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Newsletter (PDF version <http://bit.ly/NeighborhoodAdvisory-2021-01-19>)

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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 Council Approved Six Neighborhood Small Grants

For the 2021 Neighborhood Small Grants cycle, six neighborhoods applied and were recommended to receive funding for their proposed projects.

Last Tuesday, Jan. 12, City Council voted to approve the funding.

The Neighborhood Small Grants Program (NSGP) allows neighborhoods to apply for small grants (up to \$3,000) to tackle projects important to their area. NSGP grants are designed to offer neighborhoods the ability to fund neighborhood-led projects specific to the unique character and needs of their neighborhood.

Neighborhoods that will receive funding from the 2021 Neighborhood Small Grants Program are: **Fairmont-Emoriland Neighborhood Association, The Roseberry City Connection Community Organization, Town Hall East, South Woodlawn Neighborhood Association, Vestal Community Organization, and Westwood Homeowners' Association.**

This year's recipients have a wide range of creative projects uniquely designed for bringing people together in their area, including bus shelters, rose bushes, bench installation and restoration, a welcome sign, a large community event.

For more information on the [NSGP](#), the 2022 grant cycle, and a list of previously funded projects, visit the [Neighborhood Small Grants Program Awards](#).

2. What Do You Love About Your Neighborhood?

The Office of Neighborhood Empowerment (ONE) would love to hear what you love about your neighborhood! There are so many great things happening in Knoxville's neighborhoods that should be shared with the rest of the community. Is there a hidden gem in your neighborhood such as a park, mural, or creek that you think should be recognized? We would love to hear about it

Please contact to Debbie Sharp at dsharp@knoxville.gov or 215-4382. We might even feature your neighborhood gem in this Newsletter.

3. ONE Needs Neighborhood Boundaries

Have your neighborhood boundaries changed recently? Are you interested in being included in the neighborhood map? Send us your updated boundaries!

The Office of Neighborhood Empowerment is currently working on updating our neighborhoods map, and in order to make it a useful tool for the public, we need the most updated information. See KGIS's [neighborhood map layer](#) to see if your boundaries are listed and/or accurate.

You can submit your boundaries to Katie C kcatron@knoxville.gov or call 865-215-3232.

4. Deadline for Neighbor of the Year Nominations Extended

The deadline to nominate a deserving neighbor for the Diana Conn Good Neighbor of the Year Award has been extended and will now be accepted through Friday, Jan. 29, by 4:30 p.m.

With COVID-19 ruling our lives in 2020, has there been a standout person in your neighborhood who has helped keep everyone healthy, stable, and mindful? Have they helped to keep spirits up? Did they bring folks together for safe events? Did they give to those in need? We want to hear about these neighborhood blessings!

To nominate someone, fill out the nomination [form](#) and return it to Courtney Durrett either by email at cdurrett@knoxville.gov or by mail to: Office of Neighborhoods, City of Knoxville, P.O. Box 1631, Knoxville, TN 37901.

The Diana Conn Good Neighbor of the Year Award is presented annually to a Knoxville resident who has devoted time and talent in service to his or her neighbors and neighborhood. The award is meant to honor someone who makes a positive contribution at the neighborhood level without seeking recognition for their service.

If you have questions, you may also call 215-3456. To learn more about previous winners, visit the [website](#).

5. Neighborhood Achievement Award Nominations Being Accepted

Don't miss this opportunity to receive recognition for the work your neighbors did during 2020 and through a pandemic, no less. Applications for the Neighborhood Achievement Award are due Friday, Feb. 5, by 4:30 p.m.

What creative, interesting, resourceful, clever projects have your neighborhood organizations done over the past year?

Whether your organization is large or small, well established or brand new, your group is encouraged to apply for these awards, which showcase accomplishments by neighborhood groups during the 2020 calendar year. Winners receive \$75 for their Neighborhood Organization to use on future initiatives.

