



Kansas City Neighborhood Advisory Council (KCNAC)

“To be a unified community voice promoting a better quality of life for all Kansas City neighborhoods.”

Tuesday, April 4, 2006 Minutes

Meeting called to order at 4:07 pm by Forestine Beasley, KCNAC Vice-President, at the Ivanhoe Center, 3700 Woodland. Meeting was moved due to the election taking up space at the Mohart Center.

Introductions:

Attending KCNAC Members: Forestine Beasley, Jay R. Stock, Rodney Sampson, and Robert Taylor, Greg Hugeback, and Cynthia Canady

Absent KCNAC Members: Lynda Callon, Bruce Pennington, Jason Waldron

City staff: David Reynolds

Guests: David Wirtz—Valley View Neighborhood Assn. (*later Member*)

Review Previous Meeting Minutes:

- Two typographical corrections noted by David Reynolds. Motion made to approve March 7, 2006 minutes by Jay. Motion seconded by Rodney. Called for vote—minutes approved unanimously, as amended, by voice vote.

Introductions of New Applicants – David Wirtz was present and had not met all other members.

Approval of Agenda – tabled Tanya Taylor’s presentation due to change of venue/miscommunication. Jay asked to add something about the Landlord Task Force recently concluded by David Park, and the landlord bill pending in the State Senate. Forestine asked to add items from last month about property maintenance requirements for commercial properties, and information about the summer mowing schedule from Parks & Recreation. Agenda approved as amended.

Old Business:

--KCNAC applications

- The council received and reviewed two applications—David Wirtz and Carol Puckett. **David, who was present, was asked to step out. Council looked over his materials** and found that he is getting steadily more involved in neighborhood activities in recent years, although he is still getting started. Greg asked where Valley View Homes Association was; it’s in the Southwest Region. Council was in favor of adding someone from that area, and his application seemed in order. Rodney commented that the applications in general do not ask for much information, and may need to be expanded/revised for the next cycle. Motion made by Greg or Robert, and seconded by Jay. **Passed by unanimous voice vote.** David was welcomed back into the room and onto the council by the other members.
 - David commented that perhaps there is no representation/participation from South and North areas because they have “got it so good” in their area, that it doesn’t create the impetus to get involved like it does in Ivanhoe, for example.

- Jay commented that people in this city don't often appreciate the necessity of protecting areas that are already good.
- **Carol Puckett's application was reviewed**; she has also attended several meetings in the past to learn about the group prior to applying. Greg commented that she would extend the "reach" of members much farther east than anyone else so far, another point in her favor. **Jay moved to accept her, and Robert seconded; passed by unanimous voice vote.**

-- **Forestine brought up the concept of a Trash Appreciation Day, which had been discussed before**; Lynda is still the person who knows the most about that concept, and she was not present to report. The success of the Appreciation Day for Neighborhood Preservation was mentioned as a prior success of this kind.

New Business:

-- **Greg asked if the council could help introduce an ordinance that ensures that trash set out in front of a home originates from that home**; perhaps it could be enforced by the homeowner taking pictures of the "unloading" of material from a vehicle. Forestine said that she had been told that pictures have to be taken by the Codes/Neighborhood Preservation officers. Rodney said they will take photos that are time/date stamped, as long as the person who took the pictures is willing to testify. Jay said that this is already the way the law is supposed to work, under the illegal dumping statutes. However it's largely unenforceable; knowing a schedule that this particular person dumps on could help in catching him. Greg said most neighbors are reluctant to confront him due to his profanity/attitude. The association is not willing to send letters for fear of retaliation; Greg also doesn't think a letter from the association would work. Forestine suggested that if the group has explored all of their options, they might be able to sue to get the property under the new nuisance property statute. **Jay suggested contacting Larry Hammil, with LegalAid. Group suggested following up with Pearline McFall's office again, or Constance Tate perhaps.** DeeAnn Gregory was suggested, but she had left, unbeknownst to most of the members. **David suggested trying to get the shift officers cell phone numbers** so that he can get a faster response.

--**Forestine asked Rodney if Commercial Business falls under Neighborhood Preservation.** He said that they would have to refer it to Pearline, who he thinks is in charge of that and may not want to cover it right now. Jay commented on the disparity of answers that are obtained from the City on questions like this. **Rodney suggested having Lynda contact Pearline and bring that information for the next PMAC meeting.** That should get a faster response.

-- **David Reynolds reported that David Park does not currently have the report publicly available from the Landlord Task Force**; they are presenting on that to the City Council's Business Session this Thursday afternoon.

-- **Forestine asked about the summer mowing cycle**; David R. will call Parks & Recreation and see if they have an answer (the response was that they have not decided on a firm number yet, but they are trying to get enough money together to do increased cycles like last year, 6 cycles on Land Trust lots and at least 2 cycles on private properties that need it, but will try for more). They've recognized that it's easier to mow more often than in two heavy cycles.

Subcommittee Reports:

--Waste Management

- **Forestine asked about the trash carts, and whether or not they are going to get into the next year's budget.** Jay said that Waste Management will have to follow up on that to see where the program is at; he said it is in the budget to have a test area costing \$400,000, but they have not given many specifics yet. He thinks it could work well in certain neighborhoods, but may not be a good solution city-wide. The program going city-wide would cost \$2,000,000 each following year.
- Jay mentioned that he's concerned about vandalism/dumping them into lakes, or creating hazards on the roads, etc. Many members were in favor of a pilot project, but were skeptical about whether or not it will be a valid measure; **they should stay personally involved and informed on the updates.**

--Property Maintenance

- They are still asking NPD to provide the number of property maintenance and number of nuisance violations separately, because they really cover different issues.
- The number of cases overall is up compared to recent years; at 8 months, they are on their way to exceeding last year's totals.
- The "door hangers" for summons are still currently on hold from all information available from the Police Department; Rodney met with Patrick Egbruaire and they are trying to work on it, but it seems to have become deprioritized when the captains/leadership changed at the police department. Rodney is currently working with Rosilyn Allen about this.
- Greg asked Jay about the legislation pending at the State level; it is still in the works and being pushed through as quickly as possible, it may be attached to a spending bill to get it to pass. This would require the formation of a landlord registry, whereby they would have an agent within the City limits who would be servable with warrants and complaints about the property.

--Liquor Control

- No report

--Community Policing

- No report

Motion made to adjourn by Robert Taylor, and seconded by several.

Meeting adjourned at 5:15 pm by Forestine Beasley, KCNAC Vice-President.