendments: People read the proposed Bylaws amendments as they needed, while others renewed their memberships so they could vote. Andrea described the current structure of BCNA governance, and the proposal to change from a mere four Officers to a Board of up to nine Directors (including four Officers). As discussed throughout the past several months, a Board can bring new energy into the organization, be a mentoring process to prepare the next Officers, take some of the burden off of the four Officers, and provide for a provisional decision making process to deal with urgent issues that arise between regular meetings, the interval sometimes being more than two months. She also reviewed the word crafting process that has taken place for two months, and was announced last September at our meeting, as well as in our newsletter. She said we could vote tonight to accept the amendments, or continue with the Editing Committee and vote in February. Doug Miller asked if the proposal is for the draft Bylaws with copies now on the table. Andrea said "yes". Sharon said she received the proposal at 3:00pm today, and hasn't had time to read them. (today's e-mail from our Coordinator was simply the final communication after many that had been distributed before, and all amendments are highlighted in red ink). Susan said this just shows that we are not following our Bylaws for this proposal. We haven't given our member adequate notice, which the Bylaws say must be "sent to all members at least 7 days prior the the date of the meeting". Sharon and others had not received the amended bylaws 7 days in advance. Michael clarified that our Bylaws require that "notice" of such amendments be sent, which is not saying that the actual amendments themselves be sent that far in advance. Notice of this amending process was first made at our September meeting, and notice made several times hence. And anyway, the amendments have been readily available for anyone to know about them, most recently at our (Continued)

(Dec. 10 meeting notes, continued) December 3 Editing Committee meeting in this room. Doug Miller asked "How do we know if all members had received the notice of the amendments?" Emily said we don't have to prove that. The Bylaws don't say all members must receive notice, only that we send notice to all members. James Grauerholz asked the meeting "Who isn't here who cares enough about this to be here?" Moved by Sharon to ask the meeting "How many have read the amendments?" A show of hands indicated 12 had read them, 6 had not. Moved by Michael, seconded by Melinda, to hold the vote on tonight's ballot to adopt the amendments in total, not line by line. Motion passed 12-5 (1 abstain).

6. Assembly of Officer nominations:

Andrea wrote on an easel pad the names of nominees from the Nominating Committee.

President: Rena Figures

Vice-President: Byron Wiley

Treasurer: Susan Miller

Secretary: Doug Miller, and Michael Almon

Andrea received nominations from the floor. Nominated by Emily was Jenna Coker for Treasurer. Jenna accepted the nomination. There were no more nominations.

The current officers voted to acknowledge the validity of these candidates as members.

7. Presentation by the candidates:

Andrea asked each candidate to give a brief bio and reason for wanting to serve, and all six candidates did. Sharon asked Michael if he will be able to provide timely minutes, because he missed four meetings last year. Michael said he would, and that he had missed the four meetings due to conflicts with other meetings, some as City task forces, some being out of town. But he had successfully designated someone else to take minutes in his stead. He produced copies of all the minutes, including the ones approved tonight. Emily also said that all minutes are on our web site.

8. Election – Officers and Bylaws amendments:

A paper ballot was distributed to each qualified voting member, which included each Officer title with a line to write in a name, and the Bylaws question "Shall we adopt Bylaws amendments as proposed?"

The results were:

President— Rena Figures: 12, abstain: 7

Vice-President—Byron Wiley: 12, abstain: 6, 1 write in for Lynn

Treasurer—Jenna Coker: 12, Susan Miller: 6, abstain: 1

Secretary—Michael Almon: 12, Doug Miller: 6, abstain: 1

Bylaws amended as proposed— yes:12, no: 6, abstain: 1

9. General meeting schedule:

The next general meeting will be in February.

Meeting adjourned.

**2015 BCNA Membership
Dues can be paid now!**

Bring your \$1 membership dues to the February meeting or mail to 1406 Oak Hill Ave.

Welcome to the Neighborhood!

