

Knoxville Neighborhood Advisory – Vol. 14, No. 12 – Tuesday, March 23, 2021

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Published by the City of Knoxville's Office of Neighborhood Empowerment, we report news important to Knoxville's residential neighborhoods. Include your neighborhood-related event or meeting in this space. Call 215-3232. News deadline: 12 noon on Fridays.

Like us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/KnoxvilleNeighborhoods>

1. City, County Present on Multi-Use Stadium Proposal

City of Knoxville and Knox County Government leaders will give a presentation on a proposed multi-use stadium and answer questions on Thursday, March 25, at 6 p.m., via Zoom webinar. Proceedings will be broadcast live on Community Television of Knoxville at CTVKnox.org.

This potential development would be located just East of the Old City. It is not in an organized neighborhood; however, it is close to **Austin Homes Tenant Association** (once they are finished rebuilding), **Parkridge Community Organization**, and **Historic Fourth and Gill Neighborhood Association**.

Submit questions in advance by Wednesday, March 24, at 6 p.m. to knoxvillestadium@knoxvilletn.gov.

More meetings with opportunities for public input will be planned for the future.

2. Neighborhood Conference Is Saturday!

This Saturday, March 27, neighbors across Knoxville will have the opportunity to network, listen to workshops, hear from the Mayor, and more during the 2021 Neighborhood Conference.

What can you expect from the virtual conference?

- A welcome from Mayor Kincannon;
- Three pre-recorded workshops: Knoxville Police Department Q&A Panel, Neighborhood Engagement Toolbox, Mental Health – How To Be A Good Neighbor, and Government 101 – Daily Operations;
- Inspiring guest speakers Charles Lomax and City of Knoxville Poet Laureate Rhea Carmon;
- Presentation of the Diana Conn Good Neighbor of the Year and the Neighborhood Achievement awards;
- Door prize giveaways; and
- Virtual event booths!

While the conference will look a little different this year, neighbors will still get the connectivity and learning opportunities they're used to...virtually!

Registration for the 2021 Neighborhood Conference closed at 4 p.m. on Monday, March 22. If you are registered, you will soon get an email with instructions about how to get to the virtual platform on Saturday or any time through April 2. Make sure to join us this Saturday! We are excited to "see" you and share this experience together!

3. Morningside Heights Homeowners Association Adopts A Road

Morningside Heights Homeowners Association (MHHA) joined forces with [Keep Knoxville Beautiful](#) (KKB) to Adopt-A-Road. The roads they chose to adopt were Dandridge Avenue and Wilder Place. As their first event on Saturday, March 20, MHHA members, along with a group of volunteers, worked together to clean up litter along the adopted roads.

The requirements for adopting a road are that a group must commit for a three-year period and do at least two litter clean-ups per year at the designated adopted roads.

If you are interested in adopting a road in your neighborhood, visit their [website](#) for more information.

4. ONE Welcomes Williams Creek Community Organization

The Office of Neighborhood Empowerment welcomes a new neighborhood organization, Williams Creek Community Organization (WCCO)!

WCCO is located in District 6 near the Williams Creek Golf Course. This group has been working for a few months to organize, and they recently got their paperwork turned in to become officially recognized by the City.

The leadership team includes Gail Gillispie, LaShea Brabson, Paulette Jefferson, and Titus Williams.

We cannot wait to see what they accomplish!

5. How Can You Help Knoxville and Our Environment Stay Healthy?

There are a ton of great opportunities coming up to help our environment, and a lot of great resources to learn how you and your neighborhood can make an impact!

