

Quarterly Neighborhood Performance Report - Quarter One (Aug-Oct) Due Nov 10							
Neighborhood North Lawrence		Alison Dishinger			11/27/2018		
		Phone Number/Email			<a href="mailto:awdishinger@gmail.com">awdishinger@gmail.com</a> 785-691-7339		
Each Neighborhood is required to have at least quarterly meetings. (minutes must be attached.)	Meeting Date #1	<u>9/10/2018</u>		Minutes Attached?	<u>no — picnic date</u>		
	Meeting Date #2	<u>10/8/2018</u>		Minutes Attached?	<u>yes</u>		
	Meeting Date #3			Minutes Attached?			
How was the neighborhood notified of the meeting(s)? (check all that apply)	email	<u>x</u>					
	newsletter	<u>x</u>					
	other announcement? (please specify)	<u>Facebook, Datebook, Ads in Classifieds</u>					
Officer elections this quarter? (if so, attach list of new officers)	Yes	No X					
Each Neighborhood is encouraged to produce regular newsletters.	Date of Newsletter	<u>n/a December 2018</u>		Copy Attached? (required)	<u>n/a</u>		
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)							

## North Lawrence Improvement Association Meeting 10/8/18

Number in attendance: 10

Officers present: Ted Boyle, President, Jeff Joseph, Vice President, Alison Dishinger, Secretary/Coordinator, Beverly Cates, Treasurer Emeritus

Ted opened the meeting asking for volunteers to bring cookies/treats to the meetings for the rest of the year.

He also announced the chili feed signup sheet. The chili feed will be Monday, February 11th at the Union Depot. People can sign up to bring a chili or soup, salad, side dishes, or dessert. About 250 people show up from all over the city for this event. They know where the good food is!

Ted did the treasurer's report with the balances and bills. Ted said that we received our grant money that we wrote the grant for last year, and the post cards and associated charges for the picnic were taken out of this amount. We will be writing the grant again this fall. He opened up the report for anyone to view.

Regarding the city, Ted has been working on improving communication between the neighborhoods and the city. All of the neighborhoods have had problems with the city not communicating with the neighborhood associations. For example, the mixup with the speed humps on Lincoln Street. We wrote a grant last year for those speed humps, but the new traffic engineer decided the city would sell bonds, \$200K worth, to pay for these on Lincoln, Missouri, and 13th Street, stating this was the only way our speed humps would be done. This was not true; we wrote a grant for \$32000 for our speed humps specifically. When Ted went before the CBDG board, he asked for 3, and we got 5, at \$8000 a piece. That pays material and labor for each device. The city has decided to contract them out rather than do them, so citizens have paid for our humps on Lincoln, but they could have been paid for by grant money. Instead, we will get speed humps on Lyon with the grant money. There will be 4, hopefully by Spring 2019. There are also two paid for on the 700 blocks of Walnut and Elm (from last year's grant). Speed humps are a great deterrent and way to slow down traffic; a patrol car is the best thing, however! So, our neighborhood should have 7 speed humps in the works (one has TBD where it is going). We will also be writing a grant for a push-button pedestrian signal at 4th and Locust, where the crosswalk and sidewalk were recently improved. This is the only crossing between 3rd and 7th for kids walking to school and other folks. The site council at Woodlawn is also working on pedestrian signalization for the crossing over the tracks, which would be done by the railroad. A representative from the railroad will talk about this and the Quiet Zone with NLIA after the beginning of the year. The Quiet Zone would be 10pm - 6 am and include better signalization at the auto crossings of the railroad.

Ted also talked about the controversy surrounding Air BnB properties in Lawrence. There are 240-plus properties now in Lawrence; there are two categories. One is owner-occupied, which is not a problem. The other is full home rentals with no owner on site, which becomes the problem. People from out of town are buying properties in our low-mod neighborhoods and renting them out on game days, and they are not occupied otherwise, without any notification to the neighbors or neighborhood associations. This takes away from affordable housing stock in Lawrence. The city gives money to the affordable housing organizations to keep houses available for low-mod income folks. The problem with non-owner occupied properties is that these houses sit empty much of the year and could be homes for low-mod individuals. People who own and run these draw people who "don't want restrictions that hotels put on you" as renters. The city does not yet have a policy on Air BnB or the number of occupants who can inhabit one of these at any time.

