

Tennessee Town NIA General Membership Meeting
6:30 p.m., Monday; January 9, 2023
Buchanan Center, 1195 SW Buchanan

The wearing of facial masks will be encouraged for this meeting to help prevent the spread of the coronavirus.

TENTATIVE AGENDA:

- I. Welcome, Distribution of Free Smoke Detectors and Batteries
- II. Election of 2023 NIA Officers
- III. Community Policing Report: TPD Ofc. Devon Long (10 minutes)
- IV. City Council Report: Karen Hiller (10 minutes)
- V. Adoption of Agenda (vote)
- VI. Approval of Nov. 14, 2022 General Membership Meeting Minutes (vote; pgs. 2-3 of packet)
- VII. Acceptance of Treasurer's Reports
- VIII. 2023 NIA Goals Discussion (20 minutes)
- IX. Citizen Advisory Council Report: Don Fortin (10 minutes)
- X. Old Business:
 - A. Lane Garden Update
 - B. Private-Public Partnership with Stormont Vail, the City of Topeka and GraceMed Update
 - C. Central Topeka Grocery Store Update (pg. ?)
 - E. International Academy Update: Sandy Lassiter
- XI. New Business:
 - A. 2023 HUD Consolidated Action Plan Budget and Priorities Report
- XII. Kudos:
 - A. King Day Celebration on Jan. 16
 - B. Kudos from Attendees
- XIII. Announcements:
 - A. Community Engagement Programs: (1) *Emergency Program*: Intended to help homeowners make repairs to immediate health or safety hazards, (2) *Accessibility Program*: Provides modifications to residential homes for owners or tenants with disabilities, (3) *Property Maintenance Repair Program*: Assists with repairs for low-income homeowners who need repairs to bring their homes up to code and make the home safe, livable, and healthy. All eligible households must have an active property maintenance violation and be on the deed of the property. For more info. or to apply, please call 785-368-3711.
 - B. Computers for Seniors: Contact Community Engagement at 785-368-3711.
 - C. TOTO first-time homebuyers' assistance program: The program helps low-income families purchase their first home through HUD funding. The program helps Topeka residents become homeowners by providing education, financing, and home rehabilitation by partnering with Housing and Credit Counseling Inc. For more info., please call 785-234-0217, ext. 317.
 - D. Next Meeting: 6:30 p.m., Mon., March 13, 2023, Buchanan Ctr., 1195 SW Buchanan
- XIV. Adjournment

Tennessee Town on the Internet! Website: <http://tenntownnia.weebly.com> (all NIA meetings, activities posted) ●
Nextdoor Tennessee Town: https://tennesseetown.nextdoor.com/news_feed/ ● E-Mail: tenntown@yahoo.com

Tennessee Town NIA General Membership Meeting
6:30 p.m., Monday, January 9, 2023
Buchanan Center Conference Room, 1195 SW Buchanan

Minutes of Nov. 14, 2022 General Membership Meeting

Attendance: President Michael Bell, Vice President Pat Delapp, Secretary-Treasurer Sandra Lassiter, Donald Fortin, Bob Cockerhan, Mark Gibbs, Christine Allen; Topeka Public Works Staff Members Braxton Copley, David Bevens, and Vince Schultz; Topeka Police Dept. Officers Devon Long and Foster; and Topeka City Council Member Karen Hiller, .

President Bell called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

Community Policing Report:

Ofc. Devon Long gave the report. Discussion occurred on the homeless encampment at SW Munson and Lane. He said there were no new details from the recent shootings on and near SW Lincoln.

Public Works Presentation: Director Braxton Copley, David Bevens and Vince Schultz:

Braxton Copley discussed the city's updated 50/50 sidewalk program, which now is using HUD guidelines regarding eligibility. Grants will be rewarded for repairs up to \$1,000 and soft second mortgages for repairs over \$1,000. A PowerPoint presentation also was provided.

Copley said a repair and reconstruction program was upcoming that would involve the Tennessee Town, Historic Holliday Park and Monroe NIAs. Regarding Tennessee Town the program would be between SW Buchanan and Clay and SW 12th and Huntoon.

Discussion also occurred on the ADA.

City Council Report:

City Council Member Karen Hiller gave the report. Discussion occurred regarding the new mowing program for income-qualified residents. She said the OMNI group was recognized for its participation in the lawn mowing program. She also provided an update on the city budget.

Adoption of Agenda:

Pat DeLapp moved adoption of the agenda with the addition of the public works' presentation. Christine Allen seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

Approval of September 12, 2022 General Membership Meeting Minutes:

DeLapp moved approval of the minutes as presented. Allen seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

Acceptance of Treasurer's Reports (NIA Support Budget and Free-Will Donations):

No reports were provided.

2023 NIA Goals: Discussion:

Fundraising, lawn mowing and donated items were discussed. Bell said discussions would continue at the Jan. 9, 2023 NIA meeting.

Citizen Advisory Council Report:

City-At-Large Member Bell gave the report. He said the CAC elected a new chair, Historic Old Town NIA Rep ShaMecha King Simms, and a new vice chair, outgoing chair and Valley Park NIA Rep. Susan McClacherty, for

2023. Bell said he nominated Simms after she had indicated to him that she might be interested in leading the body and that he was pleased with her election as it would mean more advocacy from the CAC on behalf of low- to moderate-income people and neighborhoods.

Old Business: 2023-2024 Neighborhood Infrastructure Projects: Alleys, Sidewalks:

Bell discussed information shared in the meeting packet.

Old Business: Private-Public Partnership with Stormont Vail, the City of Topeka and GraceMed:

Bell discussed information shared in the meeting packet.

Old Business: Lane Garden Update:

Bell discussed information shared in the meeting packet.

Old Business: Central Topeka Grocery Store Update:

Bell discussed information shared in the meeting packet.

Old Business: Property Maintenance Department Concerns:

Bell discussed information shared in the meeting packet.

Old Business: 2022 National Night Out, Basketball Tournament Reports:

Sandy Lassiter said the basketball tournament went well and that the food received and served through NNO went well.

Old Business: Fall Neighborhood Cleanup Report:

The cleanup occurred from Oct. 28-30. DeLapp said the dumpster at SW 12th and Clay was filled but the dumpster on SW Lane wasn't. He and Bell voiced concerns about placing a dumpster at the Lane location because of how the alley and the property interfere with access to it.

Old Business: International Academy Update:

Lassiter said things were going well.

New Business: 2022 Holiday Party:

The membership decided that there wasn't enough time to stage a December 2022 holiday party and to invest efforts at an event in the spring.

New Business: Hiring of New City Manager:

Bell discussed information shared in the meeting packet.

Kudos: New (and Newer) NIA Members/Meeting Attendee/Nextdoor Members:

Bell applauded and thanked the NIA's new participants through meeting attendance and other mechanisms. He also wished attendees a happy Thanksgiving.

Announcements and Adjournment: Allen moved adjournment. DeLapp seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.