

Quarterly Neighborhood Performance Report - Quarter Three (February-April) Due May. 10

Neighborhood Pinckney Completed By Pat Miller Date 05/13/2016
 Phone Number/Email 785-550-6958 / pinckney.neighborhood@gmail.com

| | | | | |
|--|-----------------|------------------|-------------------|------------|
| Each Neighborhood is required to have at least quarterly meetings. (minutes must be attached.) | Meeting Date #1 | <u>2/20/2016</u> | Minutes Attached? | <u>Yes</u> |
| | Meeting Date #2 | <u>3/19/2016</u> | Minutes Attached? | <u>Yes</u> |
| | Meeting Date #3 | <u>4/16/2016</u> | Minutes Attached? | <u>Yes</u> |

| | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|--|
| How was the neighborhood notified of the meeting(s)? (check all that apply) | email | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| | newsletter | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| | other announcement? (please specify) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Facebook and Website |

New PNA Officers:

| | | | |
|------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Vice President | Barbara Sufian | barbara.sufian@gmail.com | Term - Feb. 2016 to Feb. 2018 |
| Secretary (re-elected) | Kim Heck | kheck@stma.org | Term - Feb. 2016 to Feb. 2018 |
| Treasurer | Dave Barrett | dave.ross.barrett@gmail.com | Term - Mar. 2016 to Feb. 2017 |

| | | |
|--|---|-----------------------------|
| Officer elections this quarter? (if so, attach list of new officers) | Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
|--|---|-----------------------------|

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|---|--------------------|---------------|---------------------------|------------|
| Each Neighborhood is encouraged to produce regular newsletters. | Date of Newsletter | <u>Feb-16</u> | Copy Attached? (required) | <u>yes</u> |
|---|--------------------|---------------|---------------------------|------------|

Also to be attached:

Neighborhood activity list for the quarter, including method of notification as well as estimated attendance. (Required)

| Date | Notification | Activity | Attendees |
|-----------|--------------------------------|---|-----------|
| 2/2/2016 | N/A | work on print newsletter / complete and send January time report | 1 |
| 2/3/2016 | N/A | work on print newsletter / E-news draft | 1 |
| 2/4/2016 | N/A | Attended Downtown Grocery meeting | 1 |
| 2/4/2016 | N/A | work on print newsletter | 1 |
| 2/5/2016 | N/A | print newsletter final edits & submit for printing / email correspondence | 1 |
| 2/5/2016 | N/A | email correspondence | 1 |
| 2/5/2016 | N/A | email correspondence | 1 |
| 2/9/2016 | N/A | email correspondence / E-news prep | 1 |
| 2/10/2016 | N/A | email correspondence | 1 |
| 2/16/2016 | N/A | E-news finished and sent | 1 |
| 2/18/2016 | PNA meeting discussion | Attended Downtown Grocery meeting | 1 |
| 2/20/2016 | E-news/Facebook/Feb newsletter | PNA Annual Meeting & Elections - Barbara Sufian was elected as the new Vice President and Kim Heck was re-elected as the Secretary. Other topics of discussion included a presentation by Richard Renner about the GoFourth Celebration, the Pinckney Parks clean-up day, and advance planning for the June annual neighborhood picnic. | 10 |
| 2/25/2016 | PNA meeting discussion | Attended Downtown Grocery meeting | 1 |
| 2/25/2016 | N/A | email correspondence / website review | 1 |
| 3/2/2016 | N/A | email correspondence / Feb time report | 1 |
| 3/3/2016 | PNA meeting discussion | Attended Downtown Grocery meeting | 1 |
| 3/9/2016 | PNA meeting discussion | Attended Pinckney School Site Council | 1 |
| 3/9/2016 | N/A | email correspondence / letter document set-up | 1 |
| 3/10/2016 | PNA meeting discussion | Attended Downtown Grocery meeting | 1 |
| 3/10/2016 | PNA meeting discussion | draft letter of support for GoFourth celebration / email correspondence | 1 |
| 3/13/2016 | PNA meeting discussion | PNA letter re neighborhood support for GoForth celebration | 1 |
| 3/14/2016 | N/A | E-news / email correspondence / mailing list update | 1 |
| 3/17/2016 | PNA meeting discussion | Attended Downtown Grocery meeting | 1 |
| 3/19/2016 | E-news/Facebook/Feb newsletter | PNA Monthly Meeting - topics of discussion included proposed bus route 6 change, advance planning for the June neighborhood picnic, concerns about mosquitos in the neighborhood, and the neighborhood parks clean-up day. | 12 |
| 3/21/2016 | PNA meeting discussion | draft letter re 6th and Maine Streets crossing concerns / email / PO Box check / phone | 1 |
| 3/25/2016 | PNA meeting discussion | Attended Oread Neighborhood Plan presentation | 1 |
| 3/25/2016 | PNA meeting discussion | complete & send letter re 6th and Maine Streets / email / phone communication | 1 |
| 3/28/2016 | PNA meeting discussion | PNA letter to City Traffic Dept. re changes to bus route and concerns re pedestrian crossing at 6th & Maine Streets | 1 |
| 3/29/2016 | N/A | email correspondence / E-news prep | 1 |
| 3/31/2016 | N/A | E-news sent / March time report / facebook updates | 1 |
| 4/6/2016 | N/A | email correspondence / facebook updates | 1 |
| 4/7/2016 | PNA meeting discussion | Attended community meeting for Lawrence Parks & Rec Comprehensive Plan | 1 |

| | | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------|--|----|
| 4/7/2016 | PNA meeting discussion | Attended Downtown Grocery meeting | 1 |
| 4/9/2016 | E-news/Facebook/Feb newsletter | Pinckney Neighborhood Parks Clean-up | 15 |
| 4/13/2016 | N/A | E-news prep / email correspondence / mailing list update | 1 |
| 4/14/2016 | PNA meeting discussion | Attended Downtown Grocery meeting | 1 |
| 4/14/2016 | PNA meeting discussion | E-news / email correspondence / meeting room reservation | 1 |
| 4/16/2016 | E-news/Facebook/Feb newsletter | PNA Monthly Meeting -guest speaker Amy Miller from City Planning to discuss process for updating Pinckney neighborhood plan; also discussed Lawrence Parks & Rec. comprehensive plan, change to bus route 6 and concerns about 6th & Maine pedestrian crossing due to new bus stop, and advance planning for annual picnic. Board voted to appoint Dave Barrett as new Treasurer to fill remainder of term until Feb. 2017. Mr. Barrett indicated his willingness to serve longer if re-elected. | 10 |
| 4/19/2016 | PNA meeting discussion | discussion with D. Woosley, City Traffic Eng., re 6th & Maine Street crossing safety | 1 |
| 4/19/2016 | N/A | email correspondence / facebook updates | 1 |
| 4/21/2016 | PNA meeting discussion | Attended community meeting for Lawrence Parks & Rec Comprehensive Plan | 1 |
| 4/27/2016 | N/A | email correspondence / mailing list review & updates | 1 |
| 4/28/2016 | PNA meeting discussion | Attended Downtown Grocery meeting | 1 |
| 4/28/2016 | N/A | E-news draft / email correspondence / time report prep | 1 |
| 4/29/2016 | N/A | E-news sent / email correspondence | 1 |
| 4/29/2016 | N/A | PO Box check / facebook update / time report sent | 1 |
| 3/1/2016 - 4/30/2016 | PNA meeting discussion | Email, mail and in-person communications with numerous donors, sponsors and participants for June 18 PNA annual potluck picnic and food drive | 3 |

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)

PINCKNEY NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION MEETING OUTCOMES

Feb. 20, 2016

Bert Nash 1st fl. meeting room

Meeting called to Order at 10:08 a.m.

Meeting Participants

Steve Braswell, Kim Heck, Paul Liechti, Pat Miller, Lance Fahy, Lynette Littlejohn, Richard Renner, Barbara Sufian, Charlie Bryan, Paul Jefferson

Approval of January Minutes

Motion by P. Liechti to accept the Jan. outcomes as amended. 2nd by S. Braswell. Motion carries.

Treasurer's Report

PNA has \$2,534.68 left in its CDBG grant; upcoming expenses for the postcard and coordinator will use the remainder of the grant. PNA has approximately \$2,000 in its bank account and \$100 in petty cash.