The city is also looking at increasing the density of neighborhoods throughout the area. There is a tiny house in the 400 block of Elm on a 25x110 lot that has no side yard and barely any back yard, and about 10 feet between the porch and the sidewalk. None of the runoff from this property can percolate through

its own lot. We always had RS7 lots; but now we have RS5 lots, which is when we saw the infill building of the last 15 years. The difference is, we have to have every ounce of water that falls pumped out of the neighborhood. We are surrounded by levee; without the pumps, we would have regular areal flooding, a lot of it from the park area on east. Flooding was created by 150-170 new homes being built without putting in drainage infrastructure. The city should have put in infrastructure first before houses were built; instead, they ended up buying out houses that were regularly flooded because of stormwater problems caused by infill building.

In 1993, the flood was from Johnny's to the gas station, and was a foot from the top of the gas station. The city installed a pump for that intersection two years later.

We will continue to advocate for stormwater drainage as the neighborhood continues to be built up.

Ted reported that the grocery store project was in the paper again. He said that the developers are continuing to drag their feet on the project. Ted reviewed briefly the last five years of the project, up through Barry Queen and the potential involvement with the Ball family. The Ball family has over 40 stores, regionally. Price Chopper is part of the AWG family, a co-op for grocery distribution. There is a stalemate with the cost of square footage of the grocery store. Though we would love to have the store up here, part of the issue is the floodplain. In the past, the I-70 Business Center had even offered to remodel so the grocery store could go in there. Most of the grocery chains only count rooftops rather than traffic, and they only looked at rooftops in North Lawrence, not traffic, not other neighborhoods. 33K cars run up N 2nd street every day now, up from 28K every day. Every single one of those people would benefit from a grocery store on N. 2nd. The I-70 center could use "people friendly" stores, and all we have that is people-friendly there is the archery range.

Ted said he was talking to the vice-mayor to get on the regular agenda with the commission and the city and make it an official policy for the city to communicate with neighborhoods and neighborhood associations. This used to happen 15 years ago, but as new staff comes in to the city, that goes away. They are supposed to notify people within 200 feet of a project when they city works in a neighborhood. Ted asked that they notify a contact person in the neighborhoods or the neighborhood associations when they are starting a project. It can't be that difficult to send an email to a list.

Ted said that the city "bogs down" in November and December, but we will try to get on the agenda and get a communications policy written with the city.

Ted said that the new police chief will be one of the guest speakers for NLIA soon (possibly October or January). Ted also mentioned that our city manager is now leaving, perhaps a few years earlier than he had planned.

A question from an attendee was about who has the final say-so on city-county unification and things like contractors; the commission, the county, or the city manager? Lisa Larsen showed up at exactly the right time to answer the question. This was about farming out projects to contractors. Lisa said that the citizens and the commission ultimately decide on these things. She said for example that Parks and Recreation does contract out some mowing and tree removals. The attendee said she hates to see city employees possibly losing their jobs to contractors. She said she has seen quality of work go down over time with contractors, whereas city or county employees have something to work toward and a responsibility, contractors do not. Lisa said the final say-so has to go through the city commission (when it is a city issue — she can't speak to the county level). When a department is deciding to go with private contractors, there will be notification, public input, and commission debate.

Ted said that Utilities and Public Works have merged, which has created different job titles and duties for people who already worked at the city. Lisa said they are still working these things out. Ted talked about a few years ago when the city was looking at hiring an outside sanitation company to do the work for the city. Now we see problems with that particular contractor in Kansas City, whereas we have city employees and they do an amazing job.

Ted brought up the LED issue, the street light Kelvin issue, with the city and Westar. There has been an agreement about the brightness of the lights, and that was due to us “squeaking” about it. We have made our preference for the warmer lighting clear. The bluer light is not good for night vision, human vision, or animals. It is possible to put shades on the blue lights.

Ted asked the attendees for anything else that we need to bring up with the city. Jeff said that Brush Creek has been flooding in KC, and they are working on reducing flooding in residential areas there. He hopes that our city will continue to look at what they can do with stormwater and flooding areas to help residents and businesses. Again, it is down to how many buildings/density in the area, and flood water not being able to percolate (as mentioned above). He pointed out that the NE sector is not developed for that reason — percolation and runoff issues. Every neighborhood is different, however. Ted said you can’t control the river, but you can control the stormwater drainage.

Ted asked if attendees can think of any sidewalks or any other capital improvements we need in the neighborhood. An attendee asked who determines where the speed humps go — Ted said the residents do. There has to be 70% approval by residents of the speed bumps for them to be put in (within 200 feet of each one). Jeff said that 7th street south from Lincoln needs to be resurfaced. Ted said that it isn’t really a regulation street and it hasn’t been surfaced correctly. About 6 years ago, Ted tried to get a sidewalk on the East side of 7th from the railroad track to Lincoln, and someone on the street said no because he did not know who would shovel it in the winter.

