Knoxville Neighborhood Advisory – Vol. 12, No. 29 – Tuesday, August 13, 2019

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Published by the City of Knoxville’s Office of Neighborhoods, we report news important to Knoxville’s residential neighborhoods. Include your neighborhood-related event or meeting in this space. Call 215-3232. News deadline: 12 noon on Fridays.

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1. Early Voting Continues

As of Monday, Aug. 12, almost 3,000 people have participated in early voting. Early voting continues on through Aug. 22. If you want to have your voice heard in Knoxville, please plan to vote early or on Election Day, Tuesday, Aug. 27.

For more information about the early voting sites, see the Knox County Election Commission’s website. For more information about the candidates, visit Go Vote! Knoxville.

2. OON Welcomes Bailey Walker

The Office of Neighborhoods (OON) is excited to welcome Bailey Walker to our team!

Bailey will serve a year-term in the OON as an AmeriCorps VISTS Member through the CAC AmeriCorps program, assisting the OON with capacity building and economic opportunity initiatives.

A Maryville native, Bailey completed her bachelor degree at the University of Tennessee in Sociology. Bailey has a background in community engagement, spending time as a volunteer at Beardsley Community Farm and Blount Habitat for Humanity, and working closely with Centro Hispano de East TN as part of a participatory research study.
Through her time at the OON, she hopes to both expand on her practical experience and job growth, while also engaging with the community on a macro-level to work toward “implementing long-term systematic change.”

Bailey has a strong commitment to equity and growing a community that promotes health and well-being to all people. In her AmeriCorps application she writes, “I want to become a part of this community of people who envision a better, more equitable world.”

Please give Bailey a warm welcome. She will be visiting neighborhoods, planning workshops, and helping build capacity with neighborhoods around Knoxville. Please join us on Aug. 29, for a meet and greet with Bailey. More information will follow about the meet and greet.

3. North Knoxville Adds New Neighborhood Organization

Roseberry City Connection Community Organization (RCCCO) has been working to revive a historic area of Lincoln Park. Sitting at the south side base of Sharp’s Ridge, RCCCO incorporates a small area around Chickamauga Ave and Hiawassee Ave. near Bruhin Rd. Jean Davis-James has worked with the local residents to create an organization, draft bylaws, and hold a vote for the group’s first board.

Board members are: Jean Davis-James, president; Larrissa Henderson, vice president; Carina Brown, treasurer; Sharlene Jackson, secretary; and Sylvia Brown, assistant secretary.

The group is planning an event for Saturday, Sept. 14, to celebrate their organization and the history of the area. More information will be available about the event in the coming weeks.

4. Edgewood Park Sponsors Final Free Concert of 2019

Grab your lawn chair and blanket and head down to Edgewood Park at 3109 Ocoee Trail Thursday, Aug. 15, from 6:30-8:30 p.m. for a free, family-friendly, concert!

Join the Edgewood Park Neighborhood Association (EPNA) for the final Third Thursday in Edgewood Park of the summer!

Come listen to Wild Blue Yonder, an Appalachian folk, alt-country, gospel, and Celtic band, while enjoying hot dogs, watermelon, and other snacks provided by EPNA.

All are welcome! Spread the word and enjoy the final Third Thursday concert of the summer!

5. City Seeks Candidates for Neighborhood Advisory Council

Are you an advocate for your neighborhood -- and neighborhoods in general? Would you like to learn more about how city government works? Do you enjoy discussing public policy, particularly with regard to neighborhoods? Would you like to work with other neighborhood leaders on neighborhood issues?
If you answered YES to these questions, then please consider serving on the Mayor’s Neighborhood Advisory Council (NAC).

The NAC meets at 4:30 p.m. on the second Wednesday of each month to discuss Knoxville’s residential neighborhoods and provide the city with candid viewpoints on how they can best be maintained, supported, improved, rejuvenated and sustained.

NAC consists of neighborhood leaders and activists with a total of 15 seats --- two in each of the six City Council districts and three at-large. Terms are set for three years, and members may serve up to two full terms (six years). Members wishing to serve a second three-year term must reapply.

The terms of five of the 15 seats expire this December. These seats, current occupants and general territory are:

*** Seat 1-A (Danny Gray) – Fort Sanders and South Knoxville
*** Seat 2-A (Donnie Ernst) – West Knoxville
*** Seat 3-B (Anna Compton) – North-West Knoxville
*** Seat 6-B (Terrell Patrick) – Downtown and East Knoxville
*** At Large Seat B (Travetta Johnson) – citywide

To be appointed by the Mayor to a numbered seat, you must live in that City Council district. For example, the person appointed to Seat 3-B must be a resident in the third City Council district. These positions will begin in Jan. 2020 and run through Dec. 2022.

If you are interested in serving, please fill out and submit an application, located online here and return it to Debbie Sharp at dsharp@knoxvilletn.gov or P.O. Box 1631, Knoxville, TN, 37901. Call the Office of Neighborhoods at 215-3232 to have a hard copy mailed to you or for more information about the positions.