LAN Update

There were several issues discussed at LAN: 1) duplexes & parking; 2) development at K-10 & Iowa, which doesn't fit the long range plan (no retail); 3) new city position of Director of Culture & Arts is filled; 4) Pedestrian and bike task forces are addressing sidewalks and other issues; 5) LAN dues of \$25 were due. S. Braswell was reimbursed.

Elections - The following were elected:

- **Vice President** - Barbara Sufian. *Motion by S. Braswell, 2nd by L. Fahy; voice vote - motion carries.*
- **Secretary** - Kim Heck. *Motion by B. Sufian, 2nd by P. Liechti; voice vote - motion carries.*
- **Treasurer** - this position is up for appointment. There was no interest.

Business/News Items/Announcements

- **4th of July City Activities Moving to Burcham Park:** Mon., July 4, 3-10 p.m. The organizer is Richard Renner, who also manages the Busker Festival. In addition to fireworks, the 4th event will include music, food and beverage vendors and kids' games. PNA is asked to help with parking and possible post-event park/neighborhood street clean up. Compensation will be offered. Details to come.
- **Downtown Grocery Store Update:** There was no new information shared.
- **CDAC:** Kendall Simmons will sit on this Council representing PNA. PNA requested \$8700 for the next grant year. Oread has opted out of this program; 4 neighborhoods are still in the program.
- **PNA Picnic:** The date is June 18, confirmed in Clinton Park. A social project needs to be determined, possibly donation of school supplies. Planning will begin at the March meeting.
- **Parks Cleanup.** PNA officially voted to move Parks Clean-up to the Spring on April 9, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.. *Motion by L. Fahy, 2nd by S. Braswell.* Bulk brush pickup will be coordinated with the city for post-Memorial Day.
- **KUs Big Volunteer Day:** April 16. Are there any projects that PNA needs help with?
- **Constant Park Bike Stand** - A request is made for a bike stand in Constant Park. L. Fahy to contact the City.
- **Pinckney School** - is moving 5/27 or 5/28; there will be volunteer opportunities.
- **Future guests:** Need to plan to have key CEOs invited to PNA meetings: LMH, Bert Nash, Jail
- **Anderson Rentals:** is set as the polling place for the neighborhood; business-wise Anderson is seeking a tenant.
- **Mosquito problem:** Pinckney is experiencing a high volume of mosquitoes due to the river and standing water. L. Littlejohn will contact the health dept. and report solutions. A bat box program could help combat the problem.
- **Master plan, LPRD:** there are areas in the plan that impact PNA, but our community has not been asked to be engaged. PNA to monitor and respond as appropriate. In particular, the trails system was cited. The goal is to link Burroughs trail to Burcham trail. Current issue is Woody Park through to 2nd St.

Future Meeting Dates & Focus

March 19 - speaker tbd

April 16 - speaker : Proposed Amy Miller, City Planning Dept. for Neighborhood Plan development

May 21 - Annual Picnic Final Planning; **June 18** - Picnic

July 16 - speaker tbd

The meeting adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

PINCKNEY NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION MEETING OUTCOMES

March 19, 2016

LMH Meeting Room D South

Meeting called to Order at 10:04 a.m.

Meeting Participants

Steve Braswell, Kim Heck, Paul Liechti, Pat Miller, Lance Fahy, Lynette Littlejohn, Bart Littlejohn, M Balia Thomas, Logan Saman, Dave Barrett, Barbara Sufian, Paul Jefferson. Everyone introduced themselves.

Treasurer's Report

PNA has \$2,234.68 left in its CDBG grant; coordinator expenses (\$1500) allow ~ \$734 for communications. PNA has ~ \$2,000 in the bank; \$85 in petty cash. PNA PO Box should have a reimbursement from the city. **(L. Fahy to check)**

LAN Update

Two main issues were discussed: 1) Housing: affordable, rehabbing older houses vs. building new; Lawrence has no regulations regarding affordable housing; 2) Safe routes to school will be an ongoing discussion item.

Pinckney School Site Council Update

Pinckney School will be moving to East Heights for the next school year. Volunteers are needed to help pack at the end of May. The tunnel artwork is being stored and will be retouched. PNA will be notified in advance of when the tunnel will be closed. During move prep, historical information has been found. Watkins and Spencer are preserving it.