Recent Property Transfers

1604 Matthew Terrace - Angela Y. Eichler

1322 Maple Lane - Matthew L. & Melissa J.

Fahrenbruch

1231 Prairie Ave. - Joseph W. Dee & Ambika Selvan

2118 E 17th St. - Jill M. King & Kelli S. King

1340 Haskell Ave. - Aaron & Kendra Marable

Brook Creek Neighborhood Association

1944 Miller Drive

Lawrence, KS 66046



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In-neighborhood individuals \$1.00

Out-of-neighborhood individuals and businesses \$5.00

Name _____

Date _____

Address _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Member information is used only for neighborhood communications, and not distributed or sold.

Please **check** any box that applies:

- I do not want my name printed in the newsletter as a new or returning member
- I would like to be included in a neighborhood e-mail list-serve
- I would like to receive a weekly e-newsletter

Mail this form and your check payable to BCNA to:
Brook Creek Neighborhood, 1406 Oak Hill Ave., Lawrence KS 66044

Visit us at <http://brookcreeklawrence.wordpress.com/>

Brook Creek Neighborhood Association

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The Brook Creek Breeze

The Newsletter of the
Brook Creek
Neighborhood Association

April—May 2015

Neighborhood Events

April

- 1 BCNA Meeting, 7:00 p.m.,
East Lawrence Rec. Center
- 7 City Elections—VOTE!
- 11 City Earth Day Celebration
- 18 Park Cleanup
- 25 Park Cleanup Rain Date

May

- 6 BCNA Meeting, 7:00 p.m.,
East Lawrence Rec. Center

April 18 Brook Creek Park Cleanup and Picnic

Every year, BCNA has a clean up event in the spring to help clear debris and garbage out of Brook Creek, which runs through our neighborhood. This year, we will have the event on Saturday, April 18th from 10am-2pm. Meet at the Brook Creek Park gazebo.

This important event in our community is your chance to come out to meet your neighbors, and help keep our little corner of Lawrence beautiful! Gloves and trash bags will be provided, as well as water and lunch donated by local businesses.

As we did last year, we are holding our clean up on the same day as the Big Event at KU, a community service day for students. We will be inviting KU volunteers to help spiff up our neighborhood! We enjoyed meeting Hashinger Hall volunteers during the 2014 park cleanup. In the event of poor weather or rain, we will have a rain date for the following Saturday. Please see the ad in our newsletter about the Big Event at KU to learn more about how you could have volunteers help you with one of your projects.

Brook Creek Accepting Director Nominations

We are still extending an invitation for more Director nominations! Do you know someone who likes to help plan events, or has fundraising skills? Do you have an interest in local history? Do you like to write articles? We'd love to hear from you. Better yet, we'd love to see you at our meetings! Even if you only have a little time to spare, or would like to write just a few history articles per year for the newsletter, we'd love to put you to good use.

In This Newsletter:

- P. 3 Verizon cell tower proposal update
- P. 4 Insects we like! Insects we don't!
- P. 4 'The Burroughs' event space proposal
- P. 5 Who is Brook Creek?
- P. 6 What went down in the February meeting

Join Brook Creek Neighborhood Association for only \$1.00

Support BCNA so that we can effectively represent you.

MEMBERSHIP RATES

In-neighborhood individuals \$1.00 Out-of-neighborhood individuals and businesses \$5.00

Name _____ Date _____

Address _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

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Please **check** any box that applies:

- I do not want my name printed in the newsletter as a new or returning member
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- I would like to receive a weekly e-newsletter

Mail this form and your check payable to BCNA to:
Brook Creek Neighborhood, 1406 Oak Hill Ave., Lawrence KS 66044

Visit us at <http://brookcreeklawrence.wordpress.com/>

Curbside Recycling Dates

North of 15th Street

- March 25
- April 8
- April 22
- May 6
- May 20

South of 15th Street

- March 27
- April 10
- April 24
- May 8
- May 22

Yard waste collection is operating.

Go to notify.lawrenceks.org to sign up for email or text notification of recycling, trash, and yard waste dates.

