

UMKC

Neighborhood Advisory Council

September 7, 2016

6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Facilitated by Bruce A Chladny

NAC Members in Attendance

Kathleen Arthur
Les Cline
Pat Gallagher
Douglas Ghertner
Renee Neades
Jason Pryor
Ben Randell
Terry Rodeghier

NAC Members Not in Attendance

Martha Hogerty
Navya Sane
Jim Wanser

UMKC Staff in Attendance

Chief Mike Bongartz
Curt Crespino
Dee Evans
James Huss (UMKC Homes)
Kim Johnson
Troy Lillebo
Sharon Lindenbaum
John Martellaro
Angela McDonald
Dr. Jeff Traiger

Public in Attendance

Dr. Ken Novak (Guest Speaker)
Ken Spare
Dr. Susan Wilson (Guest Speaker)

Meeting Convened at 6:00 pm

1. Welcome and Introductions

Facilitator Bruce Chladny welcomed the Neighborhood Advisory Council (NAC) members. Bruce then introduced Curt Crespino Vice Chancellor for University Advancement. Curt reminded the council that since the departure of Stancia Jenkins, they were working on a plan for staffing. The Community & Public Affairs area was consolidated and is now under the External Relations umbrella that is supervised by Assistant Vice Chancellor Troy Lillebo. This is a new way of doing business with our state, federal, city, county and neighborhoods. Now in one department, Dee Evans has taken on the role of government relations as well as staffing of the neighborhood. Dee will be the primary contact along with Troy. Bruce announced that the meeting was being recorded and NAC members will still receive written minutes. Bruce reminded participants of the ground rules and reviewed the Public Comment process and protocol. There will be a few more items added to the bottom of the agenda.

2. Consent Agenda

The Consent Agenda was discussed. Kathleen Arthur questioned the fact that there were no incidents on the police report and asked what is the criteria? What do you report? Chief Bongartz reported that the incident report covers occurrences south of 53rd to 55th from Troost to Oak. He stated that at the time of the agenda there were no incidents to report. However, he would report later in the meeting the most recent occurrences only within the UMKC jurisdiction. A motion to accept the consent agenda as presented was made by Les Cline. The motion was second by Renee Neades. The motion was approved and the consent agenda was accepted by the NAC.

3. Old Business

NAC Survey Results

Bruce presented the results of the NAC member survey completed in July. He highlighted that nine members of the NAC responded to the survey questions with the exception of Question 5 in which there were eight respondents. Overall the meetings are organized and run well. Bruce reviewed the narrative comments to Questions 9-11. He summarized the overall likes and dislikes into four points: 1) Be respectful of the process; 2) We will take public comments at the time stated on the agenda; 3) Start on time; and 4) responsibility of chairing and taking notes should be divided between two people. Bruce also reviewed narrative comments to Question 12: Suggestions for Future Agenda Items: 1) More information about how UMKC is connected in the community 2) Diversity updates 3) Student programming of interest to neighbors 4) Hear about other

local institutions that engage neighborhoods successfully. Les Cline and Renee Neades commented on what the survey response to diversity might mean to the council.

Student Representative

Jeff Traiger announced that Navya Sane, President of Student Government Association will be the student representative on NAC. She was unable to attend this evening and hopefully will be at the October meeting.

Update on 51st Oak

Bob Simmons reported that during the summer work was completed on the north side of 51st Street with sidewalks, landscape wells and paving in front of the Colonial Shops and Pizza 51. Thanks to all the retailers that were patient. The Brookside intersection paving was completed and final traffic signals and striping will occur in the fall. Bob indicated that now it should be easier for pedestrians and vehicular traffic since most of the construction is concentrated inside the fencing. Bob thanked the retail businesses for their patience and cooperation through the summer construction. Jason Pryor let the council members know that the retailers have been addressing any concerns with Van Trust and not calling UMKC for every issue. Jason would like assistance from UMKC to follow up with any problems with the City on the flooding concern. Bob stated he is aware, through communication with Van Trust, of the issues and will continue to pursue.

4. New Business

Division of Diversity and Inclusion at UMKC

Dr. Susan Wilson, Vice Chancellor Diversity and Inclusion introduced herself and presented the current process for the strategic planning and implementation of the diversity plan system wide. Susan stated that the Curator created nine initiatives and started a group to select a consulting firm for system wide audit. Once that audit is complete and the results are published an action plan will be put in place. Diversity efforts are not only in the office but across the campus in other departments. There is diversity training among faculty, staff and students. Faculty are leading a diversity initiative for the class room as well as a diversity plan that Deans are implementing. We have 75 diversity advocates that have been trained. They bring ideas to the diversity council and take ideas back into the campus community.

In addressing some of the issues at MU, the UMKC Chancellor and Provost had listening sessions here at UMKC and implemented some immediate solutions to address diversity on our campus. Training has started for the staff in Residential Life. UMKC Police have taken the diversity training as well as other staff across campus. Currently, we have a

consultant that has tailored a climate survey to the needs of UMKC. The climate survey will be conducted October 4 – November 4, 2016.