New Agenda Items

Lawrence Public Library, Community Health Crisis Center, Bus Route Changes were added to the agenda.

Business/News Items/Announcements

- **Next year's block grant.** Funding will be announced soon and will most likely be split equally among the four participating neighborhoods, which should give PNA approximately \$5,400.
- **Downtown Grocery Store:** Price Chopper is a contender. Checkers has not shown further interest. Parking, lease agreement, approval by neighbors in Hobbs Taylor, and other issues continue to plague its forward movement.
- **PNA Picnic:** June 18 in Clinton Park. A social project needs to be determined. Ideas discussed/assignments made: need water & electricity on **(L. Fahy)**; B. Sufian needs previous fundraising contacts **(K. Heck)**; need more booths, i.e. League of Women voters; consider having a historian talk about PNA (Mrs. Reiter or Katie Armitage); consider renting one item from Andersons, rather than asking for all free; need to secure rentals soon especially the bounce house **(B. Sufian)**; consider snow cones over popcorn or cotton candy; kids love helium balloons, even though they are not too environmentally friendly; publicity is needed, i.e. fliers, postcards, signs, word of mouth.
- **Parks Cleanup.** April 9, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. Meet at Clinton Park. **(S. Braswell to bring bags and will remind the City of this event)** Parks to be cleaned: Woody, Constant, Clinton, Trail, Sandra Shaw, Burcham. Need communication about this event: PNA **(L Fahy)** Pinckney School **(P. Miller)**
- **Lawrence Public Library Outreach.** LPL is gathering data to help the library better meet neighborhoods' needs.
- **Community Mental Health Crisis Center.** This center is being proposed to be built near the Sandra Shaw Park in our neighborhood. PNA has not been included in discussions. Bert Nash to be contacted for information/May mtg.
- **Bus Route Changes:** Changes to the bus route that serves the hospital will require crossing 6th St. at Maine, which poses great pedestrian safety concerns. **Moved to Action:** *Motion proposed by S. Braswell:* PNA to write a letter outlining the safety concerns and speak at a City Commission or other pertinent meetings, as necessary. *Motion carries* **(P. Miller/L. Fahy to write); (P. Miller to contact OWL)**
- **Mosquitos:** Douglas County Ext. has no plans for community education on mosquito control; the City has no plans for treating public places. Concerned residents are to go to the CDC website. PNA will continue to discuss.
- **Oread Neighborhood Plan Presentation:** March 25 at noon at City Hall. **K. Heck & B. Sufian to attend.**
- **Letter to Support Go 4th** – a letter was written in support of July 4 at Burcham with attention to traffic/parking.
- **Compost/Woodchip Distribution** – March 24-26 at the City's Composting Facility
- **Earth Day** – April 23

Approval of January Minutes - *Motion by S. Braswell to accept the Feb. outcomes as presented. Motion carries.*

Future Meeting Dates - April 16 – Amy Miller, Planning Dept.; May 21 – Bert Nash/Potluck; No June Mtg.; July 16- tbd
Meeting adjourned at 11:55

PINCKNEY NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION MEETING OUTCOMES

April 16, 2016

LMH Meeting Room D South

Meeting called to Order at 10:05 a.m.

Meeting Participants

Kim Heck, Paul Liechti, Pat Miller, Lance Fahy, Bart Littlejohn, David Barrett, Marguerite Ruley, Barbara Sufian, Paul Jefferson, Ken Wallace.

UPDATES & REPORTS

Treasurer's Report

- PNA has \$1934.68 left in its CDBG grant; \$2,000 in the bank, \$91 in petty cash. Upcoming expenses are the picnic postcard and coordinator draw.

LAN Update

- There was no LAN report presented.

CDAC/CDBG Funding Update

- PNA submitted a grant request for \$8873 and will be awarded \$5200. **P. Miller to go** to the public comment meeting.

Downtown Grocery Store

- There has been some forward movement with meetings happening between Hobbs Taylor and the potential grocery store owners. No contracts have been signed and no further details are publically available.

Lawrence Parks & Rec Comprehensive Plan

- **B. Sufian attended** the public input meeting on April 7; **K. Heck to attend** on April 21. The meetings will gather input on what residents want in parks and rec facilities and programming. This is its first plan in 20 yrs.

