

City of Topeka
CITIZEN ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, July 5, 2023
6:00 p.m. – 8:00 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
I. CALL TO ORDER	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 6:00 p.m.	ShaMecha King Simms Citizen Advisory Council Chair informhistoricaltownnia@gmail.com
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Call to Order • Open floor for comments on minutes from June • Motion to approve June minutes was made 		ShaMecha King Simms Citizen Advisory Council Chair informhistoricaltownnia@gmail.com
APPROVAL OF MINUTES and July Agenda	<p>A. Approval of June 2023 meeting minutes. Call for additions or edits hearing none. Motion: Michael Bell Second: Jim Edwards Motion passes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adopt the July Agenda Please take few minutes to look over the July Agenda. Motion to approve: Michael Bell Second: Bonna Speakman Motion passes 	Before and after photos was shared	ShaMecha King Simms Citizen Advisory Council Chair informhistoricaltownnia@gmail.com

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PRESENTATION	<p>Quarterly 2023 Con Plan Update – Housing Service Programs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accessibility Program • Emergency Repair Program • Property Maintenance Rehabilitation • TOTO Program • Impact Avenues • Equity. Access. Shelter. 	<p>See the attached presentation Projects were shared, statistics on all programs Q and A opportunity</p>	<p>Carrie Higgins <i>Division Director of Housing Services Planning and Development</i> chiggins@topeka.org 785-368-4456</p>
STAFF UPDATES	<p>Division Status and Program Updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NIA Support Programs • Introduction of Ombudsman <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ LeRoy Younger, Ombudsman Community Engagement City of Topeka Diversity Equity and Inclusion Office 785-368-1619 lyounger@topeka.org 	<p>Discussion and Q & A followed on each NIA update</p>	<p>Bianca Burnett <i>Sr. Community Engagement Coordinator City of Topeka Diversity Equity and Inclusion Office</i> ☎: 785.368.3663 ✉: lburnett@topeka.org</p>
CAC UPDATES	<p>Infrastructure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Broke into groups of 4 for discussion • Need recommendations on items you would select to present to the governing body • Tally and select those with highest number of frequencies • Curb, alley ways were discussed as parking in some neighborhoods • Utility costs per households 	<p>Handout was provided to work on in groups</p> <p>Discussion & Q & A followed</p>	<p>ShaMecha King Simms <i>Citizen Advisory Council Chair</i> informhistoricoldtownnia@gmail.com</p>

	<p>Discussion of Infrastructure Recommendations to Move Forward</p> <p>1. In groups of no more than 4, share out which recommendations you individually selected as something to go forward as is or with more exploration. (7 minutes)</p> <p>2. In your groups, tally and record which recommendations had the highest number of frequencies. Assign a leader to read the recommendation numbers to the whole group. (5 minutes)</p> <p>3. Weigh in as a group on what is needed to make the remaining recommendations stronger.</p> <p>a. Determine if more labor and time is required to strengthen recommendations and who would be willing to complete the task.</p> <p>4. If more labor is needed, a final vote will be deferred until the work is completed.</p> <p>5. If no further labor on the recommendation is desired by the group, ask for a motion (and second) to call the vote of primary CAC members (or alternate if the primary is not present) to vote which recommendations go forward.</p>		
<p>CAC UPDATES</p>	<p>Student Placement in NIA's who would like a WU student assigned to their area. Roll call per NIA:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hi Crest – Yes • North Topeka East – No • NTW – Yes • Tennessee Town – Yes • Valley Park – Yes; could use 1 or 2 students • Historic Old Town - Yes 		<p><i>ShaMecha King Simms</i> <i>Citizen Advisory Council Chair</i> informhistoricaltownnia@gmail.com</p>

<p>CAC UPDATES</p>	<p>Nancy Perry Day Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only Valley Park interested at time; painting fire hydrants (46 hydrants) • Nancy Perry deadline coming up, July 10th • Interested in participating contact Susan 	<p>Discussion of the event also opportunity to check on follow-up</p>	<p>ShaMecha King Simms <i>Citizen Advisory Council Chair</i> informhistoricaltownnia@gmail.com</p>
<p>ANNOUNCEMENTS:</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> District 2 Discussion on Homelessness Monday, July 17th 6 pm – Serendipity, 820 N Kansas Ave. Fiesta Topeka Tuesday, July 18 -22nd 4 pm – 10 pm – Oakland *HOSTING A BOOTH DREAMS Collaboration July 16TH at 6:00 -7:00 pm Holliday Building Conference Room *ZOOM version on July 27th 2:00 pm-3:00 pm National Night Deadline – July 7th <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8 NIA’s participating on the day of NNO Michael Bell Announcements on events Tennessee Town has hosted. Bonna Speakman Announcement about a meeting at WU VO-Tech on Evergy trying to raise rates in specific neighborhoods Susan McClacherty Shared they had a great time at the <i>Funfest Event</i> in Valley Park 		<p>ShaMecha King Simms <i>Citizen Advisory Council Chair</i> informhistoricaltownnia@gmail.com</p>

ADJOURNMENT	Call for motion to adjourned Motion – Michael Bell Second – LaBonna Speakman Motion passes NEXT MEETING: AUGUST 2, 2023 HOLLIDY BUILDING CONFERENCE ROOM, FIRST FLOOR 620 SE MADISON 6:00 P.M. TO 8:00 P.M.	<i>ShaMecha King Simms</i> <i>Citizen Advisory Council Chair</i> informhistoricaltownnia@gmail.com
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