

Quarterly Neighborhood Performance Report - Quarter Two (November-January) Due Feb. 10							
Neighborhood _____		Completed By _____		Alison Dishinger		#####	
North Lawrence		Phone Number/Email		785-691-7339		awdishinger@gmail.com	
Each Neighborhood is required to have at least quarterly meetings. (minutes must be attached.)		Meeting Date #1		<u>1/8/2018</u>		Minutes Attached? <u>yes</u>	
		Meeting Date #2		<u>3/12/2018</u>		Minutes Attached? <u>yes</u>	
		Meeting Date #3		n/a — Dec was Festival of		Minutes Attached? <u>n/a</u>	
				Nativites and Feb was Chili Supper			
How was the neighborhood notified of the meeting(s)? (check all that apply)		email		_____			
		newsletter		_____			
		other announcement? (please specify)		_____			
Officer elections this quarter? (if so, attach list of new officers)				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Social media, and meeting always held	
						Second Monday Sept-May	
Each Neighborhood is encouraged to produce regular newsletters.		Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		No			
		Alison Dishinger, NLIA Coordinator					
		Date of Newsletter		<u>n/a this quarter</u>		Copy Attached? <u>n/a</u>	
						(required)	
Also to be attached:							
Neighborhood activity list for the quarter, including method of notification as well as estimated attendance. (Required)							
Best practices in regard to neighborhood events that can be shared with other neighborhood associations. Provide information on outreach, event, and outcome. (recommended)							
Any other information your neighborhood association feels will be information that will help to provide a clear view of your neighborhood associations accomplishments. (recommended)							

NLIA meeting 1/8/18

Attendance: 17 folks

Mark Hecker from Parks and Rec, Crystal Miles and Derek _____ from the City Forestry Department are here as guests.

Ted called the meeting to order at 7 pm.

Ted remarked on the nice weather here, mentioning the wet microburst on Oct 14th. The City Forestry department are our guests tonight. They have some informative charts, and we'll talk about how they determine what trees need to be removed, what they'll replace trees with, and their quick response to the storm damage on October 14th.

Ted asked Beverly for the treasurer's report.

2863.96 Deposit 127, 156.13 (283.13) = 3147.09 balance. Expenses: Donation to the church: 50, Ballard, 50, Carol Wilcox 13.52 for thank you notes: Ending balance: 3033.57 17.57 petty cash.

Beverly reminded us of the chili supper on February 12th 5:30 - 8

Community dinner, Centenary Methodist, Ham and beans next Wednesday, January 17th.

Centenary donated \$500 to the Christmas collection; we had over \$5300, and 4 families, 17 people.

Ted said we adopted 2 more families as well; 6 families, 23 people. One family was the folks with five kids that we helped last year as well.

Ted talked about he and Bev asking for donations from North Lawrence businesses this year; he said everyone they visited was immediately responsive and quite generous. We found families through Penn House as well as by knowing them via neighbors in NL. The "North Lawrence Ladies" collected wish lists and the clothing sizes, and went shopping for each family.

The families got gift cards, items off their wish lists, gas cards, outfits, and grocery gift cards in the amount of \$400.

Ted remarked positively on the support that many North Lawrence businesses have shown for the Christmas family funds.

Ted again showed the mock-up for the new sign that we'd like to have on the main streets coming into the neighborhood. There are two versions; both contain uniquely North Lawrence icons, such as the Sandrat, the eagles, the grain elevator, and the river. Ted said he'll talk to the city about getting the sign. Hillcrest has installed a sign recently on 9th street.

Ted returned to talking about the October 14th storm. Between 120 and 130 house were damaged, and his insurance adjuster alone saw more than 35 people after the storm. At least 6 vehicles were totaled; one mobile home was chopped in two; half a dozen houses were uninhabitable. Luckily, there were no injuries! The weather station at the airport went down when the winds exceeded 55 mph. The consensus was that this weather event was "wet microburst" with winds up to 80-90 miles per hour, and it uprooted trees from our sandy loam soil.

Ted turned the meeting over to Derek from Parks and Rec (the new director, 5 months). Derek deferred to Crystal for a presentation on trees. (Derek compared her to Stan Roth!)

NLIA meeting 1/8/18

Crystal said she happened to be driving through North Lawrence right when the storm happened, and the police called her in that afternoon after the storm hit. They knew right away they would be coming in, and pulled together what forestry staff they could (many people were out of town for football games). The Streets department also started working that Saturday evening.

On Sunday, the city came back in to work, and wanted to make sure neighbors knew they were there and working so we would not get taken by scammers. She said that once the information went live on news channels in KC, there were a ton of fake tree-trimmers showing up. The city made sure that these people were not able to operate in the neighborhood. Street, Parks, Forestry, and Landscape were all working that day.

A couple of things happened: There was some tornadic activity, as well as the microburst. You can

They brought the state forestry expert in in December to do an inventory of the trees and assessment of the ones that were damaged.

North Lawrence has 1053 trees on the parks or right of way in NL. 44 different species. 20% are Elms; 30 are American, 190 are Siberian. Silver maple, Hackberry are common as well.

She said the trees were stressed by the 2011 and 2012 droughts; it takes about 5 years for drought stress to show up and we are seeing some of that stress now. Outer leaves of the trees don't perform photosynthesis when the temperature gets above 95 degrees. Watering trees can help the tree survive hot weather.