Bus stop change to 6th & Maine

- Public Transit Authority is key to this process. City Commission will need to approve. PNA to monitor and respond as appropriate.

Earth Day is next week – South Park will have activities Sat., April 23.

BUSINESS ITEMS

- During an Executive Session, B. Sufian nominated Dave Barret to fill the vacant Treasurer's position. K. Heck seconded. Voice vote. Motion carries. **D. Barret accepted the appointment.**
- **PNA Picnic:** June 18 in Clinton Park. Chairperson B. Sufian will know next week if PNA can reserve the Bounce house for the picnic. Just Food was selected as the social cause recipient. L. Fahy made the motion; B. Littlejohn seconded. Voice vote. B. Sufian to notify Just Foods. May meeting will focus on the final planning.

PNA NEIGHBORHOOD PLAN

Amy Miller, Asst. Director of Planning gave a presentation on the planning process. Noted below is a summary:

- Planning Dept. is focused on Horizon 2020 until next year; PNA needs to have a city planner assist with the plan
- PNA should review its current plan to determine what isn't good, needs to be changed/updated, what is actually different than stated in the plan, antiquated policies/information, what is envisioned, what needs to be protected, land use, encroachment by businesses etc. A planner is not need for this step.
- PNA should start listening sessions with the neighborhood. A planner is not necessary for these sessions.
 - To make sure this is an inclusive process, need to invite all Pinckney residents. The City Clerk can provide a list. Should consider placing an ad in the newspaper, place notices on website, use our email list, and notify all property owners, including retail and business establishments. It is important to keep an administrative record of participation.
- PNA should develop a handout for those who attend the picnic alerting them to the development of the plan.
- After a thorough process of "visioning" a small group of residents should come together to draft the plan with the guidance of a city planner

A motion to adjourn was made by B. Littlejohn; D. Barrett seconded. Voice vote. Motion carries. Meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.



Pinckney Neighborhood Association
PO Box 125
Lawrence, Kansas 66044

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Get Active in Your Neighborhood!

Get Active in PNA!

If you live in the Pinckney Neighborhood, you are a member of PNA. Now is the time to become an ACTIVE member!

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____ (Join the list to receive e-mail

notices before monthly PNA meetings and special events. We will keep your information private. Expect 1

or 2 e-mails per month.) Suggested Dues: *an annual donation of \$1 per person or \$2 per household is greatly appreciated.*

Please bring this form to the next PNA monthly meeting or mail it to: **Pinckney**

Neighborhood Association

PO Box 125 Lawrence, KS 66044



PINCKNEY NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

PO Box 125 Lawrence, KS 66044

Winter 2016 Newsletter

UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

February 20 - PNA Annual Meeting & Elections

10:00am at Lawrence Douglas County Health Dept.
200 Maine St., first floor meeting room

March 19 - PNA Monthly Meeting

10:00am at Memorial Hospital,
lower level, meeting room D south.

April 16 - PNA Monthly Meeting

10:00am at Lawrence Memorial Hospital,
lower level, meeting room D south.

May 21 PNA Monthly Meeting

10:00am at Lawrence Memorial Hospital,
lower level, meeting room D south.

June 18 Pinckney Neighborhood potluck picnic

11:00am-1:00pm in Clinton Park 901 West 5th St.

Pinckney Elementary School "Really Big Sale!"

Saturday February 20, 8am to 3pm at Pinckney Elementary School 810, w. 6th Street, The Really Big Sale is an annual fundraiser to pay for field trips and transportation for all grades, and money raised beyond that go into our general fund to support PTO's mission of supporting education and fostering community among Pinckney families. Anyone can donate items to the sale and/or volunteer to help set up. Donations can be dropped off at Pinckney Elementary School east entrance anytime during the week of February 15-19. Set up is all day on Feb 19.

Educate Lawrence

Educate Lawrence is an organization dedicated to educating Lawrence citizens about legislation affecting public schools and advocating for full and fair funding to educate Lawrence children. Everyone is invited to an event designed to inform the community about legislation affecting our public schools, both now and in the future. You are invited to attend a meeting hosted by Educate Lawrence on Tuesday, February 16 at 7 pm in the Lawrence Public Library Auditorium to learn more about Funding and Legislation that Threaten our Public Schools.

