

**College Hill Neighborhood Association**

**Minutes: November 16, 2020**

**Zoom**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7244578859>  
  
Meeting ID: 724 457 8859

**Attendees:** Christi Stewart (President), Tom Luellen (Treasurer), Brett Martin (Secretary), Brian Adams, Dana Adams, Carol Christensen, Sharon Dodd, Kristi Eriksen (City of Topeka), Sue Fackler, Andy Fry, Karl Fundenberger, Emmett Hull, Patty Kane, Gail Kennedy, Sara O’Keefe, Katrina Shaw, Erin Snethen, Zach Snethen, Ardith Woertz

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1. **Introductions**
2. **Minutes –** Minutes from September meeting; Susan moved, Sue second; minutes approved
3. **Treasurer’s Report**
   1. Presented by Tom Luellen (Treasurer); see attached
   2. Tom shared his address for dues – 1619 SW Plass
   3. Sue asked a question about the bricks. A couple went to look for the ones for their son and daughter and were unable to find them. None have been ordered since Tom has been Treasurer. It is unclear where we source them now and how to do this through SNCO Parks & Rec. Susan shared that there was a minimum of 20 to order through SNCO Parks & Rec; the cost then was $35. Sue shared that some are in disrepair. Sue will pursue it if we wish. Christi shared that the issue is having them placed. Susan said Bill Riphahn was instrumental initially. She suggested that we include the form in the next newsletter. Sue will pursue the details with parks and rec.
   4. Approval of the report – Susan moved, Gail second.
4. **New Business – Introduction of any visitors**
   1. Kristi Eriksen, City of Topeka
5. **Traffic calming – Andy Fry and Kristi Eriksen, City of Topeka** 
   1. Kristi met with residents to discuss potential traffic calming. Zach creating a series of drawings for potential interventions. 15th and Jewell and 13th and College were chosen, because these are longer stretches of road without stop signs. Residents in these areas have observed that traffic speed is higher in these areas. Kristi shared different ideas traffic engineers use to calm traffic. Personally, she has learned a great deal about changing driver behavior. Driving speed is very much a personal choice. For her, she has observed that she slows down near crosswalks (marked and unmarked). She is excited about our ideas and the potential to start in this way.
   2. Next steps – We should get something on the ground. The idea is to build some bulb-outs (curb extensions). Vertical channelizers could be used as well (see attached drawings). Once we start this project, we can gather feedback from our neighbors. Zach asked about nontraditional colors. Kristi has been working on this policy. She indicated that a volume study needs to be made. There are reasons for the traditional colors used by traffic engineers. To use other colors must be a defensible use.
      1. These initial steps can be implemented in spring 2021.
      2. Kristi indicated that the city would supply materials with volunteers helping with installation and maintenance. For an example in Topeka, she suggested we look at the intersection at N Kansas and Gordon (in NOTO). Susan asked that education for students be implemented. Kristi and Andy suggested placing signs to help educate students walking to and from Robinson and Randolph.
   3. Christ will send a thank you note to Kristi at the city.
6. **Food distribution in College Hill – Brett Martin**
   1. Over the past couple of months, we have been an Operation Food Secure site. This project is a partnership between Topeka Rescue Mission, United Way of Greater Topeka, and the City of Topeka. There are currently more than 70 partners sharing food with their neighbors. This project is part of the USDA Farmers to Families Program. In Topeka, site captains organize volunteers to deliver food boxes and a gallon of milk to their neighbors who are food insecure.
   2. Our next distribution is Thursday, November 19. Those who wish to help should gather at Boswell Square Park between 5:15 and 5:30. Volunteers will make contactless porch drops to those who have indicated they wish to receive food. The next distribution will be December 3.
7. **Community Foundation Grant – Cynthia Naeger**
   1. Moved to next meeting
8. **Recycling drive – update by Carol** 
   1. Our last drive yielded $226 with a new contact. We are scheduled to have another on December 12. During the last drive, it took longer to sort. In the marketing, we will ask people to separate the materials but do not want that to be a deterrent. We would rather have residents give the metal to us rather than the city. Carol will contact Till Star to determine if they have begun operations again. Susan reiterated that the volunteers are not there to sort garbage. There is confusion about whether they take cat food cans.
   2. We will send a flyer and use social media.
9. **Chili Feed**
   1. Christi asked “should we have the chili feed?” Folks suggested we should not. Susan spoke to Dr. Pezzino. He said to look at October 2021 as a date when things may resemble “normal.”
   2. Sharon asked if we do luminaries. Ardith and Susan showed support.
   3. Andy shared an idea about asking a food truck to come to the neighborhood in place of a chili feed.
10. **Data from chili feed on neighborhood improvements – Zach Snethen**
    1. Moved to next meeting
11. **Old Business** 
    1. None
12. **New Business** 
    1. Christi will talk to Erin about a flyer**.**
    2. Susan shared that if a neighbor is unable to hang their own lights, someone should volunteer to help. She has lights to share.
13. **Our next meeting will be January 11, 2021 (One week early due to MLK Holiday). We will meet at Westminster Presbyterian Church or on Zoom.**

Minutes Respectfully Submitted by Brett J. Martin