

Knoxville Neighborhood Advisory #158 – January 20, 2012

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** This Advisory is produced on most Fridays of the year.

** Ideas and contributions are welcome. Call 215-3232.

** May be copied and forwarded via neighborhood e-mail lists and newsletters.

** See past issues at our Website: www.cityofknoxville.org/neighborhoods

** Don't have Internet access? Call 215-3232 if you need a copy of a particular document.

** Published by Office of Neighborhoods, Community Development Dept., City of Knoxville.

1. Lonsdale Group Schedules Neighborhood Cleanup

Heart of Lonsdale --- a grassroots neighborhood association --- has scheduled a neighborhood cleanup event this weekend with the help of the City of Knoxville's Public Service Department and TeamVOLS.

Neighbors and other volunteers will gather at 9:30 a.m. tomorrow (Saturday, Jan. 21) at the gazebo at Sam E. Hill School on Delaware Avenue. Volunteers will include University of Tennessee athletes and other students from TeamVOLS, a community service program operated by the university. The city provided a courtesy box for the disposal of trash collected by the effort.

To apply for assistance from TeamVOLS, visit <http://activities.utk.edu/teamvols/tvolsprograms> or call the Student Activities Office at 974-5455.

2. South Woodlawn Launches Neighborhood Newsletter

South Woodlawn Neighborhood Association (SWNA) has launched a quarterly newsletter containing several features that will help the organization connect with neighborhood residents.

First, the newsletter promotes the organization. It contains an "About SWNA" article that explains the group's mission.

Second, SWNA uses the newsletter to attract residents to the group's bi-monthly membership meetings. The current issue reports that PlanET --- the five-county effort to engage citizens in developing a blueprint for progress in housing, transportation and other challenges --- will be the focus of its January meeting at 7 p.m. this coming Monday evening, Jan. 23, at Woodlawn Christian Church. Details about the time, date and place are prominently displayed. The dates and program highlights of future meetings are also listed.

Third, via its newsletter, the organization is addressing neighborhood concerns. For example, the agenda for the January meeting will include the subject of sidewalks and the organization's efforts to seek sidewalks on the neighborhood's busiest streets.

Fourth, the organization's leaders are making themselves and the organization itself accessible to their neighbors. Names of the officers and board members are listed. The organization's phone number, Website and email address are posted at the bottom of all four pages of the newsletter. Most importantly, the newsletter notes that the group's "board of governors" is elected annually for a one-year term and invites interested neighbors to contact the election committee chair.

Fifth, the newsletter is involving neighbors in the newsletter itself. For now, the newsletter is named "Newsletter" --- because the organization is asking neighbors to help name it by submitting their ideas. Moreover, residents are invited to share a story or item for the next issue. Names of contributors are listed in each edition.

Sixth, the organization is strengthening its ties to nearby businesses by featuring a business in each issue.

Finally, although the organization operates a group e-mail list and maintains an active and information-packed Website, it makes the organization accessible to everyone, even those without Internet access, by producing the newsletter in hard-copy format and distributing it door to door throughout the neighborhood.

Visit www.swna-knox.org to see a copy of the first two issues of the SWNA newsletter.

3. Exercise Your Neighborhood, Achieve Lasting Benefits

Here's an opportunity for your neighborhood group to organize an activity that will lead to closer ties among neighbors.

For the second year running, the Knox County Health Dept. is organizing the Neighborhood Walking Group Program, the goal of which is simple: exercise.

The steps for getting organized are also simple:

- ** Gather together 15 or fewer people and choose a group leader.
- ** Group leaders attend an information session at noon on Tuesday, Feb. 14, in the auditorium of the Knox County Health Department, 140 Dameron Avenue. Lunch is free. (Please RSVP by Feb. 7. Call 215-5610 or write rachelm.foster@knoxcounty.org.)
- ** Get ready for eight weeks of walking and fun in March and April.

All participants will receive a pedometer, flasher light, lanyard, T-shirt and reusable shopping bag.

First, second and third place prizes will be awarded to individuals for the most steps and to individuals for the most minutes exercised. Prizes will also be awarded for the teams that took the most steps. Group leaders will also be awarded for their efforts.

Several neighborhood groups participated last year. Think about asking neighbors who normally don't take a leadership role to organize groups in different parts of your neighborhood. The results will be long-lasting, and not just for heart muscles. Strong neighborhood associations are built on strong relationships among neighbors.

The KCHD program is funded under an agreement with the Tennessee Dept. of Health.