Annual Neighborhood Meeting and Elections

Each year in February, the Pinckney Neighborhood Association holds its annual meeting to elect officers and set goals for the coming year. We also plan events and get input from Pinckney residents on issues and concerns. Offices open for election this year are the Vice President and the Secretary. The Treasurer position is also vacant. Everyone who lives in the Pinckney Neighborhood is automatically a member of the Pinckney Neighborhood Association and is encouraged to attend PNA Meetings, run for office or work on a committee. Also at this meeting, guest speaker Richard Renner will talk about a Fourth of July events that will be moving to Burcham Park this year.

Pinckney Neighborhood Plan Update

Please plan to attend the PNA monthly meeting on Saturday April 16th when our guest will be Amy Miller from the City's Planning Department. She will help explain the process for updating the Pinckney Neighborhood Plan, an important city planning document that helps guide zoning and development decisions. Our neighborhood plan was last updated in 1978. Many Pinckney residents participated in the process of preparing that plan. However, over time, many things have changed in our neighborhood, and it's time to update the plan to reflect our current community status and concerns.

LIEAP Helps with Westar bills

The Low Income Energy Assistance Program (LIEAP) is a federally funded program that assists eligible households in paying a portion of their home energy costs by providing a one-time per year benefit. To qualify for LIEAP, applicants must be living at the address, be personally responsible for utilities, have made recent payments of at least \$80 toward utility or heating costs, and have a combined gross income (before deductions) of all persons living at the address not to exceed 130% of the federal poverty level. Applications online at: www.westarenergy.com/low-income-energy-assistance-program. (Phone) 1-800-432-0043.

6th Street Tunnel to Remain Open During Pinckney School Construction

Based on strong community interest in continued public access to the Pinckney Tunnel during the upcoming reconstruction of the Pinckney School, the City and the School District have reached a consensus that it is possible for access to the tunnel to remain open during the majority of the Pinckney School project. The School District and its contractor are rightfully concerned about public safety as well as job-site security because the tunnel entrance is very close to the front door to the school.

The School District sent a letter to the City on December 14, 2015, indicating that access to the tunnel during construction will be allowed during a majority of the construction period. However, there will be times during construction that access will need to be restricted due to safety-related issues. The contractor has agreed to limit those times and will provide notification to the City, the Pinckney School staff and Pinckney and Old West Lawrence representatives in advance of any closures. This agreement was reached following discussions on December 1 by representatives of the School District, their contractor, the City, Pinckney School Principal Kristi Hill, Pinckney School Site Council, Old West Lawrence Association and Pinckney Neighborhood Association.

During the period of construction, from about May 2016 to late summer 2017, the artwork in the tunnel will be removed and stored in a safe location. Pinckney and Old West Lawrence residents will be asked to volunteer to help keep the tunnel clean and safe, since Pinckney School staff will not be on site to care for it. PNA will send out announcements about how you can help closer to the date.

PNA Contact Information

Website: www.pinckneyneighborhood.org

E-mail: Pinckney.Neighborhood@gmail.com
(Subscribe to periodic e-newsletters)

Facebook: "Pinckney Neighborhood Association"

President – Pat Miller

(785) 550-6958 = pgmiller@sunflower.com

Vice President – Melinda Toumi

(785) 979-2477 = melindatoumi@gmail.com

Treasurer – vacant (replacement being sought)

Secretary – Kim Heck

(785) 331-9869 = kheck@stma.org

Communication Coordinator – Lance Fahy

(785)-917-0664 lafahymusic@yahoo.com

Lawrence Transit System to hold annual public meetings

Lawrence Transit System invites the public to attend its annual meetings to discuss service changes for the coming year. Meetings are held in an open house format.

Proposed service changes include:

Route 1: Major changes to route alignment

Route 3: Change from flex route to a fixed route.

Route 5: No longer serve East Hills Business Park.

Route 6: Serve Rock Chalk Park; but no longer LMH

Route 9: Would no longer serve Rock Chalk Park

Route 15: Major changes to route alignment

NOTE: changes to routes 3 and 6 would have a direct impact bus service to Pinckney Neighborhood residents.

"We encourage people to attend these meetings and let us know how the routes are working for them," said Robert Nugent, transit administrator. "We usually only make adjustments once a year, so now is the time to share comments and suggestions."

