

**City of Topeka**  
**CITIZEN ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**  
**Wednesday, June 7, 2023**  
**6:45 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.**

**In Person:** and via Zoom

**Citizen Advisory Council Vision Statement:** *“A community of neighborhoods illuminating collaborative models to foster harmonious and balanced neighborhood communities.”*

**Citizen Advisory Council Mission Statement:** *“The Citizen Advisory Council is a community of neighborhoods organized to forge available resources to empower, rebuild, and revitalize areas within the city of Topeka.”*

AGENDA ITEM	SUMMARY	ACTIONS OR DECISIONS	PRESENTER/RESPONSIBLE
<b>I. CALL TO ORDER</b>	ShaMecha asked meeting attendees to enter their names and represented neighborhoods or organizations on the sign-up sheet or use the chat feature in Zoom.	The meeting was called to order at 6:45 p.m.	<b>ShaMecha King Simms</b> Citizen Advisory Council Chair <a href="mailto:informhistoricaltownnia@gmail.com">informhistoricaltownnia@gmail.com</a>
	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Call to order</b></p> <p>A. Provided time to honor Tommy Green and asked for comments/memories.</p> <p>B. Read the names of the neighbors that have been lost and offered a prayer.</p>		<b>ShaMecha King Simms</b> Citizen Advisory Council Chair <a href="mailto:informhistoricaltownnia@gmail.com">informhistoricaltownnia@gmail.com</a>
<b>APPROVAL OF MINUTES</b>	<p><b>A. Approval of May 2023 meeting minutes.</b></p> <p>Call for additions or edits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Changes suggested:</b> Bell’s changes pertained to what was under “call of order” for A and B, clarification of what was meant by the A and the B</li> <li>• Sounded like its combined the approval of the minutes and the agenda</li> <li>• Should read approval of April 2023 minutes</li> </ul>		<b>ShaMecha King Simms</b> Citizen Advisory Council Chair <a href="mailto:informhistoricaltownnia@gmail.com">informhistoricaltownnia@gmail.com</a>

<p><b>APPROVAL OF AGENDA</b></p>	<p><b>Approval of Agenda and minutes for May 2023</b>  Moved: Michael Bell  Second: Bonna Speakman  Abstaining: Dick Ketterman and Yvonne May  Motion passes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Moving to adopt the June Agenda</b>  Change would be to move 4D to Infrastructure Work Group report out to an action item 5B instead of 4B.  Chair hearing no discussion asked for a motion to approve June agenda with the change of 4D to action item 5B:  Motion to accept June agenda: Moved: Michael Bell  Second: Debra McClelland  Motion carries</li> </ul>		
<p><b>VIDEO PRESENTATION</b></p>	<p><b>Video on Kansas Open Meeting Act (KOMA) refresher video</b></p>	<p>See the attached presentation</p>	<p><i>City of Topeka Legal Department</i></p>
<p><b>CAC ACTIVITIES</b></p>	<p><b>The CAC’s 2023 Engagement Activities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Includes 5 steps to identifying the Events</li> <li>• Public assumptions</li> <li>• CAC value to NIA</li> <li>• CAC now has monies to put on events opposed to just attending events in the community</li> </ul> <p><b>“What events light you up?” To promote CAC in community</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Get Forge involve with CAC / NIA</li> <li>• Kindergarten Roundups / Schools</li> <li>• Poverty Simulation</li> <li>• Washburn University “Big Event” – next year</li> <li>• Greater Topeka Partnership</li> </ul> <p><b>Basic Income Debate</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask is if CAC can sponsor this event</li> <li>• Can put on the flyer that CAC is a sponsor</li> </ul> <p>Motion – Yvonne May  Second: Bonna Speakeasy  Motion passes</p>	<p>See attached Video and presentation slides</p> <p>Q and A followed discussion</p>	<p><b>ShaMecha King Simms</b>  <i>Citizen Advisory Council Chair</i>  <a href="mailto:informhistoricaltownnia@gmail.com">informhistoricaltownnia@gmail.com</a></p>

