City of Topeka

CITIZEN ADVISORY COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, June 5, 2019

I. CALL TO ORDER & INTRODUCTIONS

The Citizen’s Advisory Council meeting was called to order by Sarah Douglas at 6:00 p.m.

City Employees Present: LaToya Burnett-Martinez, Community Engagement Coordinator; Sasha Haehn, Neighborhood Relations Department Director

CAC Members Present: 21 (see annual attendance ledger)
Other Attendee and Substitutes: 3

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Attachments: CAC Draft Meeting Minutes May 1, 2019 - A motion was made by Emil Spaeth, seconded by Janet Fisher to approve the CAC draft meeting minutes from May 1, 2019. The motion carried.

III. DEPARTMENT OF NEIGHBORHOOD RELATIONS ANNOUNCEMENTS

LaToya Burnett-Martinez provided an overview of the Empowerment Grant Process. Grant applications are due July 19, 2019.

Shirley Darby sent a write-in question regarding the possibility of removing the Neighborhood Plan from the SORT process. LaToya Burnett-Martinez explained that the SORT Program has changed to an annual neighborhood selection instead of two every other year and that the Comprehensive Planning process is an important part of the first year in establishing the target areas and SORT project plan. Sasha Haehn stated that the Planning Department will be invited to attend a future meeting for further discussion. She also explained that the Planning Department may be willing to work with neighborhoods to create a neighborhood assessment as an alternative to the full comprehensive plan. Neighborhood Relations has also added a community building plan to the SORT process.

IV. SCHEDULED ITEMS (20 minutes)

A. Guest Speaker –Kim Montoya YWCA Voter Registration Program

Kim Montoya spoke on voter education and engagement for the registration and voting process in the upcoming elections. The YWCA would like to attend the National Night Out Against Crime (NNO) events to register people to vote. They would assist people with the registration process and ensure that
they are registered to vote in the voter registration system. Please contact Kim Montoya if you are interested in partnering with them for NNO 303-548-3764; rmontoya28@gmail.com

V. ACTION ITEMS (60 minutes)

A. CAC Vision Planning and Community Goals
LaToya Burnett-Martinez led the Council in discussion about community concerns and each neighborhood chose one of the following issues as the main concerns for their neighborhoods at this time. Issues included: Sanitation, Crime, Community Activities, Health, Housing, Zoning and Developing, and Youth.

LaToya Burnett-Martinez led the Council in a discussion about the Citizen Advisory Council Vision Draft. The Council developed five draft vision statements for future review and discussion.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn by Sarah Douglas, seconded by James Prout carried and meeting was adjourned at 7:30p.m.
CAC Event Planning Meeting: Wednesday, June 19, 2019 6:00 p.m. in the Holliday Conference Room.
Next Regular Meeting: Wednesday, July 10, 2019 6:00 p.m. in the Holliday Conference Room.