Students are anxious about overcrowding and the possible loss of their campus. Last Fall, the school district in Lawrence has commissioned a review of its educational facilities. The DLR Group is conducting this study. Their goal is to determine an "ideal" school format and facility. Part of the review includes cost information about bringing our current schools to this "ideal." They are reviewing data about overcrowding at some schools and under-enrollment at others, schools with "portables," schools with combination gymnasium/auditorium/cafeteria, as well as the physical condition of the buildings. Recommendations may include school closings or consolidations as well as renovations and new facilities. There is a public meeting with the DLR Group on September 25th 5:30pm at the District Offices, 110 McDonald Drive, to review the current status of this study. Any recommendations will include a bond issue of some type for funding. I STRONGLY encourage attendance at this meeting; the outcome could affect our neighborhood school.

Welcome to the Neighborhood
1412 Elmwood - Kristine J. Masiman
1713 Atherton Ct - Brian K. & Heather E. Bigham
1225 Almira - Safe Harbor East III L.L.C.
1727 Brook - Peggy Crumet
517 E. 12th St - City of Lawrence
1532 Powers - Eugenia Miles
1307 Brook - J.M.C. Construction, Inc.
1739 Maple Ln - Jeffrey E. & Kelly A. Rice
917 E. 13th - City of Lawrence

When I get in
It is so cold.
My, I wish I had a towel.

Welcome Back ... A Message from the President

Welcome back to the new season for the Brook Creek Neighborhood Association and welcome to our new newsletter format. We will be publishing 4 newsletters each year, so each newsletter will include meeting and event information for 2-3 months. For ease of delivery, the newsletters are now arriving in the mail. Those of you who have signed up for e-mail delivery may still receive a copy in the mail. I apologize for any inconvenience this may cause, but removing individual addresses from the bulk mail carrier route would increase our cost rather than decrease it. Even with bulk mail, it is more costly to have the newsletters mailed rather than hand delivered; however, we have been unable to replace our hand-delivery team. With this in mind, we are looking to offer advertising space in this newsletter to help defray the costs. We are also looking for fund-raising suggestions.

With our expanded newsletter, we hope to be able to share more information of relevance to the neighborhood. This newsletter reaches over 980 homes, and that number is growing. This can give us a strong voice in sharing information and city issues. If you have an item of interest to share in the newsletter - group meeting information, city notices, special interest articles, areas of concern, advertising - please contact Julie Banhart at the above listed phone, address, or e-mail.

This spring and summer have seen a couple of changes to the Floodplain Zoning text. Second, the DLR group has been evaluating the Lawrence school facilities and will be making recommendations to the school board soon. Both of these issues could have a great impact on our neighborhood and community. We have included information on both of these topics, as well as upcoming meeting information, elsewhere in this newsletter. I encourage you to have your voice heard. If you cannot personally attend a meeting and have an opinion or a concern to share, e-mail, phone, or write a letter and either mail it or have a friend who can attend the meeting read it in person for the appropriate committee, board or commission.

Keep our meetings on your calendars, 2nd Wednesday of each month September - December and February - May. The meetings are held at the East Lawrence Recreational Center at 7:00 pm. Our annual Pot Luck is held in lieu of our September meeting at the Brook Creek Park shelter starting at 6:30 pm.

Our first meeting this fall takes place on the anniversary of the tragedy at the World Trade Center in New York City. It is perhaps fitting that we gather as a neighborhood and community to share our stories, concerns and hopes, and to remember that this is where it all starts.

I look forward to seeing everyone.

Thank you
Kirsten
**Minutes**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm with 10 members and the coordinator present. There were no corrections to the newsletter minutes, the treasurer's report was read and both items were approved.

Sharon Vaughn was thanked for helping with the Brook Creek Park Clean up. Several people would like to have the park cleaned regularly. It was mentioned that the Brook Creek bed was in need of mowing and that farther north of Brook Creek there were tires and debris in the creek bed.

Brook Creek Park is getting some improvements such as a new bridge and park benches. A crosswalk and sign has been requested through the Traffic Safety Commission for crossing 15th St. at Brook for safer access to the East Lawrence Recreation Center.

The new format and mail delivery for the newsletter was discussed. Information from East Heights Elementary will be included as well as city information of interest to the neighborhood.

Alan Bartels discussed plans to raze the house at 1307 Brook and build 2 new homes at 1307 and 1309 Brook. There was some discussion about flood plain impact of this building.

The status of the Picture Works building at 13th & Haskell was discussed.

