



Neighborhood Advisory Council

Wednesday, September 14, 2022

6:00-7:30 PM

Meeting Notes

NAC Members In Attendance: Pat Gallagher, Alicia Douglas, Doug Ghertner, Laura Burkhalter, Chase Johnson, Jan Bentley

UMKC Staff in Attendance: Nate Addington, Troy Lillebo, Bill Haverly, Sean Reeder, Michele Smith, Anthony Maly, Taylor Blackmon, Andre Logan, Michael Bongartz

Guests in Attendance: Ken Spare, Gary Jones, Katherine Meyer, Babette Macy, Sharon Lindenbaum, Galen Mussman, Katherine Meyer, Sharon Lindenbaum, Vincent Gauthier

Welcome/Introductions

Sean Reeder

- Sean is UMKC's new Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administration. Oversight of grounds and facilities are one of many items in his portfolio of responsibilities. He comes from Eastern Illinois University. His areas of oversight include Facilities/Operations Management and Grounds, University Police, and all business functions.

Kate Smith

- Kate has been appointed by Chancellor Agrawal to Represent the Troostwood neighborhood on the NAC. She will join our February appointees for a term ending in December 2023. The Troostwood seat has been vacant for some time, and I am thrilled to welcome the neighborhood back to our group. Kate is a six-year resident of Troostwood and serves on the Leadership Team for their Neighborhood Association. She was also recently accepted into the next cohort of the Neighborhood Leadership Program with UMKC's Center for Neighborhoods. When not advocating on behalf of her neighborhood, she serves as the Organizations and Communities Manager for the National Genealogical Society.

Guest Speakers

- Babette Macy, KCUR Representative
 - KCUR is looking to build a new building and move from their current home in 4747 Troost. They recently received permission from the Board of Curators and are looking at the property on Troost between 53rd and 54th. To accomplish this they will begin a capital campaign. They are very early in this process and plan to solicit community feedback along the way. Babette will send updates and opportunities for input to Nate to share with NAC members.
- Gary Jones Jr, Community Engagement Coordinator, KCMO Office of Civic Engagement
 - Ordinance 210140 called for the creation for the Office of Citizen Engagement, which is designed to be a one-stop-shop for the citizens of Kansas City and let them cut through the red tape to access services. They have oversight on the 311 Call Center, Community Action Network (CAN) centers and Community Engagement University. The can connect neighborhoods to Grants and programming, Department Services, and issues around City Charter, Ordinances, and Resolutions. The CAN centers will move the physical offices of certain offices, such as codes directly into neighborhoods across the city. Gary's Office has contracted with a web developed to update the list of elected/appointed neighborhood leaders. They hope to have that resources running within 6 months. Community Engagement University is a new program designed to help people understand how local government works.

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- Katherine Meyer, KC Streetcar Updates (5 Minutes)
 - The retaining walls and utility work along the Trolley Trail is nearly complete with all work expected to be done in Mid October. Trail Concrete, fencing, and anti-graffiti coating and staining still need to be installed. Farther North, Grand Blvd is currently closed for track construction. As of August 19th 14% of track has been installed The next “Main Street Meet Up is scheduled for 9/28 at Canary (2825 Main). To stay informed visit buildkcstreetcar.com you can contact them with questions or concerns at ingo@buildkcstreetcar.com or call the hotline at 816-337-1013
- Anthony Maly and Taylor Blackmon, Kangaroo Pantry and the Raj Bala Agrawal CARE Center (10 Minutes)
 - Taylor shared that 52% of college students use food pantries and 24% of students are currently experiencing food insecurity. A local study showed that 29% of students are currently experiencing food insecurity. The Care Center works to address the students basic needs of food and safe housing the Pantry had 345 visits in 2019 and in 2021, that number rose to over 3,400. In May the Care center opened in a central local on campus in the Student Union. Local individuals and organizations are encouraged to donate food, there will also be a fundraising campaign. If you have interest in this, please reach out directly to Taylor or Anthony or via the website.
- Vincent Gauthier, JPll Rezoning,
 - The owners of the JPll Commons building located 5220 Troost are currently trying to rezone the property in anticipation of their historic tax credits expiring next year. The owners have requested to change from an R1.5 (residential) to an B1 classification (Commercial). No plan for the property, outside of the zoning change, has been submitted, which is unusual. UMKC, Rockhurst, 49/63, Rockhill Crest and St. Francis Xavier issues statements to the city requesting that a plan be included with the zoning request. In response, the city has asked those organizations to provide desired zoning restrictions for the property. This is not a common practice. If you have suggestions of what you would or would not like to see in the property we encourage you to share it with one of those four organizations. The next hearing is scheduled for Tuesday October 4th. Ken Spare has prepared a spreadsheet that demonstrates the differences between the two zoning categories and it will be uploaded along side the 2013 SFX Vision Document. The previous hearing can be viewed here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tCvzvIDgHOA>