- This Saturday, March 27, 10 a.m.-1 p.m., is the Ijams River Rescue. This is a great opportunity to safely get out while making a difference cleaning up Knoxville's local rivers and streams. To register, visit [this map](#), select the location at which you would like to volunteer, and register through the specific link for that site.
- Interested in learning about making the switch to an electric car? The Drive Electric Earth Day event is perfect for you! This event is an opportunity to learn about electric vehicles in person from the people who actually own them. There will also be a series of discussions and presentations about topics related to electric cars. This event will be at Ijams Nature Center on Saturday, April 10, from 10 a.m.-3 p.m., and you can register [here](#).
- Celebrate Earth Day with people from across the country with the Earth Day Initiative's virtual event on April 18 and 19, featuring prominent speakers, including climate activists, celebrities, community leaders, and performers. If you are interested in this event, learn more and register [here](#).

Did you know that the City of Knoxville is a certified Community Wildlife Habitat through the National Wildlife Federation? There are also three neighborhoods with this certification in Knoxville! If you are interested in learning how to turn your back yard or neighborhood into a haven for wildlife, you can reach out to Katie Catron at kcatron@knoxvilletn.gov or 215-3232.

6. Better Building Board and Public Officer Hearing to Meet this Week

One property is listed on this week's **Better Building Board (BBB)** agenda. The BBB will meet on Thursday, March 25, at 3:30 p.m., virtually. To view the meeting you may watch it via Zoom in the Small Assembly Room if you do not have access to the internet, or you may watch it on your own with this [link](#). The passcode is 259061.

523 East Oklahoma Ave. is up for discussion on this week's agenda for determination of blight.

The BBB meets every Third Thursday of the month to hear appeals of the Public Officer's orders.

If you wish to speak to this property, you must register in advance with Cheri Burke, at 215-2867 or cm Burke@knoxvilletn.gov.

Seventeen properties are on the agenda for the City's next **Public Officer Hearing (POH)** at 9:30 a.m., Friday, March 26.

To view the meeting by Zoom, click on this [link](#). The passcode is 058714. If you do not have access at home, you may view the meeting in the Small Assembly Room of the City County Building.

The Public Officer holds hearings and issues orders to property owners to make repairs or to demolish unfit structures. If the property owner does not comply with the order, the city may repair or demolish the structure and bill the owner for the service.

The properties to be considered are: 3938 Alma Ave., including accessory structure – confirmation of emergency repair/demolition order; 3945 Alma Ave. – accessory structure only; 1419 Border St.; 725 Chickamauga Ave.; 6001 Clinton Hwy. – commercial – confirmation of emergency repair only order; 2349 East Fifth Ave.; 3128 Gailbraith St. – including accessory structure; 815 Hiawasse Ave.; 2322 Highland Ave.; 216 Kirkwood St. – including accessory structures – Confirmation of emergency repair only order; 2700 East Magnolia Ave. – Confirmation of emergency repair only order; 4607 Okey St. including accessory structure; 927 Virginia Ave.; and 5719 Wooded Acres Dr. – Accessory structure only. Also to be addressed are structures that have been boarded, which include 2810/2812 East Fifth Ave, 1514 Jourolman Ave., and 4607 Okey St.

If you wish to speak to any of these properties, you must register in advance with Cheri Burke, at 215-2867 or cmburke@knoxvilletn.gov.

If any of these properties are located in your neighborhood, you may consider attending the BBB or POH to speak on the issue. To learn more about the BBB or POH, visit the City's [BBB and POH website](#).

7. HND Hosts Virtual Public Hearing and Council Workshop on Annual Plan

City of Knoxville Housing and Neighborhood Development is in the process of developing the 2021-2022 (Year Two) Annual Action Plan, describing the proposed use of US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnership (HOME), and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funds.

A draft of the plan will be available for a 30-day comment period, starting April 2. To review the year two of the five year Annual Action plan, click [here](#).

The plan expands upon funding the City of Knoxville expects to receive for the July 2021-July 2022 fiscal Year. Starting July 1, 2021, the City expects to receive \$1,787,837.00 in CDBG, \$1,124, 871.00 in HOME, and \$150,252.00 in ESG funds for the July 2021-July 2022 fiscal year. Additionally, the plan highlights other monies the City may receive, including \$100,000.00 in CDBG program income, \$500,000.00 in Home program income, and uncommitted funding from the 2020-2021-year grant.