The next meeting of Brook Creek N.A. is on September 11, 2001 at the Pot Luck supper in Brook Creek Park.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:04pm

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**Calendar of Events**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>September</td>
<td>1-30: Lawrence Public Library, 7th &amp; Vermont 843-3833. Picture the World: People, Places, Cultural Traces - Photos by KU Students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5: Board of Zoning Appeals, 6:30 pm City Commission Meeting Room, City Hall 6th &amp; Mass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11: Brook Creek Neighborhood Pot Luck Picnic and Meeting. Bring a side dish or dessert and tableware for yourself. BONA is providing chicken and soft drinks. 6:30pm Brook Creek Park Shelter</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12: East Heights Elementary School Council, 4:30 pm East Heights Library, 1430 Haskell Ave</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>26: BONR Group, School Facilities Evaluation Review 5:30pm District Offices 110 McDonald Drive</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>26: Neighborhood Resources Advisory Committee 5:30pm City Commission Meeting Room, City Hall 6th &amp; Mass</td>
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**October**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1-31:</td>
<td>Lawrence Public Library, 7th &amp; Vermont 843-3833. Art by Lawrence Art Guild Artists</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3-12:</td>
<td>Lawrence Public Library, 7th &amp; Vermont 843-3833. Fall Book Sale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:</td>
<td>East Heights Elementary School, PTA Meeting 3:00pm - East Heights Library. Childcare will be provided, 9: Brook Creek Neighborhood Association Meeting, 7:00pm East Lawrence Recreation Center, CDBG proposals, Upcoming City/State Elections 10: East Heights Elementary School Site Council 4:30 pm East Heights Library 23: Lawrence/Douglas County Metropolitan Planning Commission 6:30pm City Commission Meeting Room, City Hall 6th &amp; Mass</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Flood Plain Development/Management**

The City of Lawrence is currently considering text amendments to the current Flood Protection Standards. Our neighborhood is affected by these changes. There are significant parts of the neighborhood along Brook Street, Prairie Ave, south of Oak Hill, and areas on 13th & Haskell adjacent to the former BNPS rail spur that are in the current (2001) FEMA floodplain. One component of the proposed amendments is to have greater regulation on future development in areas that would affect the floodplain. Another part of the proposed amendments is to add a 2-foot “freeboard” area above the FEMA floodplain levels to be designated as the Floodplain Overlay District. This overlay district would be subject to city regulation for development and require hydrological studies to determine effect on the floodplain before construction could begin. The proposed amendments have raised a number of concerns about the consequences for homeowners. The following is an excerpt from the Lawrence Douglas County Metropolitan Planning Commission Office website:

http://www.larryville.com/current/floodquestions.html

Q. Will I be required to get flood insurance if my property is not located in the FEMA floodplain?
A. If the property is not in the FEMA floodplain - then there will be no Federal requirement to purchase flood insurance. However, a lender can require a property owner to get flood insurance no matter where the property is located.

For those in FEMA's designated floodplain - Flood insurance is required when federal money or federal backing is involved in the purchase of property. 95% of home loans have federal backing, thus the Feds require the lender to have the property insured for flood. This requirement then falls onto the property owner.

Q. Why is the city proposing to regulate an area beyond the FEMA floodplain area mapped by FEMA?
A. The FEMA maps are "static" maps - meaning they were created using 1996 data and do not account for the continuing development of the City. As development continues, it increases the amount of impervious surfaces (parking lots, streets, roof tops, etc) in the City of Lawrence. This increase in impervious coverage increases the amount of water runoff reaching the streams and rivers within and around the City, thus enlarging and widening the stream and floodplain areas.

The City of Lawrence adopted its first set of floodplain maps in 1981. FEMA revised those maps and the City of Lawrence adopted those revised maps in November 2001. The 2001 FEMA maps enlarged a number of floodplain areas within the City of Lawrence. With this increase in the floodplain, a number of property owners who previously were not in the floodplain were placed in the 2001 FEMA floodplain. Many of these property owners have received notices from their lender that they must get flood insurance.

By going beyond the FEMA designated floodplain, the proposed regulations provide notice to current and prospective property owners of where the floodplain may possibly be located when FEMA revises the City's floodplain maps (in the future).

Q. How will this affect my property values?
A. That has not been determined. Many factors go into determining property values - including location, past flooding problems, elevation of the existing structure, etc. No study has been conducted to determine the effect the proposed regulations may have on property values.

The Planning Commission will be reviewing a series of revisions at their August 22nd meeting. The BONA has purchased a copy of the Floodplain Overlay District Map. It will be available for viewing at any meeting or by contacting Julie Barhart, our Coordinator. Interesting historical reviews of floodplain management in Lawrence can be found on http://www.larryville.com. For additional information you can contact the Planning Office at (785)832-3190 or on the web http://www.larryville.com.

**Boys & Girls Club of Lawrence**

Boys & Girls Club of Lawrence operates seven Clubs in Lawrence. The Main Club / Bobby E. Lee building is located at 1520 Haskell Avenue. Boys & Girls Club of Lawrence provides a safe place for children and youth to go after school and on days out of school. They can participate in a variety of activities while at the Club, such as homework time, sports and recreation, arts, dance, computers, to name just a few. For more information, please call us at 841-6854.
Join Your Neighborhood Association

Dues are $1.00 per person, per year. This gives you voting rights at BCNA meetings. Clip, fill out and mail to: Susan Miller, Treasurer; 1235 Prairie; Lawrence, KS 66044

Name: ___________________________  Address: ___________________________

Phone: ___________________  E-Mail Address __________________________

☐ I am enclosing my $1.00 annual dues
☐ I am enclosing _________ extra to help the neighborhood association.

Hello Neighbors,

Since our last gathering in December, the holidays and the cold have kept things fairly quiet. I attended the Barker Neighborhood meeting in early January to hear their thoughts about the Salvation Army proposal. There was a mixture of feelings in the group. They share many of our concerns and are (in the majority) supporting our opposition to the facility. Our next step on this front is to collect signatures on a protest petition from the property owners within a 200-foot radius of the proposed facility. This will mean some legwork in the cold – volunteers are encouraged to call Julie Banhart.