Neighborhood Contacts

Rena Figures, President

thegreensoaper@yahoo.com
766-7571

Byron Wiley, Vice-President

bwiley@sbcglobal.net

Michael Almon, Secretary

paradigm@sunflower.com

Jenna Coker, Treasurer

fredandjenna@sunflower.com
Send membership renewals to:
1406 Oak Hill Ave.
Lawrence, KS 66044-3638

Directors

Nathan Jeffries
Andrea Repinsky
Emily Winters

Lawrence Association of Neighbor- hoods Representative

Melinda Henderson

Julie Banhart,

Neighborhood Coordinator

BrookCreekNA@gmail.com
841-4997



brookcreeklawrence.wordpress.com

www.facebook.com/
brookcreekneighborhood

A Letter from the President

The BCNA springs into action with a newly expanded board! We would like everyone to extend a warm welcome to our new Directors: Andrea Repinsky, Emily Winters, and Nathan Jeffries. This wonderful addition to our team will help us as we continue to become more actively involved in the community, and help us serve the needs of our neighborhood.

Most CDBG-funded Neighborhood Associations took a cut in funding for the next year. If you're not already a member, please consider joining by sending in your \$1 donation, and talk to your neighbor about joining as well. Every dollar counts. Also, stop in to one of our monthly meetings on the 1st Wednesday of the month (we do not meet in June, July, August, or January) so that we can meet more of our members and supporters. Your Neighborhood Association is important because it provides an active and collective voice, advocating for us on important issues. It also provides the city and local businesses with an avenue for reaching us! We host speakers who are trying to reach their community either to send out a message, or gain feedback from the community. Neighborhood Associations are important to everyone! We thank you kindly for all your support.

- Rena Figures

Do You Want to Host a Job Site for The Big Event 2015?

The **BIG EVENT** is the largest single day of community service and volunteer activism at the University of Kansas. The Big Event connects the KU campus with the Lawrence community by recruiting thousands of student, staff and faculty volunteers to work at hundreds of local job sites during one day of service.



The Big Event will be held **Saturday, April 18, 2015**. There are no requirements for signing up, no need-based considerations - just that you are within Lawrence city limits.

Sign up online at www.thebigeventku.com

Please contact us if you have any questions:
(785) 864-7469 or bigeventku.outreach@gmail.com

2015 BCNA Membership Dues can be paid now!

Bring your \$1 membership
dues to the neighborhood
meeting or mail to 1406 Oak
Hill Ave.

Welcome to the Neighborhood! Recent Property Transfers

John & Janet Evans: 930 Ward Street
Bobby & Della Osburn:- 1541 Harper Street
Thomas Supancic: 1225 Prairie Ave.

See your ad here!

Contact BCNA Coordinator Julie at 841-4997 for more information.

Did you know

that many of the advertising businesses in our newsletter are Brook Creek residents?
Support your neighbors!

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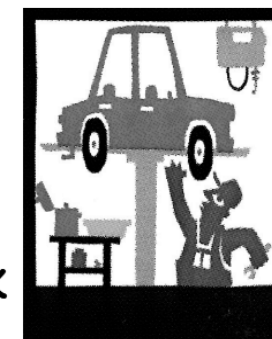
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1701 Massachusetts St. www.catcliniclawrence.com

February 4, 2015 BCNA Meeting Notes

Condensed from minutes recorded and submitted by Secretary Michael Almon

Present: Rena Figures (President), Byron Wiley (Vice President), Jenna Coker (Treasurer), Michael Almon (Secretary), and five other Association members.

Treasurer's report: as of 31 January 2015, \$43.00 petty cash. \$1446.00 in checking account. \$1489.00 total revenues. Our former Treasurer had suggested we not disclose our finances in our on-line minutes. Attendees voted to include BCNA finances in online minutes because we are not a profit-driven business that has proprietary needs, but rather a not-for-profit organization that is open to the public, we have an obligation to maintain transparency in our financial dealings.

Meeting minutes: Unapproved minutes from prior meetings were approved.

