

# MAYOR'S NEIGHBORHOOD ROUNDTABLE SUMMARY

April 8, 2019

Tracy Corr opened the meeting on Monday, April 8, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. in the Mayor's Conference Room, City/County/Building, Lincoln, NE.

## Attendance

Nineteen residents and five City staff attended:

Tracy Corr – 40 <sup>th</sup> & A NA	Jeff Schwebke – Arnold Heights NA
Gloria Eddins – Clinton NA	Joy Elliott – Country Club NA
Paul Johnson – East Campus CO	Karen Dienstbier – Eastridge NA
Myrna Coleman – Highlands NA	Jeremie Memming – Indian Village NA
Pat Bracken – Irvingdale NA	Dennis Hecht – Meadowlane Area RA
Mike DeKalb – University Place CO	Keith Roland – University Place CO
Bill Vocasek – West A NA	Fred Freytag – Witherbee NA
Russell Miller – Witherbee NA	Randy Smith – Woods Park NA
Mike Renken – Neighborhood Works-Lincoln	Leirion Gaylor Baird – City Council
Lindsay Limbach – Lincoln CLC's	Lin Quenzer – Mayor's Office
Jon Carlson – Mayor's Office	Lynn Johnson – Parks & Recreation Dept
Nicole Fleck-Tooze – Parks & Recreation Dept	Wynn Hjermstad – Urban Development Dept

## Welcome & Introductions

Tracy Corr welcomed everyone and asked for introductions. Tracy Corr thanked everyone for braving the unpleasant weather. Paul Johnson volunteered to take notes.

## Mayor's Comments

Mayor was unable to attend.

**Neighborhood Clean-up Grant Program** – *Renae Rief, Environmental Health Education Supervisor, Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department: 402-441-4602; [rrief@lincoln.ne.gov](mailto:rrief@lincoln.ne.gov)*

Interviews are being conducted this week to fill the Education Director position.

Keep Lincoln-Lancaster County Beautiful (KLLCB) is part of the Waste Management Division of the Health Department (**see Attachment 1**). KLLCB has four goals: a clean, healthy and safe community, organizing residents to take action, reducing litter through cleanup projects, and preventing litter through education. To further these goals, grants are available to help neighborhood associations and community groups with the expenses of cleanup and recycling activities. Neighborhood associations can use a KLLCB grant to help pay for landfill fees, dumpsters, and recycling fees. To help volunteers remove litter, KLLCB can also provide supplies, a location from which to work, and experienced advice. There are no changes in either the Neighborhood Association or the Community Improvement grant program this year.

KLLCB tracks volunteer hours and pounds of trash and recycled materials collected each year. Even if a cleanup effort does not use a KLLCB grant, the volunteer hours involved and the amount of materials collected can count toward Lincoln's annual total, which is reported to the national Keep America Beautiful organization.

KLLCB also promotes disposal of toxic chemicals and household hazardous waste in as safe and environmentally responsible way as possible. Lincoln's hazardous waste center, HAZTOGO, is a convenient way to do that. HAZTOGO is located at 5101 North 48<sup>th</sup> Street and is open by appointment. To make an appointment, visit [haztogo.com](http://haztogo.com).

For lists of what can be accepted at the HAZTOGO site and what cannot, go to [lincoln.ne.gov](http://lincoln.ne.gov), keyword: haztogo. In addition, the mobile household hazardous waste collections will continue to be

available in various locations throughout Lincoln and Lancaster County. Dates and locations for mobile collections can also be found online at [lincoln.ne.gov](http://lincoln.ne.gov), keyword: haztogo.

**Question:** Are brush coupons still available?

**Answer:** Yes, contact KLLCB at [KLLCB@lincoln.ne.gov](mailto:KLLCB@lincoln.ne.gov) or 402-441-8035. Brush coupons are available for neighborhood associations to use during a cleanup or for distribution to residents. These coupons allow one load (unlimited size) of brush and tree trimmings to be disposed of at the landfill without charge.

Rena handed out resources available online:

- **2019 Reduce, Reuse and Recycle Guide** (<https://lincoln.ne.gov/city/ltu/solid-waste/pdf/guide.pdf>)
- **HazToGo** (<https://www.lincoln.ne.gov/city/health/envirom/Waste/pdf/19HMCC.pdf>)

**Stormwater Bond on May Ballot** – Donna Garden, Transportation and Utilities Assistant  
Director/Utilities: 402-441-8605; [dgarden@lincoln.ne.gov](mailto:dgarden@lincoln.ne.gov)

During the spring flooding Lincoln's water system lost one well in the Ashland well field, which will eventually need to be replaced. Lincoln residents stepped up and reduced their water usage by 10-15% during the flooding emergency, which was much appreciated. In response to a question, Donna noted that the only water wells in Lincoln are in Antelope Park and these wells are not part of the City's water system.