The Emerald Ash Borer is becoming an issue in Kansas as well. There are about 10% of the trees (around 50) that are Ash, and they are being treated to try to keep them healthy. The current Ashes are in the prime of growth and they hope that with treatment, they can get another 15 years out of them. Most of our Ash trees are on the levee and north 2nd.

The map shows 38 blue dots that are trees that meet the criteria for removal, and this program will take around 2 years.

If a tree is over 50% dead, or has lost 50% of its canopy, they classify it as dead. 18 of the 38 meet this. The other 20 have structural defects such as large branch tear outs, trunk wounds, decay, cracks in the trunks, or have root disturbances.

They will also do a pruning program for street trees, taking down limbs that block sidewalks or hang over houses.

The program they use is GIS map based, and they started using it in 2011. (Tree works, Access Data) They keep lists of tree conditions, sizes, locations, etc. Green dots live; blue remove 2 years; black or red are stumps/stump sites.

The city will replant trees (no elms), up to a limit of 10% of any one species. That means less red maples, silver maples, and perhaps London Plane trees (which are resistant to anthracnose).

Members had questions about what types of trees and what trees will be affected.

The city has information on the city clerk section — permits and licenses, — tree trimmers — where the list of people who have licenses in Lawrence lives. Check to see that they have insurance, that they have

workman's comp, how they will dispose of the debris, how they will deal with chainsaw safety, what kind of equipment they will bring into your yard, and if it's an Ash tree, where they will dispose of the quarantined wood.

Someone asked about the tree at 4th and Elm. She said we used the Bartlett tree information and said it has some defects, but it came out fairly well. It has only about 6% decay/cavity in the trunk, some clear drought damage. It is a tall tree that is heavily weighted, and they think that they can do some pruning of the tree and monitor its health.

Ted said that tree is documented from over 150 years ago. There was a grocery store at that corner that was built before 1870 and was mentioned in some documentation about that store. It was on the Tree Tour last year. He says it hasn't been pruned for quite a while.

The city is trying to run two crews for the EAB problem. They are hoping to get to NL in the next two years to assess and prune.

They will notify the address via a door hanger when they are removing trees; if they are just doing pruning, they will not notify. They have all been to classes recently to update their arborist skills.

One resident asked about a "white zero" that was painted on a tree a few years back. Crystal said it was likely Westar. Westar has their "reliabilitytree" program, and in 2012 they brought in 27 crews and the city could not keep track of where they were! They have cut back, have a local director for that program, and they are interfacing with the city Forestry department now. The region is Lawrence, Topeka, and Bonner Springs. Crystal said that Westar will be coming back to do some more work and line clearance. They paint the tree with a white dot when they are doing line clearance. They paint with a green dot as well. The paint is just turf paint and should wear off or can be brushed off.

Mark said that the storm really helped the city look deeply at and assess the trees in North Lawrence and concentrate on what we have here and what needs to be addressed. This is good, because we have a lot of mature trees. Since we've seen what happened with the October storm, we can address problems before the next storm like that (or ice storms).

One resident asked about stump removal and if there is a timeline for those. Crystal said they do them year round, but don't do it during extreme cold weather because of issues with the diesel engines. They removed about 300 stumps last year, in groups of 50, and that's what they expect this year. They use the same tractor as the Parks department, and in the fall they over-seed grass and do the holiday lights. They focus on safety issues first. The resident asked if he could hire someone privately because he thinks the stump he has is a hazard.

The city does have a tree planting contract for spring, 100 trees in the older neighborhoods.

Mark said that the EAB issue has tripled the number of removals they have to schedule in the city.

1200 calls/complaints in her first year; 600 in the last year. So they are doing a great job! She recommends being proactive and contacting them if you think there are any safety issues, or have any questions.

She mentioned on 19th street that some trees over-pruned some trees on 19th street in 2012, which is the year we had 100-degree, drought temperatures. Those trees are now dying.

One resident said that the city crews that pruned the trees on her street did a thorough and attentive job.

NLIA meeting 1/8/18

Crystal said that the Japanese Beetle is a new issues for trees.

A resident asked about oaks and oak itch mites: she said that it's the red oak family that is affected by the mite/gall. They will be planting the white oak family when they plant oaks.

Mark said that they have a list of species-diverse right-of-way trees so that we never have an issue wiping out a huge percentage of street trees; for instance, Ash were very popular and over-planted, and now the EAB is taking many of these trees down.

Homeowners can talk to the city and get a choice of trees that may be available for that site. It's site-specific and depends also on the diversity list for trees. They don't want to exceed a certain number of trees throughout the city, but neighbors should have some choices if they are interested.

She talked about what happens when old trees are infilled. The property on Lincoln street had the old elm tree infilled by 3 feet (4 inches is the recommendation) and it killed the roots, over time, which doomed the tree when the property was infilled.

One neighbor asked if he could get on a website to choose his trees when they are going to be replanted. Crystal said it's the Parks and Recreation webpage. Or, the Kansas Forest Service has the Preferred Trees for Northeast Kansas list online. The list was created in 2005. The neighbor was worried about non-native trees being planted.

https://www.kansasforests.org/community_forestry/community_docs/Pref%20Trees%20NE.pdf

Crystal also said there is a place to report downed limbs etc. on the city website. We are always welcome to look up their email addresses and send them a question directly.