To view the exact boundaries of the City Council districts, browse KGIS’s website and then click on Maps, Political District Maps, and City Council. You can also input your own address to find out which political districts you live in.

6. BZA and HZC to Meet on Aug. 15

The City of Knoxville Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA) and Historic Zoning Commission (HZC) will both meet on Thursday, Aug. 15, in the City County Building Small Assembly Room, 400 Main St.

The HZC will convene at 8:30 a.m. to discuss six properties in the Fourth and Gill, Ft. Sanders, and Market Square areas. Properties include: 810 Deery St., 707 Luttrell St., 610 Caswell Ave., 1614 Forest Ave., 1616 Forest Ave., and 31 Market Square.

The HZC is a local commission, appointed by both the City and County Mayors, responsible for reviewing applications to alter, demolish, or move properties within historic overlay areas. The commission is also charged with reviewing new construction overlay districts, overseeing historic identification and designation of properties, and reviewing proposed historic National Register nominations.
To learn more about the HZC visit their webpage, and to review the agenda click this link.

The BZA will meet at 4 p.m., to discuss 6 properties up for consideration.

Addresses on the agenda include 2804/2806 Painter Ave., 124 Perimeter Park Rd. (Ste. 101,102,&103), 2301 E. Fifth Ave., 916 Phillips Ave., 4524 Old Kingston Pike, and 601 Sharps Ridge Memorial Park. To view the agenda, click here.

BZA hears appeals on denied building permits. Applicants whose requests have been denied by the City's Plans Review and Inspections Department can request a variance from the Zoning Code requirements or appeal an administrative official's interpretation of the Zoning Code to the BZA.

The five BZA members, nominated by the Mayor and confirmed by City Council, listen to zoning appeals the third Thursday of each month. Applications for appeal are typically due the Monday prior to the BZA meeting, the third Monday of the month.

The board meets prior to the 4 p.m. meeting, in the City County Building, Room 511 at 3 p.m. to discuss the pre-agenda.

Keep up with how the BZA might impact your neighborhood. Watch for signs indicating a pending decision on a particular piece of property in your area. Look for signs with the word “variance,” these are good indicators of BZA items. Most other signs indicate changes under review by Knoxville-Knox County Planning review. Learn more about Planning notification signs by following the link.

If your group would like to request and study the paperwork on a particular appeal, decide whether to take a position on the appeal, and then attend the BZA meeting to voice the group’s support or objections, call the Plans Review & Inspections Department at 215-3669. Your group can also request a postponement to allow time to meet with the applicant.

Decisions of the BZA can be appealed within 15 days of the BZA decision to Knoxville City Council. Appeals of a City Council decision are made to Chancery Court within 60 days of the City Council decision.

For more information on the BZA, visit City of Knoxville Board of Zoning Appeals.

7. Knoxville Transfer Station to Increase Rates

Effective Sept. 1, rates for disposal of solid waste materials at the Transfer Station will increase from $50 per ton to $60 per ton. Shingles or mixed loads that contain shingles will increase from $60 per ton to $70 per ton.

The Transfer Station, located at 1033 Elm St., collects a wide variety of solid waste materials, including tires, building materials, construction/demolition debris, household trash and other materials not permitted in Waste Connections' daily garbage collections.

About 700 tons per week – or nearly 37,000 tons per year – are collected at the Transfer Station.
To put this in perspective, the Transfer Station collects enough solid waste each year to equal the weight of 185 blue whales, the largest mammal on earth.

The efficient drive-through facility allows residents, contractors, and other customers to easily use the facility for disposal of solid waste materials.

The City of Knoxville Transfer Station will maintain its current schedule:

Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays: 7 a.m. to 4 p.m.;
Wednesdays: 7 a.m. to noon;
Saturdays: 8 a.m. to noon (open until 1 p.m. on Free-for-City-Residents Day);
Sundays: closed

The first Saturday of each month (excluding holidays) is Free-for-City-Residents Day at the Transfer Station. No non-city residents or commercial businesses may use the facility, and no shingles are accepted on these days.

Those using the Transfer Station must drive across the scales to weigh the refuse being discarded, and smoking is prohibited. For more information on the City Transfer Station, please call 311 or visit their website.

8. Knoxville Neighborhoods Calendar (click link for online calendar)

Call 215-3232 to include your neighborhood event or meeting in this Google calendar.

If you are a person with a disability who requires an accommodation 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 before the meeting you wish to attend. For an English interpreter, contact Title VI Coordinator Tatia M. Harris at 215-2831.

Other Calendars
Additional online calendars that cover events outside the neighborhood realm include:

- Arts & Culture Alliance (There's More to Knoxville)
- Arts & Fine Crafts Center Classes (City of Knoxville)
- City of Knoxville General Calendar

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 email lists and newsletters.
** See past issues at our website: http://www.knoxvilletn.gov/neighborhoods
** Don't have internet access? Call 215-4382 if you need a copy of a particular document.