4. Neighborhoods USA Seeks Applications for 2012 Awards

Has your neighborhood organization completed a project or achieved an especially important milestone that you would like to showcase, not just in Knoxville, but also nationwide?

Neighborhoods USA --- the nation's premier nonprofit organization committed to building and strengthening neighborhoods --- is accepting applications for its 2012 awards, which will recognize the outstanding work of neighborhood organizations and volunteers from all across the United States.

Applications must be postmarked by February 14, 2012. Awards will be presented at NUSA's annual conference, to be held May 23-26 in Indianapolis, Ind.

There are four award categories:

1) The 2012 Neighborhood of the Year Award program will recognize exceptional accomplishments by neighborhood organizations during 2011. Awards will be given in three categories: 1) Physical Revitalization/Beautification in a Single Neighborhood; 2) Social Revitalization/Neighborliness in a Single Neighborhood; and 3) Multi-Neighborhood Project Partnerships. Judging will be based on the extent of innovation, grassroots participation and capacity building exhibited by the nominated organization.

2) The Best Neighborhood Program Award will recognize outstanding programs, also implemented in 2011, to improve neighborhoods by a governmental entity, business or corporation or non-profit. Best Neighborhood Program Awards are given in two categories: Social Revitalization and Physical Revitalization.

A distinguished panel of judges will select four finalists in each category for the Neighborhood of the Year and Best Neighborhood Program Award competitions. Finalists will be invited to make presentations at the 2012 NUSA conference in Indianapolis, where a new panel of judges will evaluate the presentations, select a winner in each category and then select the overall grand prize winners.

3) The Neighborhood Newsletter Competition, back for its second year, acknowledges excellence in neighborhoods and was created to highlight the importance of how vital this communication tool can be in determining a neighborhood's success. Entries are evaluated individually and are recognized by receiving a gold, silver or bronze level recognition awards.

4) NUSA is taking nominations for the Who's Who in America's Neighborhoods Award, which was created to recognize individuals whose work mirrors NUSA's mission to build and strengthen neighborhood associations, encourage neighborhood involvement in the decision-

making process in local governments, and promote productive communications and collaborations among neighborhood associations, local governments and the public/private sectors.

For more information on the awards and eligibility requirements, and to obtain applications, visit <http://www.nusa.org/awardapplications.htm>.

For additional information or questions regarding the 2012 Awards program, contact:

Robert Gibbons
2012 NUSA Award Applications
1950 E. Washington Ave., #1
Madison, WI 53704-5278
(608) 244-0582
robert.gibbons1@charter.net

5. Early Warning on Rezoning Requests

Requests to rezone property are first considered by the staff of the Metropolitan Planning Commission (MPC), which serves as the planning department for both city and county governments.

Such requests are then voted on at MPC meetings starting at 1:30 p.m. on the second Thursday of each month. Requests then go to City Council or County Commission for final approval.

MPC provides an early warning system for neighborhood associations and others by posting a "Plan Amendment and Rezoning Requests Notice" on the MPC website approximately 30 days before the MPC meeting. This notice remains online until it is replaced by the next meeting's preliminary agenda.

The notice, the preliminary agenda and the final agenda are all accessible from the same page --- <http://agenda.knoxmpc.org/index.htm> --- on the MPC Website.

To sign up for an email reminder of the posting of this and other notices, and/or to follow MPC on Facebook and Twitter, browse to www.knoxmpc.org and find the links toward the bottom of the home page.

6. MPC Schedules Public Meetings for One Year Plan Updates

The development services staff of the Metropolitan Planning Commission (MPC) will hold three public meetings in February to review preliminary proposals for updating the City of Knoxville's One Year Plan and to gather input from citizens on their ideas for amending the plan.

This is important to neighborhood groups because the One Year Plan serves as the basis for zoning decisions made by MPC and City Council. Here are the dates for the three public meetings aimed at different parts of the city:

** North, East and Central sector updates: 6 p.m. Wednesday, February 8, New Harvest Community Center, 4775 New Harvest Lane.

** West and Northwest sector updates: 6 p.m. Monday, Feb. 13, Middlebrook Pike United Methodist Church, 7234 Middlebrook Pike.

** South sector update (Tentative date and venue; watch this space for final confirmation): 6 p.m. Wednesday, February 22, Dogwood Elementary, 705 Tipton Ave.

The Knoxville City Charter requires that a One Year Plan be developed and adopted in order to tie zoning districts to the Comprehensive Plan for the community. The Charter also requires development of 15-year sector plans and a 5-year capital Improvement plan for policy and mid-range guidance for the One Year Plan.

After these public hearings, the One Year Plan will be considered by MPC on March 8, 2012, and City Council on April 3 and 17, 2012.

