

**UMKC**  
**Neighborhood Advisory Council**  
**October 4, 2017**  
**6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.**  
**Facilitated by Dee Evans**

**NAC Members in Attendance**

Les Cline  
Pat Gallagher  
Doug Ghertner  
Martha Hogerty  
Renee Neades  
Jason Pryor  
Ben Randell

**NAC Members Not in Attendance**

Terry Rodeghier  
Jim Wanser

**UMKC Staff in Attendance**

Michael Bongartz  
Dee Evans  
Sharon Lindenbaum  
Angela McDonald  
Bob Simmons  
Dr. Jeff Traiger

**Public in Attendance**

Trace Allison, UMKC Homes  
Ken Spare, Rockhill Crest

**Guest in Attendance**

Petra Kralickova Toy Miniature Museum  
Susan Wilson, VC Office of Diversity & Inclusion

Meeting Convened at 6:01 pm

## **1. Welcome and Introductions**

At 6:01pm on Wednesday, October 4, 2017 Dee Evans, UMKC, welcomed all guests to the UMKC Neighborhood Advisory Council (NAC) bi-monthly meeting. Dee reminded attendees to sign the sign-in sheets and review the posted ground rules and public meeting process at the back of the room. She invited everyone in attendance to introduce themselves.

## **2. Consent Agenda**

With no other discussion, Ben Randall made a motion to accept the Consent Agenda as presented. Pat Gallagher second the motion. The motion to accept the Consent Agenda as presented passed unanimously.

## **3. Guest Speaker Petra Kralickova, Executive Director of the Toy Miniature Museum**

Petra, briefly reviewed the rich history of the museum, which opened in 1982. At that time, the museum featured the collections of Mary Harris Francis and Barbara Marshall. Over thirty years the museum has grown from 7,000 square feet to 33,000 square feet. During the same period, the collection grew to over 72,000 objects. The capital campaign raised \$10.3 million and in August 2015, the museum reopened with new exhibits and interactives featuring the world's largest collection of fine scale miniatures and one of the nation's largest collections of antique toys. Current programming includes the Marble Tournament and Free Day, Little Adventures and Farewell Summer Free Day.

The museum is currently applying for the Neighborhood Tourism Development Grant through the City. The grant provides support to non-profit organizations to help promote programs through cultural, social, ethnic, historic, educational and recreational activities. Petra reached out to neighborhood associations and UMKC for ideals for collaboration opportunities. She requested support of the NAC members from their respective neighborhoods.

## **4. Guest Speaker Susan Wilson, VC Diversity and Inclusion**

Susan, on behalf of Interim Chancellor Barbara Bichelmeyer shared information of the organizational changes and the Chancellor search. Leo Morton was named Chancellor Emeritus and remains active with UMKC. Barbara Bichelmeyer is now serving two roles, as Provost and Interim Chancellor. A search committee has been named. The kick off for the search will began October 9 with town hall meetings for the university community. (Students, Faculty & Staff) It is moving on an aggressive timeline and hoping to have someone named by January.

A new value and vision for the campus community was created, which centered on students. This includes our key values of learning, diversity, integrity, accountability, respect and collaboration. Some other highlights of the statement include: Pursue our

own growth, encourage our students, and support all engaged in learning, discovery, research, and service. Act with honesty, integrity, transparency, and accountability for our decisions and actions. This was a very robust process and was vetted by student, faculty and staff.

The other changes include a new strategic plan President Choi has request from each campus. Several committees have been established to start this process.

Susan reported that members might remember that two years ago the process started to design a climate survey. The instrument was completed; however, it was delayed so it could be designed for all (4) campuses. We now have our results. The survey was comprehensive and produced a wide array of findings - some welcome, and some identifying areas of concern that need to be addressed.

The overall strengths and successes revealed:

- 84% of Student and Faculty respondents were comfortable with the classroom climate
- 86% of Staff respondents felt that supervisors provided adequate support for them to manage work-life balance
- 79% of respondents were comfortable with the overall campus climate
- 77% of Student respondents felt valued by faculty in the classroom

Our overall Challenges and Opportunities for improvement revealed:

- 20% **observed** exclusionary conduct within the last year at UMKC
  - (This may not seem to be high percentage, but any amount is too much in our view)
- 17% **personally experienced** exclusionary conduct with the last year at UMKC
- Only 30% of Staff respondents felt staff opinions were valued by UMKC faculty
  - (This is a common finding among universities, where staff feels they get less attention than faculty and students)
- 53% of Faculty and 54% of Staff respondents seriously considered leaving UMKC
  - (Drilling down in the responses this was due to low pay and no opportunity for advancement)

Chancellor's Take-Aways:

- A need to address the concerns of people who experience exclusionary behavior
- A need to improve students' sense of belonging and social life
- A need to find ways for staff to voice their concerns and gain professional opportunities

Next steps:

Chancellors Diversity Council has been charges to develop an action plan. In addition, focus groups would be held to have a clear sense of what is happening. For example. What do students mean about sense of belonging?

Members questioned, what percentage of faculty are adjunct. Susan reported that most of the adjunct faculty results were favorable and these were results from tenured faculty and tenured track faculty.

In general, we ranked similarly to other peer institution. Members questioned the content of the KC Star article and Susan's opinion of the article. Susan reported that the article was unbalanced and it focused on the negative at the front. These results will serve as in important guide for campus leadership as we move forward to address people's concerns while building on our strengths.

## **5. Old Business**

5300 and 5400 Troost Avenue Development Update

Bob gave a brief overview of the (2) proposals that were still in the selection process. CBC (CarrBaierCrandall/EPC and Troost Worthy have both been ask to refine their proposal. He anticipates sharing a decision and start the scheduling process for community engagement. Bob has shared the developer proposals with other neighborhoods through the Rockhurst Neighborhood Committee, which includes Troostwood leadership.

Jason expressed concern of the debris on 51<sup>st</sup> street left by workers on the Wholefoods project. Bob will follow up with Van Trust and address the issue.

## **6. New Business.**

Doug Ghertner made a motion for the NAC members to send letter of support for the Museum's application. Martha Hogerty second. The motion passed unanimously. Jason, advises that the stand alone event/s should be focus of recommendation and not to offset any operating cost. He suggest a letter from each neighborhood or homes association would be favorable. Bob Simmons will draft a template support letter and send it to the members for completion.

## **Announcements**

### **Public Comments**

Ken Spare, stated that the meeting minutes and agenda were not posted on the website (5) days prior to the meeting. Dee noted the comment. She will follow up. Ken expressed concern of the NAC membership process. Dee confirmed that the current members have committed to remaining on the council for an additional year in

order to formalize a selection process. The reformation of the council did not include an annual selection process.

Ken also commented on the improvements in the neighborhood and commended Cohen-Esrey for doing a great job.

No further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm.

Submitted by Dee Evans