

City of Topeka
CITIZEN ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, April 2, 2025
6:00 p.m. – 7:30 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
I. CALL TO ORDER, MINUTES & AGENDA	<p>Susan McClacherty called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.</p> <p>February 2025 meeting minutes motion to approve.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Motion: Sandra Batt▪ Second: Peggy Lewis <p>March 2025 meeting agenda motion to adopt.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Motion: Muffy Walter▪ Second: Sandra Batt	<p>March 2025 minutes approved.</p> <p>April 2025 agenda approved.</p>	<p><i>Susan McClacherty,</i> <i>Citizen Advisory Council Chair</i></p>
II. NIA DISCUSSION	<p>A. NIA Requests for Community Events Funding.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Central Highland Park NIA requested an additional \$5,911.74.<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Printing/Newsletters.• Block by block neighborhood cleanup.• Highland Park Central elementary kite project.• Shredding event in May.• Second clean-up scheduled in June.• Community swim night.• Awards meeting with community leaders.• Annual Fellowship dinner.• Sponsor free craft days throughout the year.▪ Valley Park NIA requested an additional \$550.<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Picnic and game night in July.• Sundae night in August.	<p>Vote was taken and the requested additional amount of \$5,911.74 for Central Highland Park was approved: 5= Yes 0= No 1= Abstain</p> <p>Vote was taken and the requested additional amount of \$550 for Valley Park was approved:</p>	<p><i>Susan McClacherty,</i> <i>Citizen Advisory Council Chair</i></p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Open house event with all the non-profits at Stout Elementary in October. 	7= Yes 0= No 1= Abstain	
III. STAFF UPDATES	<p>A. Community Engagement Division Status & Program Update.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implementing a new communication tool called MMS/SMS texting service. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It will be open to any City of Topeka residents who would like to receive text message notification from the City of Topeka. Residents must opt-in to be included in the text messages. Launch is scheduled for April. June 24th the City of Topeka will be hosting a Community Resource Expo at the Topeka Shawnee County Library from 3:00-7:00 PM. Office of Inclusive Communities, Topeka Police Department, and Shawnee County Sheriff's office will be putting on EMPOWER:HER violence prevention training. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There will be community input sessions throughout the month of May. Launch of the program will be later this summer. Training will also be in some of the schools this fall. In 2026 there will be a version for men. National Night Out will take place in August. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> NNO will be hosted by the City of Topeka and will include multiple events throughout the community. More information to come. 	NONE	<i>Monique Glaudé, Division Director of Community Engagement</i>
IV. ACTION ITEMS	<p>A. NIA Requests for Community Events Funding.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Suggestion was made to have a way of receiving funds in case of an emergency event. Possible virtual meeting for a vote to receive additional funds. 	NONE	<i>Susan McClacherty, Citizen Advisory Council Chair</i>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Further discussion to follow. 		
V. ANNOUNCEMENTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Get Down & Get Dirty (Community-wide clean-up) on Saturday, April 5th from 10 AM to noon. B. Jerold Binkley Tulip Time showcases thousands of tulips and daffodils in various gardens at Lake Shawnee, Doran Rock Garden at Gage Park, and the Botanical Garden at Old Prairie Town. C. Tulips at Twilight is Wednesday-Sunday, April 11-13, 15-20 & 3-27 from 7-10 PM at Old Prairie Town (Ward Meade Botanical Garden). Fee is \$5. 		<i>Open to all CAC members & guests</i>
V. ADJOURNMENT	<p>Motion to adjourn:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Motion: Dane Stephenson ▪ Second: Daniel Martin <p>A. NEXT MEETING: MAY 7, 2025 - HOLLIDAY BUILDING CONFERENCE ROOM, FIRST FLOOR – 620 MADISON, 6:00 P.M. – 7:30 P.M.</p>	Meeting adjourned	<i>Susan McClacherty, Citizen Advisory Council Chair</i>