Questions or comments about the 2012 One Year Plan update should be directed to Mike Brusseau at 865-215-2500 or mike.brusseau@knoxmpc.org.

Visit <http://archive.knoxmpc.org/plans/oneyear.htm> to view a copy of the 2011 One Year Plan.

7. Neighborhood and Government Calendar

Include your neighborhood-related event or meeting in this space. Call 215-3232.

All government meetings will be held in either the Large or Small Assembly Room unless otherwise noted. For a complete list of meetings of various city boards and commissions, visit <http://www.cityofknoxville.org/calendar/>.

If you are a person with a disability who requires an accommodation in order to attend a public meeting, please contact Stephanie Brewer Cook at 215-2034 or scCook@cityofknoxville.org no less than 48 hours prior to the meeting you wish to attend.

Monday, January 23 --- 1:45 p.m.

Knox County Commission

(Every Fourth Monday, Jan.-Oct. Third Mondays, Nov.-Dec.)

www.knoxcounty.org/commission

Agenda: Click on "Meetings" and then "Commission Agendas"

Public Forum held at beginning & ending of meeting.

Zoning Issues heard starting at 6 p.m.

Monday, January 23 --- 7 p.m.-8:30 p.m.

South Woodlawn Neighborhood Association

Bi-Monthly Meeting (4th Monday, odd months)

Woodlawn Christian Church, 4339 Woodlawn Pike

Janice Tocher, 686-6789

Tuesday, January 24 --- 7 p.m.

City Council (Every Other Tuesday)

<http://www.cityofknoxville.org/citycouncil>

Agenda: <http://www.cityofknoxville.org/citycouncil/agenda.pdf>

Thursday, January 26 --- 9 a.m.

Special Events Community Meeting (Fourth Thursdays, Jan.-Oct.)

“Meet with city services that may assist in planning your event.”

Civic Coliseum Ballroom, Third Floor

Free Parking available at Civic Coliseum Parking Garage

Office of Special Events, 215-4248

Thursday, January 26 --- 1:30 p.m. and 3 p.m.

Knoxville Area Transit (KAT) (Fourth Thursdays, Third Thursday in Dec.)

KAT Community Advisory Committee meets at 1:30 pm

Governing board (Knoxville Transportation Authority) meets at 3 pm

215-7800 or <http://www.cityofknoxville.org/kat>

Thursday, January 26 --- 3:30 p.m.

Better Building Board

(Last Thursday, Jan.-Oct. First Thursday, Dec.)

Large Assembly Room, City-County Building

<http://www.cityofknoxville.org/boards/betterbuilding.asp>

Monday, January 30 – 5 p.m.

Knox County School Board – Work Session

(Monday before the regular meeting)

First Floor Board Room

Andrew Johnson Building, 912 South Gay St.

For agenda, work sessions, and other items:

Visit <http://knoxschools.org/>. Click on “Board of Education”

Wednesday, February 1 --- 5 p.m.

Knox County Board of Education

Monthly Meeting (Normally first Wednesdays)

Large Assembly Room, City County Building

For agenda, work sessions, and other items:

Visit <http://knoxschools.org/>. Click on “Board of Education”

Thursday, Feb. 2 --- 10:00-11:30 a.m.

PlanET Consortium Partners Meeting

Topics: progress so far and next steps

East Tennessee History Center, 601 S. Gay Street

www.planeasttn.org or Amy Brooks, 215-4001

Monday, February 6 --- 5:30 p.m.

Council of Involved Neighborhoods (COIN)

(Normally every first Monday)

CAC/Luke Ross Building, 2247 Western Avenue

Dave Gartner, 862-2066

Tuesday, February 7 --- 4:30 p.m.

Dandridge Avenue Neighborhood Watch (First Tuesdays)
Beck Cultural Exchange Center, 1927 Dandridge Avenue

Tuesday, February 7 --- 7 p.m.

Mechanicsville Community Association (First Tuesdays)
Fairview Recreation Center, 1628 Dora Street
Charles Wright, 637-1802

Tuesday, February 7 --- 7 p.m.

City Council (Every Other Tuesday)
<http://www.cityofknoxville.org/citycouncil>
Agenda: <http://www.cityofknoxville.org/citycouncil/agenda.pdf>

Wednesday, February 8 --- 11:30 a.m.

Community Forum (Every Second Wednesday)
West Knoxville Library, 100 Golfclub Road at Kingston Pike
Sue Mauer, 690-0269

Wednesday, February 8 --- 4:30 p.m.