Progress is being made at Brook Creek Park. The new gazebo and playground equipment are fully installed. The next step when weather permits is the paved sidewalk system connecting the bridge and the shelter.

February will bring our delayed Election of Officers. Even if you don’t think you want to hold an office but you want to be more involved in your neighborhood, I encourage you to attend. Our neighborhood association has four officers: President, Vice-President, Treasurer, and Secretary. Association members are invited to run for office and to support the neighborhood through service on a committee – Park Clean-Up, Nominations committee – or by submitting newsletter articles and sharing community news of interest to our neighborhood.

I look forward to seeing everyone on February 11 and March 10. Keep Warm!

Kirsten Roussel
MINUTES ... November 12, 2003

Kirsten Roussel called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Salvation Army representatives Rich Forney, Richard Zinn, and Paula Gilchrist attended as well as Hank Booth to act as moderator. Thirty-five BCNA members attended the meeting.

The proposed naming of the drainage creek next to the railroad right-of-way to Burroughs Creek is in the review stage at the federal level. It may take another 6 months to a year for the process to reach a conclusion. Kirsten reported that the playground equipment at East Heights School was to be modified and that additional swings will be installed at the playground. The sheller house is under construction and will be completed by the end of the month.

The proposed building at 1307 Brock has been taken down by the City since the owner (John Chaney) was not demolishing the house in a timely manner. It was reported that Mr. Chaney wants to build 2 small houses or a duplex on the site. It was suggested that we write a letter to the City, requesting the purchase of the property at 1305 and 1307 Brock for green space. BCNA opposes a duplex on the site since that would affect the flood plain.

Kirsten reported that she had received a phone call from Laura Chaney who, with her husband John (not related to the John Chaney above), are the owners of the shopping center at 1901 Haskell. Laura said they planned to put in a mini-golf course there and that she had been told the zoning would have to be upgraded from C-2 to C-4 for that. Kirsten said she had reviewed the C-2 zoning and that it would allow the mini-golf course and would allow a mini-golf course. Ms. Chaney responded with a thank-you telephone call and said that they would not request a zoning change.

The pedestrian island on 15th Street for the crosswalk to the East Lawrence Recreation Center was discussed. The island is not in the proper place for pedestrian use, since it is west of the intersection. It could not be placed at 15th & Brook because of other traffic concerns, but it does, at least, slow the traffic down.

The neighborhood has reported 2 concerns to the building inspectors: a) The house on the SE corner of 15th & Haskell (1501 Haskell) is blighted; and b) the fenced storage yard north of 15th Street between Haskell & Brook has been crushing old air conditioning units and had a car upside down, leaking oil.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m. and everyone enjoyed some holiday treats.

November Minutes continued on the next page

MINUTES ... December 10, 2003

Kirsten Roussel called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Kirsten reported that the Salvation Army will be appearing in front of the Planning Commission for a Use Permitted Upon Review (UPR). A letter was sent to the Salvation Army offices, explaining our opposition to their proposed building at 15th & Haskell. A reply had not been received.

Since less than a quorum of paid members was present, the election of officers was postponed to the February 11 meeting.

Frankie Hines informed the members that he was planning to build a house between 1531 and 1545 Maple Lane. He said the house would be the only one on the block with a garage in front.

It was reported that the house at 1307 Brook has been taken down by the City since the owner (John Chaney) was not demolishing the house in a timely manner. It was reported that Mr. Chaney wants to build 2 small houses or a duplex on the site. It was suggested that we write a letter to the City, requesting the purchase of the property at 1305 and 1307 Brook for green space. BCNA opposes a duplex on the site since that would affect the flood plain.

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The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m. and everyone enjoyed some holiday treats.

As winter weather approaches, Lawrence citizens are reminded of the snow and ice removal ordinance. To make public sidewalks safe for pedestrians, the owner or occupant of property immediately adjacent to a public sidewalk is responsible for the removal of any snow or ice that accumulates on the sidewalk. Removal must be done within 24 hours after the ice forms or the snowfall ends.

In the event that removal of ice is impossible, the property owner or occupant is required to place sand on the sidewalk within 24 hours.

In a situation where a property owner or occupant fails to comply with the ordinance and the Department of Neighborhood Resources receives a complaint, an inspector will notify the occupant and property owner with a written notice of the violation and order the prompt removal of snow or ice. Failure to remove the snow or ice within 5 days after the violation notice may result in a citation. Property owners will be assessed a fine of $20 for each day the violation occurs, if found guilty of the violation.

For more information on the snow and ice removal ordinance, contact the Department of Neighborhood Resources, (785) 832-7700.

November 12, 2003 Minutes continued:

After Rich Forney's presentation, Mr. Booth moderated further discussion. The concerns from the neighbors were listed as the following: high traffic levels on 19th Street and Haskell, distance from other social services (Drop-In Center, LINK), trespassing in yards, camping out in parks, endangerment of children, lowered property values, vandalism, theft, drainage & flooding issues, storm water run off, nuisance, duplication of services, no infrastructure (no sidewalks to/from downtown), transportation, safety of SA patrons and surrounding neighborhood. The general consensus from the members was that these are essentially the same list of concerns we presented to the SA two years ago and there have been no significant changes that warrant supporting a facility at this location.