Three meetings will be held at the Lawrence Public Library, 707 Vermont Street, Meeting Room C on the lower level.

Tuesday, Feb. 16: From 5 to 6 p.m.

Wednesday, Feb. 17: From noon to 1p.m.

Thursday, Feb. 18: (two meetings,) from noon to 1 p.m. and 5 to 6 p.m.

One meeting will be held at KU in the Governor's Room at the Kansas Union.

Wednesday, Feb. 17: From 4 to 5:30 p.m.

For those who are not able to attend one of the meetings, comments can be sent to info@lawrencetransit.org or submitted by mail at Lawrence Transit System, PO Box 708, Lawrence, KS 66044.

Comments will be accepted until March 31.

For more information, please visit

www.lawrencetransit.org or call (785) 864-4644.

Questions? – Comments? – Concerns? Neighborhood News?

Send an email to:

Pinckney.Neighborhood@gmail.com

Newsletter Editors: Lance Fahy & Pat Miller

UPDATE FROM THE DOWNTOWN GROCERY STORE COMMITTEE

The entire northeast quarter of our city, including part of the Pinckney neighborhood, has no full-line grocery store, and this has created a federally recognized food desert. Concerned citizens have formed a downtown grocery committee that is working and meeting weekly for more than two years to secure a downtown grocery store that will serve the needs of the northeast areas of Lawrence where, the citizens live in this food desert. With the availability of the former Borders Book Store building, the committee believes that Lawrence has a unique opportunity to address this critical need. The committee also believes that if it is the only clearly suitable site for a food store in downtown Lawrence and if it is lost to other uses, a downtown grocery store could be unattainable for decades. With the current interest of the property owners and at least one grocery retailer, it appears that an opportunity for success in this effort is as close as it has ever been.

The committee recommends that it is more important than ever that the city of Lawrence and its partners in this effort remain focused on the desired outcome. Therefore, the committee would like to share some of its goals and specific elements it believes critical to the final success.

Elimination of a federally-recognized food desert in these Lawrence neighborhoods:

- North Lawrence
- East Lawrence
- Downtown Lawrence
- Pinckney Neighborhood
- Old West Lawrence
- Brook Creek Neighborhood

Affordability:

A downtown grocery store must carry merchandise of a quality and price that meet the needs of the diverse neighborhood demographics and socio-economic mix. The store must especially serve the needs of low-income, elderly, and disabled people who are most impacted by the food desert. While the store may sell some gourmet or specialty items, or prepared foods, the preponderance of the floor space must be devoted to affordable staple foods and household necessities.

Process:

The establishment of a grocery store should not be tied to larger development projects financially or otherwise. Linking these projects will add

complication, controversy and long delays that could result in the loss of interest by grocery retailers.

Any city incentives for this project should be mostly, if not entirely, limited to one-time investments in public infrastructure and maintenance thereof. Ongoing incentives such as tax abatements should be avoided. The city should also explore the use of state and federally funded programs that might be helpful.

The lease agreement must be of long enough duration to ensure that the store can establish itself, and not be forced to vacate for another use that might offer more short-term profits to the landlord. Terms of the lease are critical to a downtown grocery store being in place for the long-haul, and remaining a downtown anchor business.

Parking and safe crossings for pedestrians are important issues that will need to be addressed throughout the development stages of this project. The city of Lawrence should recognize that a downtown grocery store is an important element in the vitality and sustainability of our historic downtown and the surrounding neighborhoods. It is essential to creating a walk-able central city, something that creative and innovative people and companies seek.

Thank you Pinckney Residents!

In December, the downtown grocery committee conducted a survey to assist potential grocery retailers in determining whether a downtown grocery store would be profitable, what types of products would be preferred, and other important demographic information. A big thank you is extended to all the Pinckney neighborhood residents who participated in this survey. Your input is an important part of attracting the right grocery retailer for this project.

PNA communication coordinator Lance Fahy serves on the downtown grocery committee and shares his information and ideas with the Pinckney Neighborhood Association. He would be happy to answer any questions or concerns you may have about the project. As more details about a downtown grocery store become available, they will be shared with Pinckney neighbors in our E-News updates. Some details about this project will also go before Lawrence City Commission as agenda items. Public comment is welcome and encouraged.