



The Park Bench

AEPNA Association Newsletter

Visit us online at aepna.org

President's Letter

Big Steps

We're several steps closer to opening the path between the neighborhood and the campus. AEPNA officers met with John Royster, UNO campus architect George Killian, and our Councilman Chris Jerram to review the final plans for the new sidewalk between our neighborhood and UNO. Work is scheduled to begin and possibly be completed this year if we have nice weather. This small change can have a really big impact on our quality of life because of the accessibility to the campus, businesses, and other neighbors.

Midtown Neighborhood Alliance awarded us a \$750 grant which will be applied to the Schroeder-Vogel Park project. We are close enough to the funding goal to start work. Pat Slaven, from the Omaha Parks & Recreation Department, and Amber Miller, from the Omaha Parks Foundation will attend our November meeting to give us an update and possibly a start date for the playground improvement project.

Kathy Moritz Byrnes from Canvas and Cabernet (a new Business Member) will talk about her business and how she helps people to express their creative side. I'm sure it will be interesting! Check it out online at canvasandcab.com.

The AEPNA board has been discussing signs to identify the neighborhood.

The Midtown, Dundee and Morton Meadows areas have signs at key entrances to their neighborhoods. Costs, design, location, funding sources and grants are all part of the discussion.

If you'd like to be part of the process, please let me know.

I hope to see you at the November 21 meeting!

Avery Schwer



Sidewalk planning meeting.

Next Meeting ...
Thursday, November 21
6:30 – 8:30 PM
 Guest speakers from:
 Omaha Parks & Recreation
 Omaha Parks Foundation
 Canvas & Cabernet

Saint Matthew Evangelical
 Lutheran Church
 1725 S. 60th Street
 3rd Thursday
 Every Other Month

Bring a friend or two
 and join us!

Green With Energy Efficiency Envy

It's not easy being Green. Using push mowers, riding a bicycle to work (even with a bike lane on Leavenworth), remembering to bring cloth bags to the grocery store... it takes physical and mental energy.

While your Green neighbors boast about their low utility bills, you feel crushed by your gas, water and electricity bills. Your windows are leaky; your children never close a door or turn off a light and your teenagers drain the hot water heater daily. The Zero Net Energy Test House (ZNETH) around the corner might as well be in another universe.

To help preserve the peace between the Green and the Not-so-Green neighbors, upcoming newsletters will include simple tips and affordable ways to make your home cozier and your carbon footprint a bit smaller.



Envisioning Possibilities



your neighborhood bank  more

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Neighborhood
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Small Wonders

Big Visions

When you hear the term “eyesore” what do you picture in our neighborhood?

An abandoned house or overgrown lot? A neglected patch of city property? A crumbling wall? Piles of trash? Take a walking tour and look at the neighborhood from an outsider’s point of view. What places look tired and run down? Uninviting? Dangerous?

Now spend some time and energy envisioning that eyesore converted into something beautiful or amazing or inspiring... What would it be? A community garden? A patch of green? A mosaic of pavers? A safe place for biking or walking?

Then ask yourself what it might take to turn your vision into a reality. The first thing that comes to mind is a community – people who share the vision and have an investment in making it happen. Expect some obstacles and bumps on the path of every improvement. But this is your neighborhood, your community. Make it the kind of place that you are proud to call home.

If you have visions that you’d like to share or get help organizing, contact Avery Schwer, AEPNA President and member of our neighborhood visionary team.



Looking at the world through a new set of eyes.

Correction

Last month, Tom Prohaska was identified as a part of the “regular clean-up crew” that meets monthly at Schroeder/Vogel Park. Unfortunately, there is no longer a regular crew. Neighbors and volunteers show up as they can, sometimes the “crew” is a single person. Knowing in advance how many people will participate makes it easier to organize and prioritize tasks. Contact Eileen Slane if you want to be counted among the regulars for the monthly clean-up activities.

AEPNA Membership Form

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Welcome New Business Members!

Canvas and Cabernet in Aksarben Village and
Elmwood Tower

Is your business located in the AEPNA boundaries?
Join the association to support the neighborhood!



Canvas & Cabernet