An attendee asked about snow clearing by the city — and why the city cannot seem to blade into the ditch on the other side (where there is no sidewalk) rather than onto the sidewalks on Locust. Same thing happens on 7th; rather than blading into the ditch on one side, they blade onto the sidewalk. Perhaps there can be a map developed for snowplow drivers so they understand which direction to pile the snow. Jeff said that he called Chuck 2 years ago about this, and that we need to remind them his year. Perhaps residents can also check on each other this year to see who needs snow cleared from the ends of their driveways (or their sidewalks, again).

An attendee asked about a possible pedestrian crossing on N 2nd Street. Ted said that it’s a state highway, so we would have to petition the state for change. We could write a letter to the city and ask them to help us petition the state to make changes. The closest crosswalks and lights are Lyon and the turnpike intersection. An attendee asked about the speed limit being reduced on N 2nd Street. That would also possibly be a state issue.

Our guest speakers did not show up, even though Ted talked with them last week.

Ted said we need a treasure for the 2018-19 season, and that they need to be able to work on the computer and communicate with Dani about CBDG money. We will also ask

An attendee asked about the business north of town bringing chicken manure in from Arkansas for the sod fields. She said chicken manure can cause histoplasmosis and eye damage. The attendee said she talked to a number of agencies and got shuffled around rather than answers. Ted said he will talk to the county about this. The Delaware Tribe own the land but they do not do the sod farming.

## North Lawrence Improvement Association Meeting 10/8/18

An attendee asked about the covered trucks going West to East on Lyon Street to the clean landfill on Ross's land. The county is responsible for enforcing the policy that dump trucks are supposed to go out to Teepee Junction and go down 1600 road to the dumps site, but they have been using Locust and Lyon Street instead. Ted said a Sheriff has to start writing tickets for these trucks for anything to change. This project is supposed to go on for 5-10 years with over 10K truck loads going through the neighborhood in that time.

Ted talked about getting the Christmas fund going for this year. If anyone wants to go with him to businesses for donations this year, get in touch.

8/2/18

Attended Downtown Grocery Committee meeting to discuss who will be the Price Chopper owner, Barry Queen, the Ball family, or both. Also need to have the developer visit DTG and give an update on the building.

8/15/18

Called Dani Dresslar about new CBDG money for the potluck picnic in September and the fall newsletter mailing. Called Brian at Code Enforcement about 313 Elm. There are too many people living in the house, 4 or more. Also 227 Elm mold and sewer problems.

8/18/18

Called in an order for the picnic postcards to be printed and mailed by 8/28. Talked to the city about when the ditch work would start and to notify residents when it would be happening in their blocks. The new water line and new storm drainage leading to the big pump is about complete. There are six new houses being built in the 500 block of Perry.

9/1/18

Picked up 1250 Sand Rat postcards for the picnic, put mailing labels on them and took them to the post office.

9/6/18

Attended Downtown Grocery Committee meeting to discuss Ball Price Chopper and Queen Price Chopper, AWG wholesale grocers, and the 1.2 million still needed for the FF&E inside the store. There will now be no parking garage across the street, but more under the store and 50 on site aboveground. Put the neighborhood potluck picnic in the classified ads of the Journal World.

9/10/18

NLIA potluck picnic at Lyons park. Guest included Vice Mayor Lisa Larsen, Commissioner Jennifer Ananda, City Manager Tom Markus, Police Chief Burns, Captain McKinley, County Commissioner Nancy Thellman, and the ICL plant manager. Around 45 residents attended.

9/15/18

Met with Commissioner Ananda to discuss City Hall contacting neighborhoods about projects in the neighborhoods. Asked her to put this on the commission agenda to discuss making this a city policy. Also discussed the city not starting or completing projects funded by CBDG money in a timely manner.

9/18/18

Attended City Commission meeting. Discussed Air BnB. Owner-occupied vs not. Owners live on site and rent out rooms to help with house payment or assist income is fine in residential neighborhoods. But homes that are bought for the sole purpose of renting out as an Air BnB and no live-in residents, the site is empty when not in use — that is not what we want in North Lawrence. Worried about trash, parking, and not knowing who is going to rent the house and then be gone. People could rent these properties for up to 30 days. Air BnB is taking away affordable houses for rent or sale in the low-to-moderate income neighborhoods, taking them away from families. This is what I took to the commission.

9/20/18

Attended Downtown Grocery Committee meeting. Discussed a possible partnership in the store project between Barry Queen and David Ball, both Price Chopper store owners. Discussed having the city and the developer come to the meeting and bring the drop up to speed. Discussed the Downtown Master Plan and Downtown Lawrence, Inc. regarding what kind of stores the public would like to see downtown.