The draft Annual Action Plan will propose allocation of the above listed HUD funding across priority areas, addressing homelessness, affordable housing, housing and rental housing rehabilitation, economic opportunity, neighborhood stabilization and revitalization, and general administration.

To learn more about the year two Annual Action Plan, watch the Virtual Public Hearing on Tuesday, April 27, at 6 p.m., via Zoom. Check the [Housing and Neighborhood Development](#) webpage for the Zoom link and information. Residents are encouraged to participate.

Additionally, City Council will host a workshop to discuss the draft plan on Thursday, April 29, at 6 p.m. This meeting is not yet determined to be via Zoom or in person. To find out more details as the date approaches, please visit the HND [webpage](#). This meeting will also be broadcast on Community Television of Knoxville (CTVKnox.org) for all to watch.

Residents are invited to comment on the Annual Action Plan between April 2 and May 1. Please direct any questions to Linda Rust at lrust@knoxvilletn.gov or by mail at P.O. Box 1631, Knoxville, TN 37901.

8. Save The Date: National Night Out Set for October 12

Be sure to mark your calendars for October 12 this year, so your neighborhood can start planning for National Night Out (NNO)!

NNO is an annual community-building campaign that aims to strengthen relationships between police and the local community. Be on the lookout for more details as the date approaches and start thinking of ideas on how your neighborhood may want to celebrate this year!

Many cities celebrate NNO on the first Tuesday in Aug.; Knoxville celebrates the first Tuesday in Oct. However, this year City Council meets on the first Tuesday in October, so the decision was made to move NNO one week later so neighbors and council members would be free to attend their community's events.

9. April Includes National Youth Violence Prevention Week

Founded in 2001, the National Youth Violence Prevention Week is dedicated to addressing youth violence in the community and empowering youth to take the lead in coming up with effective strategies to prevent violence in the future.

Youth Violence Week 2021, April 12-16, is just around the corner. The City of Knoxville's Empower Knox Initiative is gearing up to spend the week educating and empowering our community.

In the last three months, shootings in Knoxville have seen a 300% increase over the same period last year and include the tragic deaths of four young people. Empower Knox and partner organizations including YOKE Youth Ministries, YWCA Knoxville, and The Change Center are working to combat this violence through initiatives such as roundtable conversations, youth councils, youth forums, youth programs, and more!

Stay posted for more on Youth Violence Prevention Week, how to get involved, and updates on ways youth can get involved in the conversation on violence prevention by visiting the [Empower Knox website](#).

10. Knoxville Neighborhoods Calendar (click link for online calendar)

Call 215-3232 to include your neighborhood event or meeting in [this Google calendar](#).

If you are a person with a disability who requires an accommodation to attend a City of Knoxville public meeting, please contact Stephanie Brewer Cook at scook@knoxvilletn.gov or 215-2034 no less than 72 hours before the meeting you wish to attend. For an interpreter, contact Title VI Coordinator Tatia M. Harris at 215-2831.

Other Calendars

Additional online calendars that cover events outside the neighborhood realm include:

- [Arts & Culture Alliance](#) (There's More to Knoxville)
- [Arts & Fine Crafts Center Classes](#) (City of Knoxville)
- [City of Knoxville General Calendar](#)
- [Parks and Rec Community Programming](#)

About This Newsletter

*** This Advisory is produced on most Tuesdays of the year.*

*** Ideas and contributions are welcome. We reserve the right to edit submissions.*

*** Deadline for news & calendar items: 12 p.m. Fridays.*

*** May be copied and forwarded via neighborhood email lists and newsletters.*

*** See past issues at our website: <http://www.knoxvilletn.gov/neighborhoods>*

*** Don't have internet access? Call 215-4382 if you need a copy of a particular document.*