Minutes

The Leawood Historic Commission met in the Planning and Development Conference Room at 4:30 PM., on Tuesday, April 10, 2018. Chair Bruce Martin presided.

Commissioners Present:  
Alice Hawk  
Dan Throckmorton  
Janet O’Neal

Absent:  
Councilmember Lisa Harrison  
Councilmember Debra Filla  
Mike Reed  
Barbara Holzmark  
Charles Lusk

Others Present:  
Debbie Throckmorton, Guest  
Kelly Cannova, Guest  
Scott Gamerl, Guest  
Chris Claxton, P&R Director  
April Bishop, Cultural Arts Coordinator  
Deb Harper, Staff Liaison

1.  **Call to Order:** Chair Martin called the meeting to order at 4:30 P.M.

2.  **Approve January 9, 2018 Minutes**  
A motion was made by Alice Hawk, seconded by Dan Throckmorton, to accept the minutes. The motion was approved following a unanimous vote.

3.  **Old Business**

   ►  **Synopsis of March 13, 2018 meeting with Leawood P&R Dept., as relative to development of the 96th Street & Lee Boulevard property**

   Chair Martin advised he attend the aforementioned meeting on March 13th. City Clerk, Deb Harper, advised the Council has scheduled a Public Meeting on Monday, May 7, 2018, from at 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM, to hear residents’ comments/suggestions for amenities at 96th & Lee Boulevard. April encouraged all commissioners to attend.

   ►  **Synopsis of March 20th Quarterly Meeting with the Johnson County Kansas Heritage Foundation, as applicable to Leawood Historic Commissions interests**
Chair Martin said the Johnson County Kansas Heritage Foundation is working in conjunction with the Johnson County Park District to consolidate efforts for spending funds for promoting activities to benefit both department.

4. **New Business**

   ► **Presentation by Scott Gamerl, relative to the LHC Natural History of Leawood Project, facilitated by Dan Throckmorton.** A meeting was held recently with Scott at the Nature Center, attended by Dan and April Bishop, Cultural Arts Coordinator

Dan Throckmorton made comments regarding the Natural History of Leawood Project and trying to decide what direction to go with this information. Scott Gamerl, Outdoor Education Supervisor at the Nature Center, located at 14701 Mission Road, had met with Dan regarding this project. Presently, there are several resources for Kansas and Johnson County, but nothing specific for Leawood. The direction of the project is still undetermined; however, he would be happy to provide information and guidance if the project moved forward. He showed small books that are available at the Nature Center covering animal species, environment, etc. If books were published, they would cost $3.00-$4.00 each.

Alice asked who would be using this information. Would it be available at the Nature Center to any group, school groups, scout groups, etc.

Dan stated we could begin with small brochures, pamphlet or a larger pamphlet. He asked members to review the handouts distributed and place a ‘Yes' or ‘No' in the columns to ascertain if they want to proceed that particular topic included in the project and forward by email or fax.

Debbie Throckmorton commented on the second hand out, ‘Natural History of Leawood, Kansas,' with questions listed, including, but not limited to, what format does it take, audiences identified, what grade level, what is scope of project. She would encourage many photos of species, and charts and graphs; and possibly place information on City's webpage instead of a publication, or both.

Bruce advised this is somewhat of a duplication of efforts with the Johnson County Kansas Heritage Foundation [JCKHF] historic resources. Some of their group categories are area museums, national state registry sites, burial sites, landmarks, trees, Johnson County maps, historical schools of Johnson County, etc. He could see us working in conjunction with them instead of doing it Leawood specific. JCKHF may want to work with Leawood to expand their historic resources to include the suggested topics.
Scott Gamerl confirmed with Alice there are several areas that have locations you can learn about plants and animals, including other nature centers and high schools.

Debbie Throckmorton suggested they would contact JCKHF. Alice stated the Historic Commission has a limited amount of funds, and this would appear to be a duplication of information that is already available. Dan stated he will attempt to attend a JCKHF meeting and asked that a decision on this project be made at the next meeting.

April stated Blue Valley recently did a CAPS project on the community; perhaps this would be a project that the CAPS students would take on. Debbie stated maybe an informational brochure could be created that would advise where to go to this some of this information.

Kelly Cannova [owner of Somerset Shops]
Ms. Cannova, introduced herself, advising her and her husband have owned the Leawood Shops [Somerset Shops] for the past 6 years. She had briefly talked with April regarding doing improvements and wanted to ascertain if there are any restrictions and would like to keep the look as original as possible. They also wanted to create a plaque with some community historic information placed on it, as well as identifying this as the first commercial development in Leawood, built by Cliff Brisbois.

All members were in favor of having a plaque and encouraged her to have a ceremony. Ms. Cannova wanted to list the previous stores on the plaque, and attempt to contact the previous owners to invite them to the ceremony. April advised that typically area plaques are bronze with raised letters. She advised she would assist Ms. Cannova with the planning of the ceremony and attempt to provide any information she may need. Chair Martin advised the Historic Commission would sponsor the dedication ceremony [to be announced]

Chair Martin advised JCKHF is attempting to document historic schools that were once located in the County. Previously, there was a schoolhouse located at 151st & Kenneth Road. It was destroyed by the Ruskin heights tornado. He has contacted one of the former students who provided a lot of information about other schools in the area. April provided Bruce a list of other schools that were in the area at that time, and encouraged that he contact the county for the historic records on those schools.

5. Events
April advised the Leawood Stage Company is celebrating their 20th season with the production of An Enchanted Evening, April 20, and 21st at the Burns & McDonnell Auditorium, 9400 Ward Parkway, Kansas City, MO.
Dan advised there is an article on the Wendell Castle in an area architectural magazine. It will be at the Nelson on June 23rd.

6. **Adjourn**
The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 12, 2018 at 4:30 PM. There being no further business, a motion was made by Alice Hawk, seconded by Janet O’Neal to adjourn. The motion was approved following a unanimous vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:25 P.M.


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/s/ Deb Harper
Deb Harper, City Clerk/Staff Liaison