If approved by voters, the 2019 Stormwater Bond on the May 7<sup>th</sup> General election ballot, the bond would provide a total of \$9.9 million in local funding for capital improvements and leverage significant additional Federal and State funds. **See Attachment 2.**

About \$6.6 million of the bond will be for the Dead Man's Run project. Federal, State and Natural Resource District funds will cover the remaining \$17.4 million. Dead Man's Run has been a stormwater problem area ever since Gateway Shopping Center was built, which was before stormwater regulations were in place. The current project will address those problems and remove approximately 480 structures from the flood plain and, according to the Army Corps of Engineers, have a cost benefit ratio of \$2.69 [delivering \$2.69 of value for every \$1.00 spent]. The project has been approved and is ready to go, which is why the bond issue is on the ballot in May instead of November.

A Roundtable attendee asked what would happen if the bond issue does not pass. Donna replied that the Corps of Engineers and the Natural Resource District have already committed funds, so a failed bond issue this spring would push the project back to a new bond issue next year.

Other activities that will be funded by the bond include: the Forest Lake Boulevard & 67<sup>th</sup> Street flood reduction area, park channel stabilization & grade projects, and urban & street drainage projects.

Taking the long view, 14 stormwater bonds have been issued since 1977. Seven of those have been retired and another will be retired is 2020.

**Adopt-an-Ash Tree Program** – Lynn Johnson, Director, Lincoln Parks and Recreation Department:  
402-441-8265; [ljohnson@lincoln.ne.gov](mailto:ljohnson@lincoln.ne.gov)

The Adopt-an-Ash Tree Program is a partnership between Lincoln residents and the Parks & Recreation Department that will be available beginning April 30<sup>th</sup>. Residents can adopt a tree adjacent to their property if they agree to arrange for & pay for chemical treatment every 2 years. The treatment must be applied by a licensed applicator, optimally during the time between mid-May and mid-June. **See Attachment 3.**

Residents can complete an application (available online) and submit it to Parks & Recreation by email, mail, and in person. All trees in the city have been cataloged and can be viewed. The Street

Tree ID number for each tree to be treated must be included on the application. The application, Public Ash Tree Inventory, and other relevant links are available at [lincoln.ne.gov](http://lincoln.ne.gov), keyword: adopt.

From Roundtable attendees:

- **Suggestion:** Perhaps the treatment applicator's license number should be required on the application?
- **Question:** Will homeowners be reminded to schedule treatment?  
**Answer:** Yes
- **Question:** What is the average cost?  
**Answer:** *It depends on size of tree, but \$250-300 per treatment.*
- **Question:** Why must the adopted tree be adjacent to the property?  
**Answer:** *Neighbors need to communicate between each other as to who is adopting a tree. If tree is in good condition, well-placed & meets the other requirements, then how near the tree is to the property becomes less of a priority.*

**Short Term Rental Requirements / Restrictions** – Steve Henrichsen, Development Review Manager, Lincoln-Lancaster Co. Planning Department: 402-441- 6374; [shenrichsen@lincoln.ne.gov](mailto:shenrichsen@lincoln.ne.gov)

On behalf of Steve Henrichsen and the Planning Department, Wynn Hjermsstad reported that state legislation regarding short-term rentals has been approved. Current City ordinances will have to be changed & the process will start in the summer. The law will take effect in September 2019. **See Attachment 4.** Planning staff will return to Roundtable when more information is available.

### **Announcements**

- **Electronic Recycling program:** Sunday, April 28, 8:30 am to Noon, 1<sup>st</sup> Plymouth Church, 2000 D Street.
- **UPCO Easter Egg Hunt** – Saturday, April 20, 10:00 am, UPCO Park. **See Attachment 5.**
- **Spring Tea @ Whitehall Mansion** – Saturday, April 13, 2-4 pm, 5903 Walker Ave. \$25 donation. **See Attachment 6.**
- **Meadowlane Annual Meeting** – Tuesday, April 16, 7:00 pm, Cornhusker Bank Community Room, 84<sup>th</sup> & O.
- **Civil Rights Conference** – Wednesday, April 17, all day, \$60.
- **Mayor's Prayer Breakfast** – Friday, April 12, 7:30 am, Lincoln Station.
- **Young Women projects** – Friday, April 12, 6-7:30 pm, Dawes Middle School.

### **Next Meeting/Agenda**

The next meeting of the Mayor's Neighborhood Roundtable will be May 13, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. It will be Mayor Beutler's last meeting.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at about 6:30 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted, Paul Johnson*