A resident asked if yard waste removal will return in January. The compost collection site is currently closed and should reopen in March. Solid Waste (832-3032) is in charge of yard debris collection. The collection schedule is on the website:

<https://lawrenceks.org/swm/lawngrassleafcollection/>

Mark asked if there's anything going in the parks in NL that we're curious about. One resident asked about putting in a sidewalk at the Northwest corner of 7th and Lyon for access into the park (rather than walking across the parking lot, which is what we have to do now). Also, from the south side of the tennis courts, there is no sidewalk access from Lincoln street (SW corner of the park).

Mark said that there are LED lights in Lyons Park that barely spill outside the fences now. Neighbors can see the difference in the lighting. The park at John Taylor has been updated as well, volunteers having done the work to install the new equipment and mulch.

Ted asked if the city considers the quality of the soil in North Lawrence (we have Class 1, sandy loam soil). Ted said this side of the tracks, water runs at about 12-15 feet under the soil. South across the tracks, it's 18-20 feet beneath grade. We don't have clay except for what is brought in by the developers for new housing. Crystal and Mark said they really like planting trees here because of the soil. Ted talked about how Jefferson (North Lawrence before consolidation with South Lawrence in 1865) sold lumber to the south side of the river in the 1800s, because they had no trees and said we have the most beautiful trees in town.

Crystal said when a tree starts to decline, it doesn't happen overnight. It usually takes about 5 years for a tree to go into visible decline from environmental stresses like drought.

Crystal said that 90% of a tree's roots are in the top 3 feet of the soil, so this is why it's beneficial to water your yard throughout the year (even in mild weather in winter).

Crystal said that in Albuquerque, the xeriscaping movement got people to stop watering their yards, and all of their street trees died.

Ted talked about the flooding of the underpass during the October 14th storm. The back up power was cut (Westar cut the power to the second feed line). He got a hold of Matt Bond and Westar both — they had cut the secondary power because so many trees were down in the neighborhood. Now, however, there is an emergency backup generator that is natural gas, so the underpass won't flood again.

Ted praised the city's quick response to the storm damage. He is happy to see that North Lawrence is getting some focus and a cohesive tree plan now. Crystal says that the software and the data will help the city execute this plan over the next 2 years, pruning several hundred and taking out the 38 mentioned before. The database helps them create the maintenance program and have a better response to potential storm damage.

Ted also asked about Dutch Elm removal on private property. Crystal said the Elm program has been in place since 1979, and Crystal has been working with the legal department on notification about dead, dying, and dangerous trees in the city. Dutch Elm has been in place since 1979; there was an abatement program. Privately-owned elm trees get notified usually at the end of the summer; but the notification for 2017 started in December. There were three addresses notified in December, and they have to remove the trees by March. If they don't remove it, it can go on the tax roll so they can pay for it incrementally.

Leaving a diseased tree in your yard affects the whole urban forest; if a homeowner leaves a dying tree in their yard, the disease or the pest will move on to neighboring trees.

Mark said there are 30K Ash trees in the county, most of them not on public right-of-way. Some homeowners do treat their elm trees proactively for the elm beetles to keep them healthy.

One resident asked about sizing trees for historic purposes. She has some "three-person-hug" trees! Crystal said that there is a group of men, including John Standing and Stan Roth, who are measuring trees and putting them on tree tours. They are helping the state forest service update their database. The city doesn't assess private trees.

Ted and Beverly reminded us about the Cabin Fever Chili Supper on February 12th at 5:30 pm (but folks come as early as 5 pm to get the good stuff!) Please get on the list with Bev if you are bringing a chili. Many city officials and members of the police department stop by to eat and chat, too. We'll accept free-will donations to cover the cost of renting the Depot.

One resident (Joyce) talked about the coats program that she's offered the past few years. She said lately people have not been taking the coats, so just ask if you know someone who needs a warm coat. Ted suggested donating coats to the Ballard Center. Ballard center does not charge for clothing they give out.

Ted said that the turnout at the last meeting, the Festival of Nativities, was one of the largest we've seen in recent years.

Ted talked about Penn House moving to the Ballard Center in 2018. They are currently working on the plan for siting the Penn House services.

NLIA meeting 1/8/18

Ted asked for further items. None were presented. He motioned for adjournment. Then we remembered the raffle!

NLIA meeting 3/12/18

Guest from the Sherriff's department: Undersherriff Gary Bunting and Patrick Schmidt

Guest speaker: County Commissioner Nancy Thellman

Attendance: 8 plus 4 NLIA officers

The meeting was moved from Peace Mennonite Church, which is undergoing remodeling and reconstruction, to the Union Pacific Depot/Lawrence Visitors Center, 402 N. 2nd St.

Beverly gave the financial report from December through February and noted that the free will donations given by attendees at this year's chili supper will take care of supplies for next year's supper.

Ted started with an update regarding the proposed quiet zone, from 10 pm to 6 am, with bells and a car horn to warn pedestrians at the train crossings

Turns out every neighborhood may lose all CBDG money next year. This year, each target low-to-moderate income neighborhoods received a cut of \$1000 each. We wrote the grant to get \$5000, but \$1000 was given to other national charities. Ted says we'll have to cut back on the bulk of the newsletter (printing and mailing of which costs about \$1000) and that the postcards cost about \$700 to print and mail. Ted spent 2.5 hours at the CBDG meeting last week talking with them. **Every year we mail out 1300 postcards; 95% of which are in NL; but we also mail them to important people in the community (fire chief, police chief, school board members, etc) across the river.

20 years ago, the city got 1.5-1.7 million dollars to disperse between all the charitable nonprofits and the neighborhoods. That amounted to about \$7000 a year then. This year, the city got less than \$900K to disperse, and each neighborhood got \$1000 less than they expected.

