

**City of Topeka**  
**CITIZEN ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**  
**Wednesday, December 04, 2024**  
**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
<b>I. CALL TO ORDER, MINUTES &amp; AGENDA</b>	<p>Susan McClacherty called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.            October 2024 meeting minutes motion to approve.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Motion: Jim Edwards</li> <li>▪ Second: ShaMecha King Simms</li> </ul> <p>October 2024 meeting agenda motion to adopt.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Motion: Sandra Batt</li> <li>▪ Second: Wayne Roberts</li> </ul>	<p>November 2024 minutes approved.</p> <p>Housing Service Division Status and update has been omitted from the agenda.</p>	<p><b><i>Susan McClacherty</i></b>  <i>Citizen Advisory Council Chair</i></p>
<b>II. STAFF UPDATES</b>	<p>A. Holiday Posada for the Human Relations Commission will take place Monday, December 9<sup>th</sup> at the Governor’s Row House from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Goal is to have members of the community interact with one another, network, and get to know HRC members and answer questions.</li> </ul> <p>B. Update on General Funds allocation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Spoke with the budgeting director regarding 60% of remaining General Funds to go to Critter Care and 40% to go to Helping Hands and was able to get that approved and will take place sometime before the end of the year.</li> </ul>	<p>NONE</p>	<p><b><i>Zaynah Afada</i></b>  <i>DEI Sr. Program Coordinator</i></p> <p><b><i>Monique Glaudé</i></b>  <i>Division Director of Community Engagement</i></p>

	<p>C. Update on remaining CDBG Funds.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Final approval is still pending. More conversation needs to take place with Housing Services. Reminder that each organization will have to sign a contract with the City of Topeka and every person who receives services has to income qualify.</li> </ul> <p>D. Community Engagement was approached by a former neighborhood leader and requested the CAC to consider recognizing previous neighborhood leaders with a plaque or a certificate</p>		
<p><b>III. PRESENTATION &amp; DISCUSSION</b></p>	<p>A. DREAMS 1, 2, &amp; 3 2025 Proposals and CAC Scoring Outcomes Revealed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 8 CAC members were involved in the scoring and review committee.</li> </ul> <p>B. DREAMS 1 received 2 applications.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ East Topeka South received a score of 77.</li> <li>▪ Historic Old Town received a score of 89.</li> <li>▪ Selected neighborhood is Historic Old Town.</li> <li>▪ Total available housing rehab investment is \$330,000</li> </ul> <p>C. DREAMS 2 Housing received 1 application.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Hi-Crest received a score of 88.</li> <li>▪ Selected neighborhood is Hi-Crest.</li> <li>▪ Total available infrastructure investment \$330,000</li> </ul> <p>D. DREAMS 2 received 8 applications.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Hi-Crest received a score of 85.</li> <li>▪ Historic Holliday Park received a score of 82.</li> <li>▪ Valley Park received a score of 82.</li> <li>▪ Valley Park received a score of 82.</li> <li>▪ Valley Park received a score of 80.</li> <li>▪ East Topeka North received a score of 70.</li> <li>▪ North Topeka West received a score of 67.</li> <li>▪ North Topeka West received a score of 62.</li> <li>▪ 5 total projects funded.</li> <li>▪ 3 total projects unfunded.</li> <li>▪ Total available award funding was \$1,550,000.</li> </ul>		<p><b><i>Bianca Burnett</i></b>  <i>Senior Community Engagement Coordinator</i></p>

	<p>E. DREAMS 3 received 4 applications.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Central Highland Park received a score of 77.</li> <li>▪ Valley Park received a score of 77.</li> <li>▪ Central Highland Park received a score of 68.</li> <li>▪ East Topeka South received a score of 63.</li> <li>▪ 2 total projects funded.</li> <li>▪ 2 total projects unfunded.</li> <li>▪ Total recommended award funding was \$89,520.</li> </ul>		
<p><b>DREAMS PROGRAM CAC RECOMMENDATION</b></p>	<p>A. DREAMS 1 Vote.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ LaBonna Speakman made a motion to approve Historic Old Town to receive DREAMS 1 grant.</li> <li>▪ Motion was seconded by Jim Edwards.</li> <li>▪ Representative from Historic Old Town abstained.</li> </ul> <p>B. DREAMS 2 Housing Vote.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ ShaMecha King Simms made a motion to approve Hi-Crest to receive DREAMS 2 Housing grant.</li> <li>▪ Motion was seconded by Jim Edwards.</li> <li>▪ Representative from Hi-Crest abstained.</li> </ul> <p>C. DREAMS 2 Vote</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Cole Mosier made a motion to have Hi-Crest and Valley Park present their projects at ways they can cut their project at the January meeting.</li> <li>▪ Motion was seconded by Dane Stephenson.</li> </ul> <p>D. DREAMS 3 Vote</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Cole Mosier made a motion to approve Central Highland Park and Valley Park to receive DREAMS 3 grant.</li> <li>▪ Motions was seconded by ShaMecha King Simms.</li> </ul> <p>E. Alternative Motion for DREAMS 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Cole Mosier makes a motion to fund the 3 Valley Park projects, North Topeka West project, and to fund Hi-Crest project in the amount of \$426,860 contingent on the rest of the requested amount to be funded by a different source.</li> <li>▪ Motion was seconded by Jim Edwards.</li> </ul>	<p>Motion carried for DREAMS 1 grant.</p> <p>Motion carried for DREAMS 2 Housing grant.</p> <p>Motion carried for DREAMS 2 Vote.</p> <p>Motion carried for DREAMS 3 grant.</p> <p>Motion carried for alternate DREAMS 2 vote.</p>	<p><b><i>Susan McClacherty</i></b> <i>Citizen Advisory Council Chair</i></p>

<b>V. DISCUSSION ITEMS</b>	A. LaBonna Speakman put together an article about brain exercises. B. Round Table discussion will be moved to another date.	NONE	<b><i>Susan McClacherty</i></b> <i>Citizen Advisory Council Chair</i>
<b>VI. ACTION ITEMS</b>	A. Call for CAC members to volunteer for putting together articles promoting health and prevention.	NONE	<b><i>Susan McClacherty</i></b> <i>Citizen Advisory Council Chair</i>
<b>VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS</b>	A. Practice Being a Good Neighbor-Choose and activity below or come up with your own. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Make an emergency contact list with your neighbors.</li> <li>▪ Meet a neighbor for coffee.</li> <li>▪ Try a family-owned restaurant.</li> <li>▪ Restock your local little free library.</li> <li>▪ Learn the names of three neighbors.</li> <li>▪ Pick up litter with a neighbor.</li> <li>▪ Attend a local sporting or other cultural event.</li> <li>▪ Spend an hour hanging out in a local park.</li> <li>▪ Buy something locally made.</li> <li>▪ Write a thank you note to a community leader.</li> </ul>	NONE	<b><i>Open to all CAC members &amp; Guests</i></b>
<b>VIII. ADJOURN</b>	<b>Motion to adjourn:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Motion:</li> <li>▪ Second:</li> </ul> <b>NEXT MEETING: January 8, 2024 - HOLLIDAY BUILDING CONFERENCE ROOM, FIRST FLOOR – 620 MADISON, 6:00 P.M. – 8:00 P.M.</b>	The chair brought the meeting to a close, marking its adjournment.	<b><i>Susan McClacherty</i></b> <i>Citizen Advisory Council Chair</i>