Neighborhood Advisory Council
(Every Second Wednesday except July and Dec.)
CAC/Luke Ross Building, 2247 Western Avenue
<http://www.cityofknoxville.org/neighborhoods>
David Massey, 215-3232

Wednesday, February 8 --- 6 p.m.

Public Meeting, One Year Plan Update
North, East and Central Sectors
Metropolitan Planning Commission
New Harvest Community Center, 4775 New Harvest Lane
Mike Brusseau, 215-2500 or mike.brusseau@knoxmpc.org

Thursday, February 9 --- 1:30 p.m.

Metropolitan Planning Commission (Second Thursdays)
<http://www.knoxmpc.org>
Agenda: <http://agenda.knoxmpc.org>

Thursday, February 9--- 6 p.m.

Burlington Homeowners & Residents Association
Monthly Meeting (Second Thursdays)
Greater Warner Tabernacle AME Zion Church
3800 Martin Luther King Jr. Ave. (side entrance)
Kimberley Fowler, 524-7094

Monday, February 13 --- 6 p.m.

Vestal Community Organization (Second Mondays)
South Knoxville Community Center

Monday, February 13 --- 6 p.m.

Public Meeting, One Year Plan Update
West and Northwest Sectors
Metropolitan Planning Commission
Middlebrook Pike United Methodist Church, 7234 Middlebrook Pike.
Mike Brusseau, 215-2500 or mike.brusseau@knoxmpc.org

Monday, February 13 --- 6:30 p.m.

Belle Morris Community Action Group (second Mondays)
City View Baptist Church, 2311 Fine Avenue
www.bellemorris.com
Rick Wilen, 524-5008

Monday, February 13 --- 7-8 p.m.

Fountain City Town Hall (second Mondays, Feb.-April)
Church of the Good Shepherd, 5337 Jacksboro Pike
Tyler Pavlis, 405-1567 or tpav04@hotmail.com

Tuesday, February 14 --- Noon

Neighborhood Walking Program
Group Leaders Information Session (with free lunch)
Knox County Health Dept. Auditorium, 140 Dameron Avenue
RSVP by Feb. 7 to 215-5610 or rachelm.foster@knoxcounty.org

Tuesday, February 14 --- 7 p.m.

Mechanicsville Neighborhood Watch Association (Second Tuesdays)
Clinton Chapel AME Zion Church, College Street
R. Bentley Marlow, 607-4357

Thursday, February 16 --- 8:30 a.m.

Historic Zoning Commission (Third Thursdays)
<http://www.cityofknoxville.org/boards/historic.asp>

Thursday, February 16 --- 12 p.m.

KUB Board of Commissioners (Third Thursdays except July)
Historic Miller's Building, 445 S. Gay Street
See www.kub.org. Click on "About Us" at top of the page.

Thursday, February 16 --- 4 p.m.

City Board of Zoning Appeals (Third Thursdays)
Small Assembly Room
Pre-Agenda Meeting: 3 p.m. in Room 511
<http://www.cityofknoxville.org/boards/zoning.asp>

Thursday, February 16 --- 6 p.m.

Inskip Community Association (Asociación de la Comunidad de Inskip)
Community Meeting (Third Thursdays)
Inskip Baptist Church, 4810 Rowan Road
Betty Jo Mahan, 865-679-2748 and bettymahan@knology.net

Thursday, February 16 --- 6:30 p.m.

Oakwood Lincoln Park Neighborhood Association
Monthly Meeting (Third Thursdays)
Community Club House, 916 Shamrock Avenue at Henagar Street

Monday, February 20 – 5 p.m.

Knox County School Board – Mid-Month Work Session
(Usually Third Mondays)
First Floor Board Room
Andrew Johnson Building, 912 South Gay St.

For agenda, work sessions, and other items:
Visit <http://knoxschools.org/>. Click on "Board of Education"

Monday, February 20 --- 7 p.m.
Historic Fourth & Gill Neighborhood Organization
Board Meeting (Third Mondays except January)
Meeting Place Varies
Contact Judith Neff, merlin2@comcast.net

Wednesday, February 22 --- 6 p.m.
Public Meeting, One Year Plan Update
South Sector
Metropolitan Planning Commission
Dogwood Elementary, 705 Tipton Ave
Mike Brusseau, 215-2500 or mike.brusseau@knoxmpc.org

Monday, March 12 --- 7 p.m.
Town Hall East, Inc.
(Second Mondays, Sept., Nov., Jan., March, and May)
Eastminster Fellowship Hall, Asheville Hwy.
Contact Mac Goodwin at 524-9954