Mr. Zinn was asked who had the final say about the purchase and construction of the new facility for the Salvation Army. He indicated that the Territorial Offices in Chicago would have the final say in the purchase based upon advice from the Divisional Offices in Kansas City and the local advisory board.

A motion was made for the membership to vote on being in favor of the Salvation Army building on this site, which was seconded by Richard Heckler. The majority voted against construction of the Salvation Army church and shelter (1 supporting vote, 1 abstention). Mr. Zinn said that building at this location would have to be approved by the Planning Commission (Use Permitted Upon Review permit). Upon request, Mr. Zinn indicated that opposition could be expressed to Lt. Colonel Dahlberg at the Kansas City Divisional Offices. Rich Forney said that he would forward letters to the appropriate office if we sent one to the local SA office.

Mr. Forney requested a BCNA member to participate in a local advisory committee for the planning and construction of the new facility. Richard Heckler was appointed as the BCNA representative.

At the conclusion of the Salvation Army presentation & review of concerns, it was noted that the Salvation Army is nonprofit and does not pay property taxes. The BCNA membership present voted to send a letter of opposition to the Salvation Army Offices – both Territorial and Divisional.

It was requested that the association support the construction of a sidewalk on the north side of Ward Street. It was also requested that the association support traffic calming for the north end of Bullene St. The members were reminded of the deadline for CDBG requests and to contact any board member with suggestions. The next meeting and Holiday party was discussed. The meeting is December 10th at 7:00 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Note: A letter was drafted and sent to the Territorial Offices, the Divisional Offices and the Lawrence Office of the Salvation Army. In addition this letter was also directed to the Planning Commission. As of this writing, we have not received a response from any agency.
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Name: ____________________________________________

Address: __________________________________________

Phone: ___________________________ E-Mail Address ________________________

☐ I am enclosing my $1.00 annual dues
☐ I am enclosing _________ extra to help the neighborhood association.

NEWS OF SUMMER ACTIVITY

FROM

ACTING PRESIDENT BETH ANNE MANSUR

This has been a busy summer for neighborhood business. An inter-neighborhood task force has been created, composed of Beth Anne Mansur, Richard Heckler, Sharon Vaughn, and James Grauerholz from Brook Creek NA; Ed Toto from East Lawrence NA; and Jim Carpenter and Rhetta Jo Noever from Barker NA. The Edgewood Tenants Association was invited to join us, but that organization is no longer in existence.

The following 3 issues are what we are working on and input and participation are invited and welcomed from anyone who would like to express him/herself on the issues. To do so, contact Beth Anne (843-0103) or send an email to the Brook Creek mailbox (brookcreek@msn.com).

1. Members of the neighborhood met with Judy Bauer, J.R. Demby, and Mrs. Forney, representatives from the Salvation Army Board to propose possible options that would lessen the impact on the neighborhood of the Salvation Army's future site at Homewood and Haskell. Any and all neighbors are welcome to join these conversations. Thus far, we have had two meetings, and the next one will be in October. The main suggestion that we are working on is the idea of keeping a "soup kitchen" open downtown so the transients who would be turned away won't even need to come into the neighborhood in the first place.

2. As most of you know, the City has been working on the Police Evidence Facility at the old Morton Concrete site on 15th St., across from Parnell Park. Mike Wildgen has said that the city will be ready to present something in August or September.

3. Finally the Shepard property at 15th and Haskell has been a bit of a headache. We are hoping for the best possible development, but have only seen one poor plan that consisted of crowded townhouses. This, naturally, is unacceptable to the neighborhood. We are hoping for a plan with quality, single-family dwellings. Meanwhile, we are watching the situation with the fill that is being put in. Since it is not all dirt, but layers of mulch, this will pose a problem for developers, and we want to make sure everyone is aware of this so that homes are built to last, rather than having foundation problems in the first few years.

By the way, keep thinking about how the current gazebo and park improvements are working out for you this summer. We have the option of covering over the old pad with a shelter to increase the covered picnic area space. We will talk about that next fall when we discuss proposals for CDBG money. If anyone has any more ideas about neighborhood improvements for which we could create a grant proposal, bring them to the September business meeting. I am hoping to hear from you. Our neighborhood's beauty and success depends on each member's input!

Don't forget that our annual potluck will be on September 8, at the park, and our September business meeting will be on September 15. Hope to see you at both meetings!
Welcome to the Neighborhood

Welcome to our new neighbors:

• Rebecca L. Fast: 1321 E. 18th Terrace
• David Brackett: 1107 E. 18th
• Dori Lewman: 935 Homewood
• Mary Todd: 1821 Atherton Court
• Laura Heim: 1345 Maple Lane
• Stanley & Michelle Helweg: 1813 Almira, Rear & 1800 block No. 1 Haskell Avenue

Tips from the City for Garage Sale Signs

It's garage sale time, and the City's Neighborhood Resources Department offers the following tips about putting up garage sale signs.