The Capital Improvement money that we request every year is used for sidewalks and speed humps, etc. There is no cap on this amount that we can request; this year we will get a total of \$32,000 for four speed humps. We will be getting speed humps on Lyon street between 7th and 9th; we believe there will be two in the 700 block, and one each in the 8th and 9th block. These residents have been waiting 3 years. These are the capital improvements for which we wrote the grant. Orignally, the speed humps cost around \$3500 to install; now they are \$8000 each. This is because the city now wants to be paid for installing these.

The speed humps on Lincoln street between 3rd and 7th will be taken care of by the city, sometime in 2018, according to the new city engineer, rather than by our CBDG capital improvement money.

None of the capital improvement money may be used for any operational expenses for NLIA.

Ted reminded us that when they health department did the walkability and safe routes survey that North Lawrence had the highest rating in the city for this metric. This was because of the traffic calming devices such as speed humps. No other neighborhood has this level of walkability and safe routes.

Ted says that a certain number of people on the board for CBDG did not want to fund operation costs for the low-to-moderate neighborhoods at all this year; the extra money that was to come to the neighborhoods went to the Salvation Army and the Catholic (Christian) Ministries ***check this. Ted says that unless Congress and the president do something like pass a bill or push more money to the CBDG fund nationwide, we will not get any money for operating expenses next year. We'll have to be creative in our thinking; we may increase dues, and we'll still use the Christmas fund like we did this

year. Ted says we helped 26 people in 5-6 families this year. Ted and Beverly always have a contest for collecting money; Beverly says she always beats him! Ted thinks it's because she gives them a membership card and a thank you note.

The CBDG capital improvement money is supposed to help LM neighborhoods revitalize the core neighborhoods. To receive the funds, the neighborhood has to have at least 50% LM residents. We stay around 54%. Tenants to Homeowners and Habitat for Humanity keep us in this range. (There are 7 new houses going in at 8th and Walnut).

If we aren't going to get any CBDG operating expense money, we won't be able to put out the newsletter, the postcards, or pay for the coordinator's extra hours for the neighborhood. Though Ted says there is always a possibility that Congress may fund a bill for the program.

Ted said that the events like the chili supper and the picnic are important to get people out and get to know each other while having a good time and eating good food. We do raise some money at these events, and we use these to fund the subsequent years of these events. If we don't get funding, we may have to think about having some other types of fundraisers to cover our operating expenses.

22 years ago, when Ted took over NLIA, he said there was no money in the coffers. He paid for the newsletters etc out of pocket and waited for reimbursement. Ted said this went on for about three years, until Jericho, when the producers of that movie (?) wanted to change North Lawrence to Jericho for a while. They had a fundraiser and a big event at the Depot, showing the (movie) and the promoter asked what it would be worth to NLIA to do this? Ted asked for \$2K and got it (had he known, he would have asked for more!)

Ted reminded us that we are the best neighborhood in Lawrence, and asked if people had read the paper and had seen the article about the state and the feds offering a tax abatement to businesses, in which they excluded North Lawrence in the list of possible abatement areas. Ted was on the phone to Diane Stoddard the next day. Most of the targeted area goes from about 7th and Mass to Venture Park, but some of it was west of Mass, too, including parts of Oread and Jayhawk Blvd. Ted pointed out that they're not in a LM neighborhood. Stoddard said that the new governor is going to pick the area and it is probably going to be east to Venture Park. The area will include the proposed site of the new grocery store at 7th and NH. The neighborhoods in which this special tax abatement area sits do eventually receive some of the benefits of the tax abatement.

Stoddard said that the governor could slow the process down, and that it was sprung on the city very quickly. The governor has the authority to slow down and revise the process. Diane said that if that happens, she will get NL on there. Ted says that we should have been on there in the first place, and told her that the river gets wider and wider every year. This is why it's important to fight, so that we don't get overlooked.

Ted introduced Nancy Thellman, Gary Bunting, Patrick Schmidt CEO of Bert Nash, and Amy Warren, COO of Bert Nash (***** get names when I have internet again)

Nancy said they are here to talk in a non-partisan way about the jail expansion, the proposed mental health center and the associated ballot questions.

Patrick spoke first. He moved to Lawrence about 10 months ago. 4-5 years ago the conversation about the crisis at the jail and proposed mental health services at the jail began. Concerned groups and individuals looked at different interventions throughout the country, and a center just north of Bert Nash, on Maine, was proposed. Then, there was a pause. Patrick said it gave Lawrence an opportunity to look at the

design, which would have been the largest crisis intervention center in the country for cities this size. At this point, they stepped back, new people came in to the conversation (LMH, DCCA, housing authority, HQ). They asked if services could be preserved in a smaller structure than the big facility.

Currently the idea is a much wider array of services, beyond crisis intervention. The idea is to address the whole community's needs, regardless of (geophysical) location. The current idea is a 20K foot facility that has a crisis intervention center (for 23 hour observation up to 7-day stays), a place of recovery for substance use (whether getting over an alcohol binge or detoxing from other substances).

A center can do a good job stabilizing people in the short term, but if they go back to a bad housing situation, they often come right back again. So, BN wrote a proposal for transitional home for folks who might need more than 7-14 days to get back into the community. They also talked about permanent supportive housing for individuals, working with the housing authority, to get the support they need to remain safe and stable.

