

**College Hill Neighborhood Association**

Minutes – Monday, March 18, 2024

Attendance: Charles Bates, Laura Burton, Duane and Debbie Pomeroy, Diane Pomeroy, Andy Fry, Dana and Brian Adams, Christi and Shawn Stewart, Annie Buckland, Bruce Emmert, Pete Bonnel, Brett Martin, Patricia Kane, Susan Duffy, Liz Krumins, Meredith Fry, Gerald Lili

1. Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm by Christi Stewart
2. Guest speaker, Dan Warner from the City of Topeka gave an informative presentational on accessory dwelling units (ADUs). City studies have shown a need for more affordable housing in Topeka. Examples of ADUs are “mother-in-law suites”, garages converted into livable spaces or portions of a home converted into separate living quarters. ADUs are not investment properties. The homeowner must live in the main property and the tenant lives in the smaller portion of the home. Tenants can be family members or renters. ADUs could be beneficial to help subsidize a mortgage payment, or to allow an aging family member to live in a home somewhat independently. To incorporate an ADU into your property, homeowners must apply for a building permit and have adequate parking. There are no tax breaks for construction of an ADU. Other questions asked were: Do neighborhoods really want this? Are homeowners building ADUs without permits? Does this cause a parking problem on the streets? Does this cause problems if the house with an ADU is sold? How does this affect neighborhoods zoned for single family dwellings? Warner said the City plans to host public hearings on ADUs and will make a final decision at a later date. The City wants more input from community members.
3. Minutes from the January 22, 2024 meeting
	1. Laura Burton moves to approve minutes as written, Annie Buckland seconded, motion passes
4. Treasurer’s Report - Debbie Pomeroy is reviewing all treasurers information from past years and organizing files. Pomeroy requested CHNA officers names be listed on each meeting agenda.
	1. Bruce Emmert moves to approve treasurer’s report as written, Annie Buckland seconded, motion passes
5. College Hill Chili Cook-Off on February 3, 2024 – Pomeroy reported that 106 people attended the chili night in 2023 and 103 people attended in 2024. The 2023 event brought in $637 and 2024 raised $563. The difference being the cost of flyers printed for the 2024 event.
6. Old Business –
	1. Blessing Box- Charles Bates reported the church has photos and plans for a blessing box to be a 30-inch square with two shelves. Bates said the church plans to build the best blessing box in the city.
	2. College Hill Cleanup Day was a huge success. Neighbors respected the rules and three dumpsters were filled.
	3. College Hill Blossoms will take place April 27. Thank you to Jacksons Greenhouse for providing the blooms for the event. Silent auction items are still needed. Call Sue Fackler at 785-806-3525.
	4. College Hill banners along 17th Street need to be replaced. CHNA’s Board will solicit bids for new banners. The current banners were placed in 2014 and Evergy donated the labor to hang them on the street lights.
	5. Shawnee County Parks and Recreation is working to resolve the ownership issue of Boswell Park before any new projects can begin – or old projects can be completed. The County is working with Topeka Public Schools to determine whether the park is owned by the school district or Shawnee County. Andy Fry made a motion for College Hill neighbors to paint the current play ground equipment at Boswell Park with a budget of $200 – painting is to be done before the July 4th celebration at Boswell Park. Susan Duffy seconded the motion. Motion passed.
	6. 4th of July parade and celebration will take place on Thursday, July 4. The parade will begin at 10 a.m. Andy Fry offered to coordinate placement of barricades to block the streets. Susan Duffy said she is working on the parade and will “invite the usuals” to participate. Fry said more barricades need to be purchased for the event and believes we may need 10 more. The number of barricades needed depends on the parade route and the official counting of College Hill’s collection of barricades.
	7. Diane Pomeroy asked about the completion of the work at Boswell Park by Shawnee County Parks and Recreation. Specifically getting another picnic table, benches in the gazebo, a light in the gazebo and replacing landscaping on the Jewell side. It is believed that once the official ownership of the park issue is settled, work will resume in the park.
	8. Meeting adjourned
7. Our next meeting is 7 p.m., Monday, July 15, 2024 at Westminster Presbyterian Church

Mark your calendars –

Saturday Recycling dates are July 13, September 14, December 14

May 30-June 2 – College Hill Neighborhood Garage Sales

June 1-2 – 30th Annual Mulvane Art Fair

June 9 – Paint the playground equipment at Boswell Park (Bring your own brush)