- Place one temporary directional sign on private property on a residential street and be sure to get the consent of the property owner. On private property, place signs behind sidewalks and utility poles. If none exists, place a sign within 25 feet of a structure.
- Do not place signs in the public right-of-way or on City property. To avoid the right-of-way, do not use areas in front of the sidewalk. Utility poles are in the public right-of-way and should not be used for sign posting.
- The sign should only be in place from 5:00 p.m. Friday until 5:00 p.m. Sunday.
- Signs should be placed on residential streets and not commercial streets such as 23rd Street, 6th Street, Iowa or Massachusetts.
- Signs should be no larger than 4 square feet.
- Inspection staff from the Neighborhood Resources Department may remove signs posted in right-of-way or on City property. A complete copy of the ordinance is available online at www.lawrenceneighres.org/ordinances/sign.pdf.

(Thanks to the Indian Hills Neighborhood Association for this article.)

SEPTEMBER MEETINGS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Annual Pot-Luck Dinner</th>
<th>Business Meeting</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, September 8, 2004</td>
<td>Wednesday, September 15, 2004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brook Creek Park</td>
<td>East Lawrence Recreation Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:30 p.m. -- ??</td>
<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bring your favorite side dish or dessert and eating utensils. BCNA will provide the chicken and the soft drinks.</td>
<td>Plan to attend the first business meeting of the new season. The agenda for this meeting will be in your September newsletter.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Come and meet new neighbors, enjoy an evening in the park with old friends and good food.</td>
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Lawrence Sesquicentennial

The Lawrence Sesquicentennial Celebration Period began on May 30 and runs through September 19. There are still lots of events planned to celebrate our 150th anniversary. A few are listed below. For a complete listing, go to www.ks150events.org or www.lawrence150.org.

- The Douglas County Fair, held in August, will feature a Sesquicentennial theme.
- On August 20, there will be an outdoor concert and festival at the Lied Center. It begins at 7:00 p.m. and is free.
- From September 1-30, the Art Guild Sesquicentennial Exhibit can be viewed at the Lawrence Public Library.

There are many other events. Check the websites, especially the one for Lawrence.
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Name: ________________________________
Address: ________________________________

Phone: __________________ E-Mail Address: __________________

☐ I am enclosing my $1.00 annual dues
☐ I am enclosing ___________ extra to help the neighborhood association.

BROOK CREEK BREEZE

Meetings, Meetings, Meetings ......

Business Meeting
Wednesday, September 15, 2004
7:00 p.m.
East Lawrence Recreation Center
Agenda:
See Topics listed below in President’s Update

Fall Pot Luck Picnic
Wednesday, September 8, 2004
6:30 p.m.
Brook Creek Park

Plan to join your neighbors and friends at our annual pot-luck picnic. Bring your favorite side dish or dessert, plates and eating utensils. BCNA will provide the chicken and soft drinks.

Business Meeting
Wednesday, October 13, 2004
East Lawrence Recreation Center
7:00 p.m.
Key Issue Updates (since the last newsletter)

These will also form the Agenda for our September 15 business meeting

1. We met with the Salvation Army and they reiterated that they wanted to keep a kitchen downtown so that we would not have vagrants wandering through the neighborhood. We agreed to meet in October.

2. There is a disturbing rumor, from reliable sources, about the SA and DCCC. Evidently DCCC processes around 400 sex offenders a year and they have worked up a plan with the SA to put these people through the SA program. This is a way that the SA can fund their new project (in our backyards). If this is true, it is contrary to what we were told at the last meeting.

3. The Inter-Neighborhood Task Force met in August and discussed the proposed Police Evidence Facility on 15th across from Parnell Park. Brook Creek agreed to support Barker in whatever they decided, per our agreement at our last neighborhood meeting in the spring. The site looks pretty good, actually, and may pass contingent on a good landscaping plan. Basically, Mike Wildgen met with those concerned and agreed to incorporate all the ideas asked for. For instance, the lights are going to be facing down, plantings to hide the fence, the lot will be zoned as public facilities, so it will not be industrial, and much of it will be green space that will join the rails to trails project.

4. The task force looked over a new blueprint for a housing development, this time from Belot-Hartronft Associates, LLC, on the Shepard property at 15th and Haskell. We drew up a joint letter with our recommendations about it. We invited Allen Belot to each of our neighborhood meetings, and hope to see him at our next one, Sept. 15th. As we see it, some of the faults are too many houses, no open space in the interior, no documentation done on the fill that is basically mulch, only one entrance in and out, and 2 cul-de-sacs on the interior. The list goes on, and I will bring copies of our letter on September 15, for whoever would like to read it.

5. James Grauerholz has offered a fantastic, well-documented proposal for a moratorium on any construction along the BNSF spur rail right-of-way until a new area plan has been worked up. This is so we actually get a beautiful, cohesive, rails-to-trails corridor. The task force agreed that each neighborhood write a letter to the city asking for this moratorium and I will have a copy of our letter at the September 15 meeting.

Keep in mind ways to spend CDBG money!

-- Beth Anne Mansur, President
Join Your Neighborhood Association

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Name: ________________________________  Phone: ________________________________  E-Mail Address: ________________________________

Address: ________________________________

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☐ I am enclosing _______ extra to help the neighborhood association.

BROOK CREEK BREEZE

February-March 2006

GENERAL MEETING
Wednesday, February 8, 2006
7:00 p.m.
East Lawrence Recreation Center
Special Guest:
John Barta, Lawrence Police Department
speaking on Neighborhood Safety

MINUTES: November 9, 2005

President Loraine Stevens called the meeting to order with 33 people in attendance.