So the focus moved to prevention, intervention, and recovery rather than just intervention (the original center proposal). The county has funds to increase funds available for mental health care and provide funding for the co-responder program (trained mental health professionals who ride along with the police — they have had over 600 contacts in the first six months). At LMH, there was more focus on supporting people who arrive at the ED as well. A mobile response team has also been discussed — professionals who can respond to crises in the community.

Patrick also said they are plans to add more WRAP (Wellness Recovery Action Plan) mental health clinicians into the schools and training more people in the zero suicide initiative. Also, providing a mobile app to the community for crisis intervention and mental health. These are all in addition to crisis intervention, sobering, and detox. The location is still proposed as close to the hospital, Bert Nash, and Heartland HealthCare.

Patrick then took questions.

Q: What is the actual ask on the ballot: A half cent sales tax that raises 9.7 million for the county, 5.7 million of which would go to the county-wide mental health and substance abuse initiative; \$750K would go toward the debt services initially (to pay off the building, and the rest would go to personnel costs. The other side of the ballot asked for 4 million to pay for a jail expansion.

Q: Does this tax increase sunset out: No, because the costs are ongoing.

Nancy highlighted that we've got an increased drug issue in the area; methamphetamine, opioid prescriptions, etc. and heroin could be next. We have a very high number of opioid prescriptions in the county.

Q: In the event the tax doesn't pass, will there be staff available for permanent support of housing (like Hope house): Yes. Supportive services in homes will still happen, and it could be self-sustaining.

Q: Is there a strength to combine these agencies, any federal grant money: It's what we're doing as a partnership that's unique, and down the road we may be able to garner more federal money because of this.

Gary Bunting spoke next about the jail side.

The jail is overpopulated; many people wonder why. There are a variety of factors, but the jail is a 186-bed facility designed in the 1990s and opened in 1999. It was originally to be larger, but was made smaller because of cost issues. It was projected to be overpopulated by 2010. It will take 3 years to build if approved. We are one of the fastest growing counties in the state, to be at 150K in 2038. There has been a 101% increase in serious (family?) crime. 2017 had 684 cases (up from 400+ in 2014). There is a significant increase in felony crimes and drug-related violent crimes. The judges have the third-highest case load in the state, per judge; the county has no control over the court system because it is at the state level. Can only ad pro tem judges, not full judges that can hear criminal cases.

The reentry program (2007, Sheriff implemented) gives cognitive behavioral programming and case management to prevent people from coming back to jail, and any inmate can attend these. 44% of inmates, before reentry, came back to jail. When the program was in full swing, it was 30%. In 2015, the number went back up to more than 44%, because they were housed in other jails that didn't have the reentry program.

Programs to safely reduce the jail population: In new municipal court charges, people are automatically booked and released on an OR bond (promise to appear). There is also supervised release and house arrest. These programs are free to the defendant which is cheaper than putting them in the jail.

Every inmate is screened, Women, Veterans, persons with mental illness — connect them with services and get them out of jail. 2016 implemented, and served 360 people that year.

There are 150 people out of jail in these programs on any given day. Gary gave us a handout with data from one day from the jail.

Handout — who we have left in jail on one day (SCAN THIS)

Q: Will voting for this contribute to the mass incarceration issue for the entire US: Compared to other cities in the nation (in 2014) we had 1.63 people vs national average of 3.37, so we're one of the jurisdictions on the low end across the nation.

Gary said they try to get everyone who has mental illness issues out and into help, but sometimes because of the severity of their crimes, they can't be released. There are four full time Bert Nash staff who work with inmates at the jail.

The population has changed; 113% increase in officer needs emergency assistance calls within the jail (attacks on officers or inmates large disturbances, refusing to comply with officer) these happen every 3-4 days now rather than every 9. The Maximum security is full; the best of the worst to go medium; the best of the worst of medium go to minimum. Also, there are usually about 40 women now at the jail, sleeping on floors, in laundry areas in a 14-cell mixed housing unit.

The jail does not have any therapeutic environments to ensure a person's mental health condition doesn't get worse (as opposed to a concrete jail cell). There needs to be special needs units for both men and women.

Q: Jackson County MO has overcrowding and multiple issues, is this jail close to that point of breaking, would we be in the same situation, so should we take preventative measures: That's possible, and the opioid crisis hasn't hit us as hard as the rest of the nation yet. Gary said they are working on developing a medication assisted treatment programs for opioid addiction to be proactive when that epidemic reaches the county.

Q: How big is the expansion: They are asking for 178 more beds on top of the current 168; this is based on a 20-year projection for the population and the pre-trial release program. It's not like adding onto a house; they add more beds than they currently need, looking at the future.

Q: How does the jail come into play with the police station: It's completely different. The police station is a city level issue, and has nothing to do with the county. This is all county-level.

Nancy said that she thinks important for people to pay attention to fixing potential issues before they get here, like Jackson County MO now or the old Shawnee County jail was in the past. It is the county's duty to provide a safe sufficient, secure, healthy and humane jail, and they do not want to wait until they are sued for not providing this and being in violation of the obligation. Currently, inmates sleeping on the floor and officers making internal distress calls almost every other day, we're close to that point. Inmates who have to be housed in other counties because this jail is overcrowded don't get access to services that could help them, and they are 45% more likely to commit a crime again.

Gary said that he knows everyone in the jail is someone's family member, friend, or future neighbor, and they want these people to go out and be responsible citizens and NOT come back to jail.

Q: Are we talking about separate buildings now, jail expansion and the proposed mental health center: Yes, one location proposed on the ballot is near the hospital, and the jail expansion is at the jail

Q: about out-of-county people: at any given time, about 30% of our inmates are not DG residents.

