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Published by the City of Knoxville’s Office of Neighborhoods to report news important to Knoxville’s residential neighborhoods. Include your neighborhood-related event or meeting in this space. Call 215-4382. News deadline: 5 p.m. Mondays.

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1. Tonight: Broadway Corridor Enhancement Plan

The East Tennessee Community Design Center and Broadway Corridor Task Force this evening will unveil the results of a year-long effort to imagine how the Broadway Corridor might look as a vibrant, pedestrian-friendly center of community life and commerce in North Knoxville.

North Broadway between East Fifth Avenue and I-640 has been the focus of the Task Force, which is composed of six neighborhood organizations, the North Knoxville Business & Professional Association, and local businesses.

To support the group’s effort, the City’s Community Development Department retained the Design Center to conduct a design workshop last November and then work with volunteer architects to address the challenges and opportunities that exist on the corridor.

After many months of communicating with Task Force members and businesses up and down Broadway, the Design Center is now ready to present its enhancement plan to the public.

The Nov. 1 meeting will be held at St. James Episcopal Church, 1101 North Broadway. Doors (near the rear of the church) will open at 5:15 p.m. The meeting will begin at 5:30 p.m. and last approximately 75 minutes. Mayor Madeline Rogero will be on hand to help celebrate the vision that has been created.

The Broadway Corridor Task Force meets from 5-6 p.m. on the fourth Monday of each month at KCDC (Knoxville’s Community Development Corp.) at 901 Broadway. The
member neighborhood groups are located in the Belle Morris, Edgewood Park, Fairmont Emoriland, Fourth & Gill, Oakwood Lincoln Park, and Old North neighborhoods.

2. How to Lead a Successful Neighborhood Meeting

Rightly or wrongly, neighborhood organizations are often judged by how well their meetings are run.

Neighbors visiting a neighborhood meeting for the first time might never return if the meeting starts late, has no discernible agenda, is dominated by one or two individuals, descends into quarrels, or seems to get nothing done.

On the other hand, anyone can learn the skills and techniques needed to lead meetings that start and end on time, involve everyone in the room, follow a well-planned agenda, treat differing opinions with respect, and end with a sense of accomplishment.

“How to Lead a Successful Neighborhood Meeting” is the topic for the next session of a monthly series of workshops offered by the Office of Neighborhoods. This workshop will be led by David Massey and Debbie Sharp.

The workshop will be held on Thursday evening, Nov. 10, at United Way, 1301 Hannah Avenue. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. The session will begin promptly at 6 p.m. and end no later than 8 p.m. Snacks will be provided. Bring your own water bottle.

Seating is limited. If you plan to attend, please notify us at dmassey@knoxvilletn.gov or 865-215-3232.

The Dec. 8 workshop will focus on recruiting and retaining members in a neighborhood organization.

3. Neighborhood Working Group Meets Thursday

The Neighborhood Working Group on Blighted Properties meets at 5:15 p.m. this coming Thursday, Nov. 3, at the Cansler YMCA, 616 Jessamine Street.

This month’s topic will be short presentations by those who attended a recent national conference on strategies for reclaiming abandoned, blighted and vacant properties. All are welcome to attend and learn more about the Working Group.

For more, contact David Massey at 215-3232 or dmassey@knoxvilletn.gov.

4. NAC to Discuss How to Improve Knox County Schools

A representative of Great Schools Partnership (GSP) will attend this month’s meeting of the Neighborhood Advisory Council to get the neighborhood perspective on what it will take to make Knox County’s schools the best in the nation.
Schools are often seen as a key determinant of the quality of life in a neighborhood, so GSP’s Bridget Waller is starting with the Advisory Council in her efforts to form a focus group of stakeholders interested in improving the school system.

NAC will meet at 4:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 9, at the Cansler YMCA, 616 Jessamine St. All are invited. Other topics will be discussed, including the upcoming changes in garbage pick-up and the March 11 Neighborhood Conference.