Michael Almon discussed the "Picture Works" building at 1246 Haskell. The building had not been used as a commercial property for several years and lost the grandfathered commercial zoning. It was then zoned residential office. When the Polks purchased it, they remodeled it into a commercial building with violations of the building code. After leasing the property to a non-complying business, the Polks then applied for commercial zoning, which BCNA opposes. The rezoning request is on the planning commission agenda.

Wes Dalberg of the Salvation Army, along with Judy Bower, gave a presentation about the SA plans for the site in the 1800 block of Haskell. Dalberg said that he had moved to Lawrence about a month ago and took over the operation of the SA. He referred a question about other potential building sites to Ms. Bower, who said that 7-10 other sites were looked at and the current site was the SA's choice. Asked about transients walking through the neighborhood, Dalberg replied that the shelter is for rehabilitation and that the open shelter is for the transients. He said that the building is not for transients unless there are severe weather conditions and a need for shelter. Asked about the rehabilitation of parolees, he said there is no plan for a halfway house at the SA site. Asked about child molesters, he said he did not want to put anybody at risk, but the SA would not turn anyone away from their services. In response to a question, he said that there were no plans to screen the applicants. He stated that he has not set any policy for the Salvation Army's rehabilitation center. It was suggested by the membership that crime statistics for the area be checked for 6 months prior to the opening of the rehabilitation center and checked again 6 months after opening.

Mr. Dalberg explained that a camera has been installed at the current SA downtown site and overnight staff monitored the transients who use the overnight shelter. The Haskell site will have cameras and the design of the building will allow for fewer staff to monitor more people. He said that the SA provides service to 100-150 people on a continuing basis and that 50-60 people use the overnight shelter. He stated that the Salvation Army has raised a third of funds needed to build the rehabilitation site.

A comment from the membership was that, 8-9 months ago, the Salvation Army's answers were clearer, but now the answers are vague. Dalberg said that he would be willing to attend a future meeting, but only after the holidays. At 8:20 P.M. the business meeting began. The rezoning of the building at 1246 Haskell was re-discussed. The consensus was to not allow rezoning of the property to commercial. A motion was made to oppose the rezoning and it passed unanimously. The rezoning is on the Planning Commission agenda for Monday, November 14th at 6:30 P.M.

Proposals suggested for CDBG are: Operating Expenses; Coordinator; Park Clean Up; Community Garden at 1200 Brook (dependent upon City approval); and a roof over the concrete pad in Brook Creek Park (dependent on City approval).

The Treasurer's report and minutes were read and approved.

Thanks were expressed to Julie Mitchell for her article in the Nov./Dec. newsletter about the Bargain Center at 1146 Haskell, which is accepting items for recycling, and to the volunteers who delivered flyers to the Barker Neighborhood residents.

Mike Harrel has bought the property at 1445 Maple Lane and is going to build 2 duplexes on the site.

The building of a cement house in the block of Prospect has begun.

The meeting was adjourned. The next meeting will be December 14, 2005 at 7 P.M. and will be our Holidays party. Be sure to bring your favorite treat to share.
MINUTES: December 14, 2005

President Loralee Stevens called the meeting to order.
The City Commission rezoned the "Picture Works" building at 1246 Haskell to commercial. The loss of residential zoning for this site was discussed.
The Salvation Army's presentation at the last meeting was reviewed and it was reported that nothing new has since developed.
Janine (Coleman) Cotter introduced herself as the new owner of 1246 Haskell. She is purchasing the property from the Polks and is going to put in a beauty shop. She said that she grew up in East Lawrence and would not do anything detrimental to the neighborhood. She wants to be a good neighbor and will address any complaints about the property.
The election of new Officers for the coming year was held. The nominations were:
Aaron Brown, President
Craig Comstock, Vice President
Susan Miller, Treasurer
Doug Miller, Secretary.
A motion to accept the slate of Officers was made and passed unanimously.
Doug Miller, President

The meeting was adjourned for the Holiday Party treats.
The next meeting will be February 8, 2006 at 7 P.M. at the East Lawrence Recreation Center, 1245 E. 15th.

THE BROOK CREEK COMMUNITY GARDEN

We received permission from the City of Lawrence to use the property at 1205 Brook as a community garden. This was part of the CDBG proposals that we submitted for this 2007 fiscal year (beginning August 1, 2006). We asked for money to rent a roto-tiller for 2 days and to purchase hand-tool gardening equipment. We will not know until sometime in July whether or not the NRAC board will approve this proposal and, if they do, money will not be available to us until August 1, 2006.

However, there is no reason that the gardeners among us will have to wait for a year to begin gardening. City Manager Mike Wittgen said that we are welcome to start using the property this spring. This means that those who want to use some of this space for gardening will have to turn the earth in their plots by hand (and leg, and back, etc.).

So, we need to start planning now. Once we know how many people are interested in starting a garden this spring, we can determine how big the individual plots can be. So, think about it and, if you would like a space here, please call or email Julie Bartlett (841-4997; brookcreek@sbcglobal.net). In your email or, if you call and leave a message, please be sure to leave your name, your address, and your telephone number and email address. Sometime in March we will notify you that we’re ready to set it up. (We may call for a work day by those who want to participate to mark off the individual plots.) We’ll let you know when you can start working the ground and planting your crop.