Q: The national question is about people of color in jail, and being opposed to the jail expansion because of incarceration of people of color. What are the percentages: If you're going to do a comparison, numbers to DG residents, it's not accurate; it's still not favorable, but we're at about 15-16% of at the inmates bookings are African American, and the population is 4.9%. This is being worked on and investigated by the criminal justice coordinating council. Even if this number is reduced, it doesn't eliminate the need for a jail expansion.

Nancy said that if the county has around a 4% African American population, that people think that the jail would reflect that; but the fact is that 30% of our inmates come from other counties, which may raise those numbers. It is still a problem that people need to take seriously and the county does.

Q: If they commit a crime here, do they get put in jail here: Yes.

Q: How do we solve the issues with the women's population, where maximum, medium, and minimum offenders of differing sentences are all in once place: It isn't fair to the women's population, and some of the women inmates are terrified to be in the population; expansion would help.

Nancy said that we're fortunate to have a jail staff that thinks about these issues.

Q: Are there tours of the jail: Yes. Between now and the election, there are tours every Sat 9 am and 1pm. Send an email to Gary with name, address, phone (DG residents, 18 YOA only).

Q: What about the for-profit prisons? As a taxpayer, I'd like to know that there's a commitment on the part of the county to continue to operate the facility itself rather than hand it over to a for-profit entity: If you hear about the prison industrial complex, mass incarceration, for profit prisons, school to prison pipeline — these are not the issues in DG CTY. We have the lowest incarceration rate in the state. A county jail is a different entity to the national conversation. Ours is a localized issue of an overcrowded jail. State statute dictates that the Sheriff be responsible for the jail and maintain the jail, so the county jail is not allowed to be for-profit.

Q: About funding of the court system by the state, will we end up with poor people in jail because they can't pay for the programs to be out of jail, will we end up like Ferguson: We have pretrial release, house arrest, and banding, which are all FREE to the defendant, which removes the socioeconomic barriers to release. There are usually about 150 people on the program that would instead be in the overcrowded jail.

Nancy said that the ballot for these initiatives will come to the mailbox on April 25, and it has to be mailed in by May 15th. They start counting the ballots at noon on May 15th. Douglas County is asking to leverage a half cent sales tax for a mental health crisis facility, a jail detention center all in one long statement. It is NOT two votes; it's both. The county language never was to say "you have a choice between jail and mental health" — it's always been fix the jail so we don't get any worse. We can either debt finance it (which requires the election) or cash finance it by cannibalizing the current budget (which ruins the budget for 15-20 years) The half-cent tax proposal also covers the entire cost of the proposed mental health center.

Nancy says that the language on the ballot really won't be a plain-language narrative, as we've heard tonight, so it may be confusing. It is definitely not poetic, even though it's informative. The county will send out an educational mailer, and there will be citizens working to educate people on the issue.

It boils down to: there will be 50 cents worth of tax on a \$100 purchase gives us an expanded jail and a new mental health facility. Or five cents on \$10. So every time you buy something in DG CTY, you are supporting these projects (if the tax is approved). Statistics say that about 30% of sales taxes are paid by out-of-city visitors, which leaves about 70% to the residents. This will be a permanent tax, no sunset.

Q: Do you see more things in the future that DG may come back to the community and ask for in sales tax funding — where is this in the current and future mix: Nancy said that there are people who are wishing for an open-space program to conserve land in DG CTY, but she thinks that other funding sources may be looked at for that rather than a further sales tax. She said that originally they did not think they would ask for sales tax, but rather a mill levy (property tax). This would have raised the property tax by 11-12 mills, about 30%, to accomplish the same thing that the half-penny sales tax does. The half-cent tax means that anyone who buys goods and services in DG CTY are helping pay for the jail expansion and mental health center, rather than it being put all on property owners.

Nancy says that the county realizes that this is a big ask of the people. They would not be able to finance the mental health center or even the current mental health services and social services safety nets that are provided now if they were to go the cash financing route vs this debt payment route. (See earlier) There will eventually be small mill levy increases (that don't need an election) to fully fund the jail and staff later

The infrastructure, transportation and affordable housing sales tax that was just approved at the city level will sunset in 2029.

Q: If someone out of county is using mental health services, do we bill their county: The hope is, once the referendum has passed and the crisis center will be built, we will ask for contractual agreements from neighboring counties for the mental health center for their residents so we aren't liable with out of county costs. Many of these services aren't reimbursable with insurance. People will either be sent back home or have an agreement with their county (the mental health crisis center) that their county will cover their costs. Though there is no point in having these conversations if the referendum does not pass.

Gary said the crisis center will be completely voluntary.

Nancy said that law enforcement will be able to bring someone in to the crisis center as an option rather than the jail. For example, they pick up someone downtown who needs help. Also, anyone in the community can walk in the front door, anyone who needs help (adults only).

Patrick said that there is part of the proposal that will look at kids in crisis and how to house them separately (it's a licensing issue that they can't take underage people in this facility).

Gary said that just building the crisis center will not solve the problem for the jail expansion. It would only reduce the number by 1.3 persons per month.

Q: Asking about sales tax on food; would this sales tax be added to food as well: Nancy said that counties can't lower food tax without the state doing so; right now it looks like there is some traction on the lobbying effort to take the sales tax down on food (maybe 2019-20) incrementally over a number of years. KC Healthy Kids is lobbying; other child-related advocacy organizations are also lobbying this year. Douglas County Food Policy Council is helping do some research and promoting this at the state.

