



Neighborhood Events

February

12 BCNA Meeting, 7:30 p.m.
East Lawrence Rec. Center

March

12 BCNA Meeting, 7:30 p.m.
East Lawrence Rec. Center

April

9 BCNA Meeting, 7:30 p.m.
East Lawrence Rec. Center

12 Brook Creek Park Cleanup
and Lunch, 10 a.m.,
Brook Creek Park Gazebo

19 Brook Creek Park Cleanup
Rain Date

May

14 BCNA Meeting, 7:30 p.m.
East Lawrence Rec. Center

Salvation Army to Share Plans for Local Shelter

Lt. Matthew McCluer of the Salvation Army will present information on the agency's plans for developing a shelter on their property at 19th & Haskell during BCNA's February 12th meeting. Plans for the site have been under development for years. The last publicly-discussed plans were for the construction of facilities and housing to assist homeless families. Time will be allowed for discussion and questions.

12th & Haskell to Become Homes and Business

Over the years, the Brook Creek Neighborhood has successfully preserved the character of our neighborhood. We stopped a strip mall proposal on 15th St. between Haskell and the old tracks. We eliminated five square blocks of high density apartment zoning. We blocked the County Jail from building in Brook Creek Park. We expect the Salvation Army to develop family housing instead of a drop-in center.

What may be our most important victory yet is the closing of the illegal, polluting junkyard at 12th & Haskell. They greenwashed themselves with a "recycling" name, but they were an industrial salvage yard next to single-family homes, with disturbing noise on each day of operation. Spilled auto fluids polluted the groundwater in the floodplain of Burroughs Creek and Brook Creek. Machinery exhaust from the center polluted the air. Six auto fires put the neighbors' properties at risk. Due to soil tests, Kansas Dept. of Health & Environment had the junkyard owner remove loads of contaminated soil from the site.

Even though the City eventually cited the junkyard with various code violations, the illegal activity continued for 6 years until neighbors got the City Commission to send the case to the Board of Zoning Appeals. Neighborhood representatives effectively presented the facts of the case and the impacts to the neighborhood to the City by neighborhood representatives, and the junkyard owner decided to move to a more suitable location.

The Brook Creek neighbors who fought this battle kept pressure on the City to make sure heavy industrial use never happens on that site again. After reviewing plans with the innovative local construction company, Struct/Reconstruct, we approved their plans to plot nine homes along 12th Street, and to locate their business in the corner building and yard. The development plan includes perimeter trees, removing truck traffic from 12th St., protection of a remarkable bur oak tree, and a sidewalk. Land along the creek will become City park land, on which we expect an extension of the Burroughs Creek Trail.



Byron Wiley and Theresa Martin provided music at the December 2013 Brook Creek holiday party.

Join BCNA for only \$1.00

2014 Membership payments are due now! Support BCNA so that we can effectively represent you.

MEMBERSHIP RATES

In-neighborhood individuals \$1.00	Businesses \$20.00
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Member information is used only for neighborhood communications, and not distributed or sold.

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Mail this form and your check payable to BCNA to:
Brook Creek Neighborhood, 1235 Prairie Ave. Lawrence KS 66044

Visit us at <http://brookcreeklawrence.wordpress.com/>

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Neighborhood Coordinator

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841-4997

brookcreeklawrence.wordpress.com

Brook Creek News

The December 2013 BCNA meeting brought in several new BCNA officers and new ideas for the neighborhood's activities in 2014, such as more speakers at meetings, membership development, and outreach to new residents. Our budget in 2014 may only allow for two newsletters, so please share your email address and 'like' BCNA on Facebook in order to stay informed of neighborhood activities and issues. Also, a BCNA website is under development! We will monitor opportunities to create recreational and bicycling connections among our trails and parks as the 12th & Haskell area develops. Several Brook Creekers planted the now-maturing Lawrence Fruit Tree Project orchard along the Burroughs Creek Trail.

"Thank you" to outgoing BCNA President Julie Mitchell for her past and ongoing service to Brook Creek. She volunteered to continue to organize the Brook Creek park spring cleanup and picnic. More thanks go to Susan Miller for continuing her excellent work as BCNA's treasurer, to Larry Kelley for doing a great job as Secretary, and to Emily Winters for her great work on BCNA's Facebook page and website!

Please share your ideas for BCNA's activities in 2014, join us to make them happen, and thank our advertisers for supporting our neighborhood!

Welcome to the Neighborhood

906 Oliver's Court - Katherine E. Simmons

1502 Harper St. - Rena Figures

1824 Miller Dr. - Roderick W. Runyan

1505 Cadet Ave. - Kenneth G. & Joyce Anderson

1705 E. 17th St. - James & Christine Pennewell

1515 E. 18th Terrace - Beatriz Chee

1641 Haskell Ave. - Tracy Townsley

1223 Almira Ave. - Benjamin E. Fishman

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Brook Creek Neighborhood Association Meeting Notes

September 9, 2013

A special meeting was called at the request of Struct/Restruct LLC to discuss their proposed purchase of the 12th & Haskell Recycling Center property at 1146 Haskell. They plan to operate their business in the existing building. Nine new homes would be built along 12th Street, with at least 20 feet of buffer space between the business and residential portions of the property.

October 9, 2013

The meeting was devoted to a discussion of Struct/Restruct's proposed rezoning of the property at 1146 Haskell Ave. Questions discussed about Struct/Restruct's plan included: flooding, ground contamination, rezoning to Limited Industrial, effects on and changes to 12th Street, and green space on the north side of the property.

November 13, 2013

The "Safe Winter Walkways" program was discussed, as were the resolutions from the City Commission prohibiting commercial zoning that would allow another recycling center to be located at 12th and Haskell. Other discussion included plans for additions to the Burroughs Creek trail, the possibility of HUD funds for sidewalk repair, ways to expand membership and funding, and creation of a Facebook page for BCNA.

December 11, 2013

2014 BCNA officers were elected: Andrea Repinsky, President; Byron Wiley, Vice President; Susan Miller, Treasurer; and Michael Almon, Secretary. Attendees thanked outgoing officers Larry Kelley and Julie Mitchell, and they shared snacks and ideas for BCNA activities in 2014.

January 5, 2014

During a goal-setting meeting of BCNA officers, the following goals were set for BCNA: (a) Increase membership and funding, (b) Develop web site (c) Research history of neighborhood (d) Upgrade newsletter and publish more frequently (e) Make meetings more attractive, (f) Develop legal defense fund, (g) Conduct neighborhood survey (h) Institute a Coordinator performance evaluation and hiring cycle, and (i) increase email communication, possibly with a list-serve. Other plans are to send welcome letters to new residents, do fun gatherings, build up a volunteer base, and have interesting speakers at our meetings.

Full meeting details will be posted on BCNA's new website:

brookcreeklawrence.wordpress.com

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Hours: M-F 7:30am-6:00pm; Sat. 8:00am-5:00pm; Sun. 10:00am-5:00pm