Even if you’re a novice at growing vegetables or flowers, consider taking part in this. We have many people among our membership who are expert gardeners and who will be willing to answer questions to help ensure that you have a positive experience. It’s also a great way to meet people from other parts of our neighborhood. Working in the earth and watching things grow is also just plain fun.

Message From Our New President ..... 

Dear Brook Creek Neighbors:

As the new president of the Brook Creek Neighborhood Association, I’m looking forward to an exciting year of progress and projects. There is at least one initiative already in the works - a community garden near the park’s north end. Also, we continue to engage the Salvation Army in discussions regarding their proposed shelter. The city continues to provide Community Development Block Grant funds for our neighborhood and so we will be soliciting ideas and opinions from all of you about how we can best use these funds in coming years. The neighborhood meetings are a great opportunity to voice your opinions and ideas, so I encourage you to attend whenever possible.

Meetings are held on the second Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. in the East Lawrence Recreation Center. Even if you can’t make it to the meetings, I hope you will contact me directly with any questions or concerns. You can reach me by phone at 865-7227 or by email at aaron@thebrownproject.com.

This promises to be an eventful year for us. I look forward to your participation in planning neighborhood activities and I wish everyone a Happy New Year.

Sincerely,
Aaron Brown
President, Brook Creek Neighborhood Association

REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS

1321 E. 18th St. - Shelly L. Borland
1609 Irving Court - Curt M. Talken
1416 Summit - Diana L. & James W. Player, Jr. and Kevin M. Player
1441 Prairie Ave. - Bob Rummell
1608 Matthew Terrace - Nguyen Vo
1913 Amini Ave. - Jeffrey O. Chaney

Notes on Meeting (1/6/06) with the City re work on Brook Creek
- Doug Miller, Secretary

At 3:30 P.M. a meeting was held in Brook Creek Park with Chuck Scoules and Dave Crouse—City Maintenance, Mike Almon, Dick Heckler, Beth Anne Mansur, and Doug Miller about widening and rock the base of the creek.

Crouse said that Mitch Young of the Parks Department, had asked him to fill in some holes in the creek south of 13th street and put a rock base around bridge. He said that as he was looking at the creek, he saw that the creek had silted up north of 13th street. He said that since he had a crew working on the creek, he would clean out the sill, fill in the holes, and put in a rock base. He said that due to the construction of the Fire Station at 19th and Iowa, he had access to free rock. He said the creek originally had a rock base, which has since eroded away.

The sill removal and rock the creek bed was stopped. The rock the around the bridge was completed.
Join Your Neighborhood Association

Dues are $1.00 per person, per year. This gives you voting rights at BCNA meetings. Clip, fill out and mail to: Susan Miller, Treasurer; 1235 Prairie; Lawrence, KS 66044

Name: ____________________________ Address: ____________________________

Phone: ____________________________ E-Mail Address ____________________________

☐ I am enclosing my $1.00 annual dues
☐ I am enclosing _________ extra to help the neighborhood association.

MINUTES ... February 8, 2006
-- Douglas Miller, Secretary

President Aaron Brown called the meeting to order at 7:05 P.M. with 20 people in attendance. The treasurer's report was read and approved.

Lawrence Police Officer Jon Barta gave a presentation on Crime Prevention, Home Security, and Personal Safety. He also directed us to a web site, www.lawrencepolice.org, which lists neighborhood information.

Byron Wiley presented his concerns, which go back to 2005, about the Bargain Center's (1245 Haskell) noise and environmental violations. The Bargain Center is a grandfathered, nonconforming use of the property. Wiley showed a video illustrating some of his concerns, and pointed out that the Bargain Center is in possible violation of the noise ordinance, Federal, State, and City Environmental Codes, the zoning code, and City recycling ordinances, as well as being an eyesore. While recognizing that it does provide a helpful service to the neighborhood, Wiley felt that BCNA should request a State investigation of the violations and make a complaint to the City. After discussion, it was suggested that we invite the Bargain Center owner, Beau Killough, to a meeting to voice our concerns. Mayor Highberger was present at our meeting and said that he would help address the neighborhood concerns.

The housing development on the southwest corner of 15th & Haskell has expanded and now has an entrance/exit off Haskell. A complaint was made about tree branches being dumped in the alley in the 1300 block of Prospect. It will be forwarded to the City for action.

Dickie Heckler, our LAN representative, brought up sidewalk repair. Currently, it is the property owner's responsibility to maintain and repair the sidewalks. It was suggested that the City maintain them, since they are for public use, just like a street. Then, they would be of uniform width and uniformly maintained. A general tax to pay for the upkeep was suggested.

Brook Creek requested CDBG funds for a community garden at 1205 Brook. While we will not know until late July whether that request will be approved, the City has approved our use of the site and it can be used this spring. Water is not currently available at the site, but Byron Wiley is in discussions with the City to place a meter there for BCNA so we can have on-site water. Wiley will also donate fruit trees if the City will allow them to be planted.

Dickie Heckler, our representative on the Traffic Safety Commission, reported that there was discussion of a city-wide 25 mph speed limit on residential streets. Also, there is a possibility that a calming device may be installed on 13th Street. This will be discussed at a future City Commission Meeting.