To apply, fill in the [nomination form](#) and email it to Courtney Durrett at cdurrett@knoxvilletn.gov OR mail it to Office of Neighborhoods, P.O. Box 1631, Knoxville, TN, 37901, no later than 4:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 5. If you have questions or need a hard copy mailed to you, contact Courtney at 215-3232 or the above email.

Examples of accomplishments include, but are not limited to:

- Beautification and place-making projects, green spaces and community gardens, and other physical improvements to the neighborhood;
- Projects, events, and activities that focus on connecting neighbors with one another, such as street fairs, potlucks, home tours, holiday celebrations, and neighbors helping neighbors;
- New or ongoing communication efforts such as newsletters, social media, and phone tree networks; and
- Activities involved in launching, reviving, or strengthening a neighborhood group.

We are excited to see what creative things you have done in 2020 (and during a pandemic)!

6. Members Sought for African American Equity Restoration Task Force

The Knoxville City Council office is now accepting letters of interest from residents who would like to serve on the African American Equity Restoration Task Force (AAERTF).

Anyone interested should submit a letter of interest, with biography and/or resume, to the City Council Office by 4 p.m. on Monday, Jan. 25. Submissions may be made by email to City Recorder Will Johnson at wjohnson@knoxvilletn.gov or in person at the City Council Office, 400 Main Street, Suite 467.

The AAERTF was part of a resolution proposed by Vice Mayor Gwen McKenzie and approved by City Council in December 2020 to "acknowledge and apologize for past actions hurting African Americans and to address equity restoration." The City Council committed to finding funding to help support the community that was displaced and economically disadvantaged during Urban Removal. This Task Force will help guide those efforts. You can read the resolution on the [City Council's website](#).

7. HZC and BZA and Meet This Week

The [Historic Zoning Commission](#) will meet on Thursday, Jan. 21, at 8:30 a.m., via Zoom. You can contact Lindsay Crockett at 865-215-3795 or historiczoning@knoxplanning.org for questions about attending or speaking at this meeting.

Certificates of Appropriateness will be awarded to: 404 E. Oklahoma Ave.; 1232 Armstrong Ave.; 518 W. Glenwood Ave.; 2108 Jefferson Ave.; 2057 Emoriland Blvd.

The [Board of Zoning Appeals](#) (BZA) meeting will be this Thursday, January 21, at 4 p.m., virtually via Zoom. If you wish to watch this meeting or speak on an agenda item, you can join with the [Zoom link](#).
Passcode: 754690.

BZA will consider the following petitions for variance of requirements: 6300 Asheville Hwy; 1500 Lyons Bend Rd.; 6217 Kingston Pike; 595 Arrowhead Trail.

The next BZA and HZC meetings will be on Feb. 18, 2021.

If you need assistance or accommodation for a disability, please contact the City ADA coordinator at 215-2034.

8. Police Advisory Review Committee to Hold Quarterly Meeting

The [Police Advisory Review Committee](#) (PARC) will hold its fourth quarter public meeting on Thursday, Jan. 28, at 6 p.m., via Zoom. Residents can watch the proceedings on Community Television of Knoxville or via Zoom.

In order to speak during the public forum, contact PARC Executive Director LaKenya Middlebrook at lmiddlebrook@knoxvilletn.gov or 215-3869 by noon on Jan. 28. Confirmed speakers will receive instructions via email on how to join the meeting.

Join the [Zoom meeting](#).

Passcode: 297893

Or you may phone in with 1-301-715-8592

PARC consists of seven members. Members must possess a reputation for fairness, integrity, responsibility, and have demonstrated an active interest in public affairs and service, and not be a current employee of any governmental body except those employed in the field of education. PARC members must be registered voters in the City of Knoxville.

Members are appointed by the Mayor and confirmed by Council. Terms are for a three-year period. Members cannot serve more than two consecutive terms.

9. 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.*