<p><b>ACTION ITEMS</b></p>	<p><b>Community Action Back to School Event</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for a motion that we have 3 CAC members in shifts to help with CAC back to school event. Motion: Bonna Speakeasy; Second: Motion passes</li> </ul> <p><b>Poverty Simulation Conversation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$750 Community Engagement</li> <li>• \$250 Episcopal Diocese of Kansas</li> <li>• Policy makers and for their attendance Includes City, County, State officials</li> <li>• US Bank</li> <li>• Advisors Excel</li> <li>• League of Women Voters</li> </ul> <p><b>Asking for \$500 from CAC to support</b></p> <p>Motion: Yvonne May Second:</p> <p>Could hold off for new members to get caught up. Will hold the event on October 26<sup>th</sup>. Motion passes; One abstaining</p> <p><b>Additional Comment: <i>Monique Glaude</i></b> Have to go back to DEI Officer Del a Rosa to discuss Motion for approval of SheMecha to continue to gather more support and then hold conversation with DEI Officer. Motion passes One abstaining</p> <p><b>Additional Comment: <i>Monique Glaude</i></b> Have to go back to DEI Officer Del a Rosa to discuss Motion for approval of SheMecha to continue to gather more support and then hold conversation with DEI Officer.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NIA Support Fund Request from Hi-Crest NIA of \$500 to increase advertisement engagement on Facebook for their events. Motion was approved.</li> </ul>	<p>See attached Video and presentation slides</p> <p>Q and A followed presentation</p> <p>Conversation ensued. Recommendations</p>	<p><b>ShaMecha King Simms</b> Citizen Advisory Council Chair <a href="mailto:informhistoricaltownnia@gmail.com">informhistoricaltownnia@gmail.com</a></p>
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<p>-----</p> <p><b>DISCUSSION ITEMS</b></p> <p>-----</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● NIA Support Fund Request from Historic Old Town NIA of \$500 to rent a truck to remove large yard debris from residences as part of Fall 2023 cleanup project. Motion was approved.</li> <li>● Michael Bell introduced the 2022 Infrastructure Work Group’s recommendations.</li> </ul> <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Suggestion to move the start time of the Citizen Advisory Council meetings to its original time of 6 PM. Conversation ensued. Motion was made to resume a 6 PM start time. Motion carried unanimously.</li> <li>● Call for CAC members to present at August CAC to their peers on experiences with SORT/DREAMS. Conversation ensued about what their presentation may focus on including strengths and challenges. The following groups have agreed to participate (or tentatively with more information) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ North Topeka West</li> <li>○ Quinton Heights-Steele (possible)</li> <li>○ Tennessee Town</li> <li>○ Hi-Crest (DREAMS II-Housing experience)</li> <li>○ Valley Park</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		<p><b>ShaMecha King Simms</b>  Citizen Advisory Council Chair  <a href="mailto:informhistoricaltownnia@gmail.com">informhistoricaltownnia@gmail.com</a></p> <hr/> <p><b>ShaMecha King Simms</b>  Citizen Advisory Council Chair  <a href="mailto:informhistoricaltownnia@gmail.com">informhistoricaltownnia@gmail.com</a></p>
<p>-----</p> <p><b>ANNOUNCEMENTS:</b></p>	<p><b>Tommy Green Memorial:</b>  Wake - June 9 -5-9:00 p.m. at Peaceful Rest Funeral Home  Funeral - June 10 True Vine Missionary Baptist Church  <b>Land Bank Ordinance</b> has passed. The City is in need board of trustees’ members if interested send letter to Mayor Padilla.  <b>Family and Friends Juneteenth Celebration *Hosting a booth</b>  <b>Saturday, June 17th</b>  NOON - 5 PM Hillcrest Community Center  <b>Fiesta Topeka *Hosting a booth</b>  <b>Tuesday, July 18<sup>th</sup></b> 5 PM - 10 PM Oakland</p>		

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Call for a motion to adjourn at 8:35 p.m.

Motion passes

**NEXT CAC MEETING: JULY 5, 2023**

**NEW TIME: 6:00 P.M.**

Holliday Building

1<sup>st</sup> floor conference room

620 SE Madison