University Updates (15)

- Community Engagement Updates
 - Neighborhood Communication
 - Nate has visited many of the NAC neighborhood association meetings over the last few months and received lots of feedback on the questions he has asked about neighborhood communication preferences. The only consensus is that there is no consensus. Some prefer digital, some hard copies mailed directly to the house. Some want more social, some less. In response to your feedback, UMKC worked with KCMO Neighborhood Department to secure a mailing address for every house in the 9 neighborhoods surrounding campus. UMKC will do a once-a-year hard mailing, likely around engagement month. That mailing will include an QR code that will allow neighbors to sign up for a digital newsletter that will be released 4-6 times a year. Nate would appreciate any neighborhood assistance in sharing that QR code via your social media and email listservs when it is ready.
 - UMKC Engagement Month
 - This October is the third annual UMKC Engagement Month. A full list of programs can be found at: <https://community.umkc.edu/themes/engagement-month>
- NAC Seats opening after December meeting:

Crestwood	Rockhill Homes	Southmoreland
Troost Plateau	At Large, Business	At Large, Rockhurst

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- We've worked over the last few years to spread our term rotations so that we have 6 seats with terms ending each year. We've also worked to simplify our application process. Notifications of terms ending will be sent on December 1 to the NAC member and their neighborhood president. Applications will be due in January, with announcements happening before February 8th. We encourage all current members to reapply, but will also be accepting applications for new members. All applications will be reviewed by UMKC staff and presented to Chancellor Agarwal who will make the final decision and appointment.
- Facilities Updates (10)
 - Bill thanks those that participated in the opening of the Bloch School. The park/gardens will be finished this fall. Bill also encouraged our neighbors to visit campus soon. A lot of updates were made to standard facilities over the summer. For those asking about today's closing of Cherry Street, it was a watermain break, unrelated to UMKC.
 - Troy also shared that Linda Hall Library has signed off on the closure of 51st street between Cherry and Rockhill. The next step will be working with the city on traffic changes that will need to occur. A plan for what the space will look like will be presented at the December Meeting.

Standard Reports- Housing and Police Reports provided in separate documents

- No Comments

Neighborhood Announcements/Events

- The Rockhurst Community Center will be closing in September to become a new center for Faith and Justice. The space will include community space and a new chapel. It is scheduled to open next August. Organizations that have used the space in the past are welcome to contact Alicia for assistance in finding alternate locations.
- The Inauguration of Sandy Cassady is scheduled for Friday November 11th and the public is invited to participate in those events.
- Laura shared that she is working on a taskforce looking at illegal short-term rentals in midtown. If interested, please contact her.
- Ken shared that illegal parking on Holmes just south of campus has greatly reduced and thanked Nate and Troy for their efforts on that.

Public Comments

Adjourn

Looking Ahead:

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|--------------------------------|----------------------------|
| ● December 1, 2022, | NAC Applications Available |
| ● December 14, 2022, 6:00-7:30 | NAC Quarterly Meeting |
| ● January 9, 2023, | NAC Applications Due |
| ● February 8, 2023, | NAC Appointments Announced |
| ● March 8, 2023, | NAC Quarterly Meeting |

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