The NAC, appointed by the Mayor, meets on the second Wednesday of each month (except December) to discuss topics that affect Knoxville’s residential neighborhoods. For more, contact Debbie Sharp at 215-4382 or dsharp@knoxvilletn.gov.

5. Last Call for Comments on Regulating Short-Term Rentals

The City of Knoxville is asking for one last round of comments on its proposal to permit and regulate short-term rentals, which include rentals booked through online platforms such as Airbnb and Vacation Rentals By Owner.

Final comments will be accepted through close of business this coming Friday, Nov. 4. Comments can be accepted via STRS@knoxvilletn.gov. Those who lack email can phone comments to 215-3232. For more on this issue, and the city’s current thinking on regulating short-term rentals, see this city web page.

Even after this week, there will be additional opportunity for public comment when the proposed ordinance goes through the normal vetting process at the Metropolitan Planning Commission and Knoxville City Council.

6. Changes Coming to Garbage Pick-Up

The Solid Waste Division of the City of Knoxville’s Public Service Department will roll out a new value-added service for garbage pick-up beginning next month.

Between Dec. 1 and Dec. 23, the City will deliver a 95-gallon garbage cart to each Knoxville City household living in single family, duplex, tri-plex and four-plex housing. Residents will be expected to use these new city-owned garbage carts beginning the first week of January.

Why such a large container? Research shows that 95 gallons of garbage is what the average Knoxville household generates. In addition, use of the larger carts results in more efficient collection and lower costs to taxpayers. Moreover, the carts offer more protection from animals and are less likely to spill garbage into streets and alleys. The carts also present a better appearance on the street during collection days.

After December, household garbage should be confined to the 95-gallon container. There will be two “amnesty” days per year, one around the holidays and one in the spring, when extra garbage bags and containers will be accepted.

Homeowners concerned that their garbage will exceed the 95-gallon container will be encouraged to call 311 for a recycling bin. Due to the savings in the Waste
Connections contract, the City will now be able to expand the curbside recycling program to more homes.

Come January, when the 95-gallon carts are required, the SWD will have a list of suggestions for what to do with old garbage cans. For example, they could be used to store bird seed or compost, or donated to someone in the county.

There will be no change to the collection of bulky waste, which is defined as household items that cannot be placed in a garbage can because of size, shape or weight. This includes appliances, furniture, tires, carpet that is bundled and tied in 2 foot diameter by 4 foot to 6 foot length sections, and other items that do not fit into the cart. Construction debris and building materials are not allowed. Up to five bulky waste items can be set out for collection on the same day as regular household garbage collection.

Neighborhood groups can provide more detail to their neighbors by scheduling an SWD speaker at your next meeting. Contact Rachel Butzler at rbutzler@knoxvilletn.gov or 215-2053.

7. Knoxville Neighborhoods Calendar (clickable to online calendar)

Call 215-4382 to include your neighborhood event or meeting in this Google calendar.

If you are a person with a disability who requires an accommodation in order to attend a City of Knoxville public meeting, please contact Stephanie Brewer Cook at scook@knoxvilletn.gov or 215-2034 no less than 72 hours prior to the meeting you wish to attend. For an English interpreter, contact David Massey at 215-3232 or dmassey@knoxvilletn.gov.

Other Calendars
Here are several other online calendars that cover events outside of the neighborhood realm:

- Arts & Culture Alliance (There’s More to Knoxville)
- Arts & Fine Crafts Center Classes (City of Knoxville)
- Birdhouse Community Center
- City of Knoxville General Calendar
- Knoxville Mercury (weekly community paper)

About This Newsletter
** This Advisory is produced on most Tuesdays of the year.
** Ideas and contributions are welcome. We reserve the right to edit submissions.
** Deadline for news & calendar items: 5 p.m. Mondays
** May be copied and forwarded via neighborhood e-mail lists and newsletters.
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