Q: Food insecurity, poverty go hand-in-hand with addiction, crime, housing insecurity: In ones sense it may positively address some of the peripheral needs; would it be a catastrophic change to the county budget: Not so much for the county, but more at the city level.

Ted asked if there were any further questions. There were none.

Ted said he's on the Ballard Center Board. Becky Price is the new director, and on her watch, the pantry has been separated from the children's area, and there is a new playground. Residents are welcome to tour the facility. Becky said to Ted that she was having problems getting parents to become involved with their children. Each family has a different crisis. She needed these families to come in and talk, be assessed, for help. He asked about giving away an incentive to parents: He got Rick Renfro to Ballard, and he gave \$300 in gift cards to Ballard to get the parents to show up to talk about their children and their families. NOW parents are showing up because of the incentives.

He also talked to the principal of Woodlawn about doing the same program — gift cards as incentives (with Rick again).

11/19/17

Meeting with Ted and Dylan about CBDG and handing over reins for coordinator job. Scanned and posted Ballard center flyer on FB

11/25/17

Worked on 2018 grant; 2 Facebook posts (NLIA and NL) about Christmas horse parade

11/29/17

Met with Ted in the morning to get edits; worked on grant edits and including budget from Pat; left message with Development office regarding percentages of LMI in NL

11/30/17

Talked with Brad at City Development about LMI percentages and the HUD requirement for a Limited English Proficiency Plan; worked on LEP to amend grant applications; edited percentage of LMI and wording in grants; emailed new document to Ted and talked to Ted on phone; emailed Dylan

12/1/17

Finished LEP and inserted revised budget and numbers into both grants. Called Ted about the funding issues with the speed humps and finalizing the documents. Wrote and printed quiet zone letter. Transferred updated files to thumb drive for backup. Ran Windows updates. Emailed Pat re supplies. Did vendor information and W9 for the city. Worked on inserting newsletter into Word file (unsuccessful). Ended up just inserting printed paper copy. Inserted paper copies of letter from Mark Thiel. Met with Ted for final version of grant, which he will hand-deliver.

12/8-10/2017

Email to/from Pat and Ted re the details for 12/11 meeting; four Facebook posts (during the week and a reminder Sunday) about the meeting.

12/11/2017

Monthly meeting at Festival of Nativities and help with donations for Ballard Center

Quarterly activities NLIA Coordinator November 2017 - January 2017

12/11/17

Social media followup from Festival of Nativities

1/8/18

NLIA monthly meeting

1/30/18

Delivering thank you notes and meeting NL business owners; Social media followups to post

2/5/18

Social media posts for Chili Supper

2/12/18

NLIA Cabin Fever Chili Supper; picked up bread bowls from M&M and prepped; set up, served, and cleaned up at supper

2/23/18

Created Facebook poll re street light brightness

11/7/17

Attended City Commission meeting and put North Lawrence neighborhood storm damage report on the regular agenda (for next November meeting)

Called Matt Bond, city stormwater engineer, about the backup generator for the Union Pacific underpass on North 2nd St. The neighborhood would like a natural gas backup pump

Met with Larry McElwain, Chamber of Commerce about the proposed grocery store and parking at Hobbs Loft. There will be 53 more underground parking spaces for the city, to replace the parking spaces they have behind Hobbs-Taylor lofts (on the east side). Those spaces will be returned to Hobbs loft.

Took paperwork to Commissioner Mike Amyx for the Kansas Healthy Foods Initiative

Attended a Veterans Ceremony at Douglas County Courthouse

Put the ad in the Lawrence Journal World for the 11/13 NLIA meeting

11/9/17

Attended Downtown Grocery Committee meeting, where we discussed the proposed 53 additional parking stalls under the south side of the building; guest was Helen Schnoes from the Douglas County Food Council

11/13/17

Attended a meeting with the city manager, Barry Queen from Price Chopper, Mike Treanor, Bill Fleming, and a representative from AWG wholesale grocery. City was not happy with the state of Treanor's plan at this time

Attended and led the North Lawrence Improvement Association meeting, discussing the Christmas donations, the wet microburst in North Lawrence on 10/14/17 that caused severe damage, the backup of water in the Union Pacific underpass during that event, the request for a natural gas backup generator for the pumps that keep the underpass clear, the CDBG grant and where we requested speed humps (on Lincoln Street), and the "Welcome to North Lawrence" sign

11/14/17

Attended City Commission meeting to discuss the need for a gas-powered backup generator for the underpass; also discussed Air B&B and their single-family residential use

11/16/17

Attended Downtown Grocery Committee meeting; discussion included talk about the increase in underground parking and setting up a meeting with the city

Met with stormwater engineer Matt Bond and planner Becky Pepper about stormwater code for runoff on both RS3 and RS5 new-build lots

11/20/17

Met with the outgoing NLIA coordinator, Dylan Shmalberg and the incoming coordinator, Alison Dishinger for transfer of job duties and to talk about the CBDG grant

11/29/17

Reviewed the CBDG application; called Mark Thiel at Public Works for the estimate on the speed humps in the grant — two on Lincoln and one on Lyon. Also called Scott McCullough, planning director, about zoning problems at 624 N. 2nd Street

11/30/17

Attended Downtown Grocery Committee meeting. Reviewed the prior meeting with the city and Treanor et. al., highlighting that the project was not ripe for city help as it stands. The developer needs proof of bank backing and New Market Tax Credit money for the city to be able to endorse

Called Commissioner Mike Amyx about the increase in the cost of speed hump installation. Previous installations by the city were \$3500 per hump, but are now \$8000.