Verizon Cell Tower Proposal: An update was given on Verizon's application for a Special Use Permit for a microwave tower in Brook Creek Neighborhood (See article in newsletter)

Burroughs Creek Corridor Plan: Attendees reviewed the objectives of the Burroughs Creek Corridor plan, which calls for zoning along the trail to be made consistent with current uses. This action has not yet been taken, and the issue will be discussed in future BCNA meetings

The Burroughs: Silverback Enterprises presented their plan to develop an event facility at 701 E. 19th Street. (see article, next page)

Guest Speaker Stuart Boley:

Our guest speaker was Stuart Boley, who is running for City Commission. Though no other candidates were present, we made it clear that we are not endorsing Mr. Boley, but simply are interested in hearing his thoughts. He said that he grew up in Kansas and graduated from K.U., and his wife is from Lawrence. He is a retired I.R.S. corporate auditor, and currently works part time for the Douglas County Community Foundation. He did not think the financing for the Rock Chalk Park was handled properly. He discussed models for taxation and methods of prioritizing City spending. He also discussed the proposed transit hub at 21st and Iowa Streets, the bus routing logistics, and the populations to be served.

L.A.N. Representative:

Melinda Henderson was elected to be BCNA's representative to the Lawrence Association of Neighborhoods .

Nominations for Director Positions:

Attendees considered what range of skills we needed for new Directors, including: member recruitment, list-serv moderator, webmaster, newsletter editor, land use chair, fundraiser, event planner, history chair. The people proposed were: Andrea Repinsky (newsletter editor), Emily Winters (list-serv moderator, webmaster), and Nathan Jeffries. They will be contacted to see if they are interested in serving, and elections will take place at the March BCNA meeting.

Meeting adjourned

Verizon Cell Tower Proposal Now in Federal District Court

On November 17, 2014, the Planning Commission unanimously approved a Special Use Permit requested by Verizon for a new 120-foot microwave tower at 17th & Bullene, next to the Burroughs Creek Trail and several houses, and in a place that would be visible by much of Brook Creek, Barker, and The Woods neighborhoods. They did so without seeing a third party "burden of proof" document that was deemed inadequate by many neighbors. Brook Creek Secretary Michael Almon led the response of neighbors opposed to the proposal, and a protest petition was completed.

The petition required at least four votes in favor of the proposal from the City Commission. On December 9 2014, the City Commission unanimously denied the permit request based on testimony revealing that the application was in violation of the "burden of proof" requirement and the Burroughs Creek Corridor Plan. Also, dozens of people from three neighborhoods attended the meeting to encourage denial of the permit. Verizon has sued the City in Kansas City Federal District Court, which could take a year to resolve.

Burroughs Creek Corridor Plan to be Revisited

The Verizon tower issue has prompted a reexamination of zoning amortization of the inappropriate industrial zoning near the site. One of the main objectives of the Burroughs Creek Corridor Plan is to modify existing zoning to be "consistent with use." Because all of the business uses along and near Bullene

Ave. and Lynn St. are light commercial and not industrial, the plan calls for the zoning to be changed to commercial zoning. After eight years, this zoning amortization still has not been done, and is long overdue. We will discuss this in upcoming meetings to learn how it might be done.

City Commission and School Board Elections are April 7th.

For information on all the candidates, visit the Voter Education Coalition website:

<http://www.vecdgks.webs.com/>



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What To Do With Wanted and Unwanted Insects

Butterflies

This is the year to protect the Monarch butterfly! One very important action many of us can do is to plant their host plant, milkweed. They're an excellent native plant for your flower garden. Several milkweed species will be available at two fun events. Each event offers high-quality plants, and they benefit the non-profit host organizations.

Monarch Watch Butterfly Plant Sale
May 9, 8 a.m.—2 p.m. Foley Hall, West Campus
Grassland Heritage Foundation Native Plant Sale
May 16 10 a.m—1:30 p.m, Library lawn

Also, parsley and dill are easy to grow. Both plants support black swallowtail butterflies.