UMKC offers a Diversity Lecture Series each year, coming up is the Cesar Chavez and the MLK lectures. Kathleen asked if there was a website and if the lecture series are listed. UMKC has a great Diversity and Inclusion website where you can find a lot of information and all of the cultural events will be posted in the future.

No Violence Alliance (NoVA)

Dr. Ken Novak, Faculty research Professor from the Department of Criminal Justice introduced himself and presented the program No Violence Alliance. UMKC's role in NoVA is twofold, and is an example of community-engaged urban research. UMKC action researchers are embedded in the community. They are involved in both the day-to-day operation of NoVA, as well as The Kansas City No Violence Alliance (KC NoVA) a community collaboration among several organizations committed to reducing violent crime.

UMKC offers technical assistance, including translating theory into practice, and utilizing current criminological research on what works, what doesn't and what's promising to implement focused deterrence in Kansas City. We have worked with NoVA staff to create an implementation and operations manual. KC NoVA staff reached out to offenders at home (e.g., custom notifications), police stations, and probation and parole offices—wherever they might be found. We have a more traditional researcher role in evaluating the implementation and outcomes of NoVA's effort.

One key component of technical assistance is social network analysis. Dr. Fox has worked with and trained KCPD staff in how to use data to map social networks within Kansas City. The first principle is communicating directly with people on the streets. This communication involves identifying and putting the most at-risk individuals on notice that future violence by their group will not be tolerated - - either by the criminal justice system or the community. Communication includes offering supportive services to those who want and need it. Along with the promise of future enforcement for groups responsible for violence. Finally there is enforcement.

When a member of an identified group commits a homicide, agencies convene to perform a group enforcement on all members of that group. It relies on the principle of certainty punishment, rather than severity of punishment, as the most effective way to deter violence. Group members face prosecution at both the state and federal level. Also, group members experience enhanced supervision if they are on probation and parole. Kathleen Arthur questioned what can neighborhoods do to support this project? Ken stated that this project is more of what the police do and not the involvement of

the neighborhoods. It's more difficult for the community to support NoVA because NoVA is a project to support the community.

Public Comment

Ken Spare stated four areas of comment: **1)** in the 2017 budget only 40% of income is for maintenance repairs and there is a net income of \$1.5 million. What happened to the \$500,000 in capital maintenance and repair that is not in the budget and was the original agreement to continue after the five year period? He also expressed concern on the maintenance of the houses used as offices in the neighborhood by UMKC and the upkeep to those properties; **2)** Plaster Free Enterprise Center RFP was issued prior to neighborhood review as he believed was promised; **3)** comments that the survey was only distributed to the ten members of the council. **4)** Information is not getting out to the Rockhill Crest neighbors and it is hard to find the postings on Facebook. As a result, he didn't receive the agenda until today.

Renee Neades ask to review the Budget at the October meeting as she had some questions.

Announcements

Bob Simmons apologized for the lateness of the budget due to creating new financial formats to align better with the Trustees budget. Bob reported that although there is a delay of funds from the Governor's office, it was decided that the Plaster Free Enterprise Center RFP will still be issued and be ready for construction as soon as funds are restored. The NAC members received a copy of the RFP design and planning summary via email yesterday.

Bob suggested that since he would receive proposals on the Plaster Free Enterprise Center prior to the next meeting, that the October meeting time be utilized to review the proposals and that the 2017 UMKC Homes budget be reviewed at the November meeting. The NAC members agreed to both suggestions and Renee Neades agreed that her questions could be deferred to the November meeting.

Bob Simmons also confirmed, per the July 2016 meeting minutes, that the Plaster Free Enterprise Center RFP would be made available to the public when it was issued. The Plaster Free Enterprise Center RFP is too large to be emailed and hard copies are available at today's meeting.

Chief Bongartz clarified that the police reports are on the UMKC Police website with a link to the reports and a link will be on the NAC website.

Chief Bongartz reported that (2) incidents had occurred since the last report was issued. 1) August 30, 2016, 9:17 am, 5322 & 5408 Troost – Institutional Vandalism (Graffiti) – Graffiti spray painted on building and trash dumpster - Under investigation. 2) August 26, 2016, 3:29 pm, 5439 Harrison – Complaints on residents of 5441 Harrison – Parking illegally in shared driveway and missing pet’s outside water bowl. Residents of 5441 Harrison were given warnings about complaints. Incident referred to real-estate office.

Dee Evans reported that the website is under construction and she is meeting with the communications department to review its content and design. The advisory council will have the opportunity to beta test the site before it goes live. The website will ensure that documents are posted and accessible. Neighborhood resource links will also be included. Bruce added that there would be a “Questions” button that can be used to submit questions or suggestions to UMKC via the site.

Next meeting is Wednesday, October 5, 2016

Meeting adjourned 7:17 pm

Submitted by Dee Evans