9/27/18

Attended Downtown Grocery Committee meeting to discuss parking and FF&E money to outfit the store, also whether the owner will be Queen's or Ball's Price Chopper and how and when to meet with the city manager. Work on newsletter.

10 am meeting with Dani Dresslar, CBDG manager, Mark Thiel, from Public Works, the city traffic engineer, and Lisa Larsen to discuss speed humps and a traffic light at 4th and Locust as well as how and when CBDG money is spent, city staff talking to neighborhoods, and how the city contracts out CBDG projects to be done and why it takes two to three years to complete these projects from the writing of the grant until the project is completed.

10/3/18

Called the president of ELNA to discuss asking the City Commission to create a policy regarding the city talking to neighborhood associations or a contact person to let the neighborhoods know about city projects in these neighborhoods.

10/6/18

Talked to a resident on N 6th street about another neighbor putting a sign up in their yard that used profanity (220 N 6th). Children pass by on the street — the school is a half block away. Police have been called and nothing has happened.

10/8/18

NLIA meeting at Peace Mennonite Church. The remodeling is nice. NLIA residents discussed the impact of Air BnBs on the neighborhood and affordable housing. Also discussed the idea of having the city talk to neighborhoods about upcoming projects. We'd like the city to contact NLIA before projects are started. Discussed housing infill and how it will increase storm water issues in North Lawrence.

10/10/18

Called Assistant City Manager Casey about 220 N 6th, the "F" word on a sign on the fence. This has been an ongoing problem. Police have been called. Casey talked to the city attorney about the problem and Police Chief Burns as well as City Code Enforcement. Brian Jimenez will take care of the problem with sign codes. Brian will talk to the resident and talk to him about cleanup around his property.

10/15/18

Talked with a resident at the North Street trailer court. Said someone from Quality Tow was trying to kill him. I called the tow company.

10/16/18

Attended CBDG Proposal Review meeting at Community Development, for an update on how to fill out this next grant request.

Attended City Commission meeting. Discussed homeless people living on the river and panhandling downtown and how to write codes for this.

10/17/18

Attended Centenary United Methodist Church neighborhood dinner to give an update as to what is happening in the neighborhood.

10/18/18

Attended Downtown Grocery Committee meeting to discuss how to get another Price Chopper owner into the Borders' building. Ball Price Chopper family owns 40+ Price Chopper stores. Also talked about the Downtown Master Plan. Ted is on that committee. Talked to a reporter about a story in Lawrence Business Magazine about North Lawrence and Ted.

10/19/18

Called Officer Trent McKinley about drug home on North 4th Street and getting car tags and the numbers of people who stop there at all times of the day. NLIA has helped remove 6 drug houses in North Lawrence in the past 5 years.

Also talked to Jon Davis about the project behind and north of Johnny's Tavern. 4-story building and 30-plus apartments above the building to the south of the tavern. Jon Davis will attend the Nov 12 NLIA meeting. Also Michelle Dillon of the Jayhawk Area Agency on Aging will answer aging-related questions and access to resources.

10/24/18

Have discussion with some residents about what to do with the Union Pacific Depot when the Lawrence Visitor Center/Explore Lawrence is no longer a tenant there. Maybe Watkins Museum could put up a display centering on Jefferson and North Lawrence history, the River Kings, history about the Kaw river, and what it used to be — everything happened around the river. Also attended the Lawrence Police Association meeting where they discussed neighborhood policing.

10/23/18

Attended Downtown Grocery Committee meeting to figure out what is next and invite the City Manager and Assistant City Manager to the meeting to get the City's side of the story.

10/24/18

Called Assistant City Manager Diane Stoddard. She would like to have Bill Fleming at the meeting. Steve Ruttinger will call Bill about the meeting. Called Solid Waste about renting a dumpster for the neighborhood cleanup. Went to collection office to select dumpster and pay for it.

10/29/19

Called Assistant City Manager Diane Stoddard to see if the 11/1/18 Downtown Grocery Committee meeting would be good for her.

Quarterly activities NLIA Coordinator Aug-Oct 2018

August 2018

No activity

9/10/18

NLIA picnic

9/23/18

Catch up with Ted and Facebook updates

10/3/18

Facebook posts and cross-posts re neighborhood cleanup, dental clinic at Woodlawn

10/5/18

Notification regarding the upcoming meeting (FB and Datebook)

10/8/18

Reminders about the meeting and its guests

10/8/18

NLIA meeting

10/18/18

Reminders about the neighborhood cleanup and brush pile

10/29/18

Posts regarding the new plan for the neighborhood cleanup and for holiday bureau signups

10/30/18

FB post with the trick or treat addresses (compiled by a neighbor)