Monarch butterfly
Credit: Monarch Watch

Mosquitoes

As the spring rains begin, help your house and your neighbors by cleaning out your gutters! Well-functioning gutters will not hold standing water that mosquitoes use to hatch more mosquitoes. Look for items in your yard that may collect rainwater, and clean them up or turn them over.

Chiggers

As soon as the soil is warm, chiggers will be out! Linda Cottin of Cottin's Hardware suggests the following:

- 1) Mow lawns and weed garden beds regularly to prevent damp, shady chigger habitat.
- 2) Keep skin covered, with pants tucked into socks,
- 3) Sprinkle affected areas of the yard and your ankles with powdered sulfur,
- 4) Spray shrubs & trees with a solution of 1/4 Fels-Naptha soap bar grated into one quart of warm water,
- 5) Bathe or rub skin briskly with a towel immediately after spending time outdoors. (*Chigger tips originally published in Lawrence Journal-World Aug. 13, 2012*)

Silverback brings 'The Burroughs' Proposal to Brook Creek

Silverback Enterprises, a Lawrence events promotion business, contacted Brook Creek representatives to discuss their proposal for 'The Burroughs.' Kyle Meyers, one of two owners of Silverback Enterprises, attended the February Brook Creek meeting to provide more information. Silverback is one of the most prominent event production companies in the country, with their corporate headquarters located in the old Zimmerman Steel Company building at 701 East 19th St. Meyers said that he and his partner want to have their facility become part of the fabric of the neighborhood. They have a plan for "The Burroughs," a destination that would host community events, galas and receptions, art exhibitions, performances, food festivals, and athletic events.

They recently purchased the land to the north across 19th St. (which is in Brook Creek Neighborhood) to be used for their open air events. Meyers said that they are aware that the Burroughs Creek Plan designates this site for a trail head with rest rooms, drinking fountains, bicycle service, rest area, and auto parking. Their design will incorporate trail head amenities, and they intend to downzone the site from industrial to open space zoning. They have already downzoned their building site from General Industrial to Limited Industrial zone. Brook Creekers at the February meeting thanked them for approaching the neighborhood and invited Silverback to keep the dialog going.

More information: www.theburroughs.net

Who is Brook Creek? A Profile

Brook Creek is one of the oldest and largest of Lawrence neighborhoods. It covers about 1 square mile, from Burroughs Creek to the eastern edge of Lawrence, and from 11th Street to 19th Street. Here is a glance at who we are, compared to the whole of Lawrence. *Source: U.S. Census Bureau and Esri*

	<u>Lawrence</u>	<u>Brook Creek</u>
Population (2010)	87,043	3,176
Households (2010)	34,970	1,252
Avg. Household Size	2.28	2.52
Owner-Occupied Housing Units	46.7%	57.7%
Owned with Mortgage	35.6%	39.6%
Owned Free and Clear	11.1%	18.1%
Renter-Occupied Housing Units	53.3%	42.3%
Vacant Housing Units	6.8%	10.1%
Median Household Income (2014)	\$45,223	\$34,928
Median Home Value (2014)	\$160,244	\$98,788
Per Capita Income (2014)	\$25,517	\$17,816
Median Age (2014)	27.5	31.7
Population by Race as Reported to U.S. Census (2010)		
White	82%	75.2%
Black	4.7%	7.9%
American Indian	3.1%	6.2%
Pacific Islander	.1%	.1%
Other	1.5%	2.5%
2 or More Races	4.1%	7.0%
Hispanic Origin	5.7%	8.7%
Educational Attainment		
High School	14%	19.7%
Some College	19.6%	24.5%
Associates Degree	5.7%	2.4%
Bachelors Degree	28.6%	19.9%
Graduate Degree	24.6%	18.5%
Marital Status (Age 15+)		
Never Married	50.9%	29%
Married	36.9%	49.8%
Widowed	3.6%	3.9%
Divorced	8.6%	17.2%
Households		
With 1 Person	32%	29.1%
With 2+ People	68%	70.9%
With Children	24.4%	36.7%
Multigenerational	1.5%	3.4%