Julie Mitchell will discuss the Brook Creek Park Cleanup at the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:43 P.M. The next meeting is March 8, 2006 at 7 P.M.

MINUTES ... March 8, 2006
-- Douglas Miller, Secretary

President Aaron Brown called the meeting to order at 7:06 P.M. with 11 people in attendance. The Treasurer's report and February’s minutes were read and approved.

Brown notified the membership that the City Commission asked City Manager Mike Widgen for his resignation, which he submitted today. Aaron said that the resignation may affect some of our neighborhood projects such as the garden plot program.

Byron Wiley gave a report on the Bargain Center. He said the City Code Enforcement was not able to address some of our complaints. He was referred to the City Planning Commission, but they could not address the complaints.
since it was not zoned as a salvage yard, but was grandfathered in as a non-complying use, because the original use was a garage and then changed to a towing service. He said that KDHE can't do anything about the oil and gas spills, because the spills are too small. KDHE expects small spills at a recycling center. If the oil and gas spills were in pools, the KDHE would consider it a violation. He also contacted the EPA regarding the leaking refrigerant and was told that small leaks are expected at a recycling center. The Bargain Center has gone beyond the original non-conforming use. The City and the Bargain Center need to be held accountable for their statements that this will be a clean recycling operation. A motion was made and passed to have a letter sent to the City Commission to address our concerns.

The contact for the garden plot is our coordinator, Julie Banhart. The size of the garden plots will depend on the number of participants. Byron Wiley is checking on the availability of a water line for use at the garden plot. We have volunteers who are willing to rototill it.

Michael Almon reported that at the March 7th City Commission meeting they are making a list of capital improvements. The traffic circle requested at 15th & Haskell is at the bottom of the list. A discussion among members about the traffic circle raised questions about the safety of pedestrians and, in particular, school children using this circle. No decision was made to pursue the traffic circle at 15th & Haskell. Almon also said that the City Commission accepted, without comment, the Traffic Safety Commission's report about traffic calming on 13th street.

Almon also reported on the down-zoning of property along the Rails to Trails/Burrough's Creek (abandoned BNSF Railroad Track) from 19th street north to La Salle street. The City is not rezoning along Brook Creek's route as they are doing in other bordering areas. Burrough's Creek planners do not want to rezone the properties and they do not want to rezone adjacent businesses into a non-conforming use. BCNA would have to initiate the rezoning. The businesses can be rezoned without affecting their business use. The City did initiate the rezoning of the Salvation Army Property at 18th and Haskell which is adjacent to the route.

The Park Clean-up is scheduled for April 29th beginning at 10 A.M.

The next BCNA meeting is April 12th at 7:15 P.M. The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 P.M.

LAST CALL
FOR PLOTS AT THE COMMUNITY GARDEN

Spring is actually upon us (even if it doesn't always feel like it). So, it's time to think about our gardens and start getting the ground ready to plant. As we said in the last issue, we have received permission from the City to use the property at 1205 Brook for a community garden.

While we have requested CDBG funds for equipment for the garden, we will not know until late July if those funds will be approved for the fiscal year starting in August. But, we can still use the land for garden plots. We'll just have to bring our own tool.

Several of you have already signed up for a garden plot, but there are more available. If you think you'd like to join your neighbors in the community garden, you need to sign up quickly. Each household that signs up will have one plot, in which you can grow whatever local crop you want -- vegetables, flowers, or any combination thereof. How big the plots will be will depend on how many people sign up.

If you want to participate, please email your name, address, telephone number, and email address to: brookcreek@sbcglobal.net. If you don't have an email address, call Julie at 841-4997. Leave a message with that same information if she's not there. This needs to be done no later than April 14.

An Invitation to a Spring Party

Who: Brook Creek Neighborhood
What: Spring Cleanup
When: April 29 (rain date, May 6)
10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Where: Brook Creek Park, 13th & Brook St.

Plans are underway for the annual Brook Creek Park cleanup. Please join us for fun, food and work. There's something for everyone. If you like mud, wading in the creek for trash and debris, this is for you. If you like walking through the woods and bring your trash bag, Brook Creek Park has 33 acres of woods. If you like walking in the grass, you can grab full trash bags to a designated pickup point.

Julie Mitchell is organizing this event. Food will be provided through donations by local grocery stores, but anyone is welcome, of course, to bring a special side dish or dessert for the occasion. We have gloves, rubber boots, hip waders and cleaning supplies, as well as trash bags. A trash pickup will be scheduled with the City following our clean-up efforts. There is a lot to do to make our park beautiful. If you are a veteran park caretaker, we hope to see you again this year. If you are new to the neighborhood, the park cleanup is a great way to meet your neighbors and we would like to meet you. Mud brings people together.

Come for the day or for an hour. Plan to work and laugh. We find all kinds of things in the park and creek, including, over the past few years, televisions, bedsprings, and even a tractor.

If you have any questions, contact Julie Mitchell (865-4292) or Julie Banhart (841-4997), or send us an e-mail at brookcreek@sbcglobal.net.

Welcome to the Neighborhood

1415 E. 18th - Carla L. Rutrough
1315 Summit - Brooke A. Mayhugh