12/1/17

Called Community Development Manager Dani Dresslar regarding the increase in cost per speed hump. She said the money would come from a different fund, and there is no cap on the money, so NLIA is helping the city make money on installation of the humps

12/4/17

Met with Jeff Frye of Mister Bacon Barbecue, 624 N. 2nd Street, to welcome him to North Lawrence and introduce him to Planning Director Scott McCullough so they could talk about zoning of the building. Also drove Beverly Cates around to businesses in North Lawrence to collect Christmas donations for the families that North Lawrence adopted; estimate this year will be 6-8 North Lawrence families

12/5/17

Attended City Commission meeting to speak about the proposed police station in West Lawrence, near Free State High School. Called Scott McCullough at planning about the property at 624 N. 2nd. Part of it is city; part Walnut Park (a division of North Lawrence)

12/7/17

Attended Downtown Grocery Committee meeting. Discussed the upcoming city commission meeting on the proposed convention center and the study session on 12/12

Attended Lawrence Association of Neighborhoods meeting. Discussion included affordable housing, LAN elections, and the proposed 500-bedroom development at 23rd and Inverness

Attended rezoning of 628 North 2nd Street — current Mister Bacon building

12/8/17

Talked with a North Lawrence resident between 11am and 1 pm about some pumps near the pond on North 7th street — we did not know what was happening, so called Nancy Thellman about it

12/12/17

Met with County Commissioner Nancy Thellman about the Delaware Tribe land and what produce they might grow on it, as well as how they can market that produce

12/12/17

Attended City Commission work session meeting to discuss both the grocery store and the convention center

12/14/17

Attended Downtown Grocery Committee meeting; discussed the City Commission study session and what the city staff said about the project — it needs more funding. The city may not loan the 2.25 million to buy the equipment for the inside of the store. Also, Treanor wants the city to help pay for the underground parking. The city may be interested in a possible rent-to-own scenario

12/15/17

Called Matt Bond, City Stormwater Engineer, to discuss flood plain levels at 624 N. 2nd St. Asked for flood plain map (received 12/18/17)

12/18/17

Per resident request, called Westar Energy to reduce the too-bright street lights on North Street and in the alley of North 6th street between Locust and Elm

12/20/17

Delivered Christmas donations to family at 765 Walnut Street and to Penn House to be delivered in North Lawrence. Took donation to Ballard center consisting of food, clothes, and two cases of printer paper. North Lawrence adopted 6 families this year.

12/21/17

Attended Downtown Grocery Committee meeting where we discussed parking and the convention center

12/27/17

Attended City Commission meeting to discuss North Lawrence trees, including the 150-year-old tree at 4th and Elm. Asked the city to let the neighborhood know when tree work would be done. Asked to get this put on the Commission agenda

Called Matt Bond asking about the flood plain for a resident at 430 Lincoln who is not in the flood plain

1/4/18

Attended Downtown Grocery Committee meeting; discussion included parking and the proposed affordable housing above the store, with the possibility of more units, 30-40, and the idea of the city leasing to own 100 public parking spaces

1/8/18

Called Brian Jimenez at Code Enforcement about the house trailer on 8th street. Brian said the city has given the owner a ticket to appear in court.

Attended and led North Lawrence Improvement Association meeting. Guest speakers were from Lawrence Parks and Recreation and the Forestry department, talking about the plan for tree trimming and tree removal in North Lawrence

1/9/18

Met with Delaware Tribe member to discuss their North Lawrence land, possible uses, and how NLIA can help them make it work. They may sell some of it to get money for the tribe.

1/11/18

Attended Downtown Grocery Committee meeting, discussion the trip to Fort Scott to check out the new Price Chopper store there and meet with Barry Queen, the store owner. Also talked about the city leasing to own 100 public parking spaces under the store

NLIA helped a resident on Elm Street between 3rd and 4th with snow removal. Cleared snow and ice for a disabled veteran at 321 Elm

NLIA collected \$5300 in Christmas donations and adopted 6 North Lawrence families, helping a total of 24 people

1/24/18

Traveled to Fort Scott, KS to check out the new Price Chopper store there and meet with the store owner, Barry Queen, to talk about the Lawrence store

Met with Delaware Tribe representative and Pines to talk about growing wheat grass on the Delaware land. County Commissioner Nancy Thellman was at meeting, helping figure out how to bring money to the tribe

1/25/18

Attended Downtown Grocery Committee meeting where we discussed the trip to Fort Scott and setting up a future meeting with Mayor Boley and Vice-mayor Larson to meet with the city manager in Fort Scott to find out how they helped get the grocery store there

1/26/18

Called the City about the fire truck not staying at the No. 1 station on 8th street during renovation and the longer response times from the 19th and Mass fire station and the west 6th Street station — the response times are too long to get to North Lawrence. City said it would keep the truck at 8th and Kentucky. Also, the pre-emptive signals are not working at 2nd and Locust. The city changed to GPS networking to clear the intersections for emergency vehicles

1/28/18

Talked with resident at 408 Lincoln street about speed humps on Lincoln Street and a drug house at 409 Perry — there are lots of needles and cars have been broken into

1/29/18

Took 1,350 post cards for the Chili supper 2/12 to the post office and 30 hand-written cards for employees at the City and County level