

EAST TENNESSEE COMMUNITY DESIGN CENTER

1300 N. Broadway

Knoxville, TN 37917

(865) 525-9945

January 2008

Board Members, volunteer professional advisors, supporters, members, and very dear friends of the East Tennessee Community Design Center.

Enclosed is a copy of the Design Center's annual services report for calendar year 2007. The report contains information about services rendered, the groups or agencies receiving services, and other programmatic information and statistics.

Keeping in mind our purpose for existing is "to make East Tennessee a better place to live and work by creating *better communities by design*." The efforts of all those listed below are put forth for that sole purpose, and I am convinced the result of the Design Centers work, everyday, enriches lives and strengthens the communities of Knoxville and the surrounding area.

I am confident you will find this report educational, and I sincerely encourage you to take the few minutes needed to read through it.

With very little effort it is readily evident to see how our volunteers donated in excess of \$106,000 of their professional time, through the Design Center to assist these worthy organizations.

We thank you for your support of our efforts, and for spending time with us during our 37th year of service.

Best regards,

David M. Watson
Executive Director

East Tennessee Community Design Center

Calendar Year 2007 Annual Services Report

During the calendar year from January 1 thru December 31, 2007 the East Tennessee Community Design Center accepted new projects, and completed work on a few existing projects carried forward from 2006, and accepted projects we will complete in 2008.

Projects types of the Design Center include neighborhood consensus building on issues regarding traffic calming, programming and planning building renovations, historic structures restorations and preservations, parks and outdoor space plans, neighborhood and community planning projects, new building designs and interior renovations to fit current programming needs of the organization. This year we proactively pursued five projects for enhancement of the downtown urban landscape, alleyway improvement, media box enclosures, pedestrian way finding, Market Square entrance treatments, and on-street parking control.

With funding support from our sponsors, S&ME Inc., and Hedstrom Design, we were able to design and produce our first calendar for 2008 which hi-lites 12 different Design Center projects. We thought the calendar would be a nice way to show our supporters some of the ways we invest your contributions in the community.

Design Center projects are located primarily in the 16 counties of the East Tennessee Development District. Geography however is not a condition for acceptance of a project. There are other qualifications that must be met for the Center to accept a project.

The East Tennessee Community Design Center is the only organization in our region that works every day for the sole purpose of assisting non-profit groups and agencies with their design and planning assistance needs. During the past twelve months the Design Center assisted 68 different organizations on 77 requests for assistance.

Qualifications for receiving assistance are simple, but mandatory:

- The requesting entity must be an organized, non-profit group; association, or organization, 501(c)(3) status is not required.
- The requesting organization must serve the community at large, i.e., the organization does not exist for the sole benefit of its membership.
- The requesting organization must not have the resources to contract for the needed services with a for-profit business*.
- The requesting organization must demonstrate there is a plan in place to raise the required funding to bring the project to reality.

* On rare occasions the Board has agreed to assist a more affluent organization if our assistance involves the public realm, and our assistance will expose the Design Center to opportunities that benefit the Center in ways that might not otherwise be available. In my six years as director I know of only one occasion when the Board made that determination. We are very cognizant NOT to put ourselves in a position to take work from the private sector. Our assistance to these organizations in most cases actually results in work for the private sector, i.e. our mission *"better communities by design."*

Project request are reviewed on their individual need and merit each month, and accepted if funding and volunteer professionals are available to support the request. The Center has never rejected a request for assistance from a qualified organization; we do generally have about a 5-month backlog of requests.

Funding in part is received from United Way of Greater Knoxville, the Tennessee Arts Commission, Scripps Howard Foundation, friends of the Design Center including the Board of Directors and our members, Knox County Community Grants, First Tennessee Foundation, Clayton Bank & Trust, and the City of Knoxville Community Development Block Grant. A full list of our contributors is published in our newsletter, which is also posted on our web site.

The following is a list of projects and services provided by the volunteers and staff of the Design Center during 2007. Projects are located in Knox County unless otherwise indicated.

1. Oak Ridge Playhouse

This is a client we provided programming, design and planning services for back in 2002/2003, and is now ready to move their renovation project forward.

Request: Provide direction and assistance in selecting a firm for professional services.

Staff support for this effort provided by David Watson

2. Central Business Improvement District – Downtown Knoxville

Request: Advisory committee participation for grant and development opportunity reviews and recommendations to the CBID Board of Directors.

Committee participation by: David Watson

3. East Tennessee Regional Grow-out Facility, (Regional)

Client: East Tennessee Community Design Center

Request: Facilitate development of a plan and 12 acre parcel of property to house a plant grow-out facility for benefit of nonprofit organizations in the East Tennessee region.

Volunteer Professional Advisors:

Mr. David Vandergriff, UT Agriculture Extension Agent

Mr. Sam Adams, Cortese Tree Specialist

Ms. Sharon McKee, S&ME Inc.

Ms. Elizabeth Gassel, ASLA

Ms. Sara Hedstrom, ASLA, Carol R. Johnson Associates

Ms. Anne Wallace, MPC Planner

And a 19 member volunteer steering committee of local professionals

4. Knoxville Dog Owners Group

Request: Provide fiscal management services for this new organization.

Fiscal Agent: David Watson

5. Manchester Community Arts Center, Coffee County

Request: Provide direction and assistance in selecting a firm for professional services.

Staff support for this effort provided by: David Watson

6. Downtown Newport Association

Request: Assist with the creation of "Recommended Guidelines for Downtown Development & Design."

Volunteer Professional Advisors

Ms. Sharon McKee, S&ME Inc.

Ms. Beth Phillips, ET CDC Board Member and University of Tennessee Institute for Public Service

Ms. Sara Hedstrom, ASLA, Carol R. Johnson Associates ASLA

Ms. Madeleine Weil, Planner

Ms. Annette Anderson, Planner

Mr. Robert Wilson, Planner

7. Knox Area Rescue Ministries

Request: Space programming and renovation alternatives to increase efficiency and create rental space.
Volunteer Professional Advisor, Mr. Ric Mixon, AIA, Wystwynd Designs

8. Church of the Savior

Request: Planning and illustrations for expansion of public playground with access to new greenway
Volunteer Professional: Advisor Mr. Curtis Catron, ASLA, Bullock Smith & Partners

10. Downtown Urban Studio

Request: Develop recommendations for enhancement of alleyways in the CBID
Method: In a collaborative effort between the University of Tennessee College of Architecture & Design, the East Tennessee Community Design Center, Design Innovations Architects, the First Tennessee Foundation, the Metropolitan Planning Commission and twenty stakeholders in downtown Knoxville, under direct supervision by Dean John McRae, UT student intern Chris Sayer documented existing conditions of downtown Knoxville alleys, reviewed options for improvement using other cities of the world and the stakeholders as a guide for enhancement recommendations. The Downtown Design Review Board has requested MPC review the guide and make recommendations for inclusion into the Downtown Design Guidelines.

11. Knoxville City Council

Request: Participate on a committee to research and make recommendations for management and programming of services at City owned golf courses.
Committee representation: David Watson

12. City of Knoxville Office of Strategic Initiatives

Request: Review existing conditions and make recommendations for location and housing of publications in the public spaces of the Central Business Improvement District.
Volunteer Professional Advisors:
Mr. Brian Pittman, McCarty Holsaple McCarty Architects Inc.
Ms. Christina Geros, Barber & McMurry Inc.

13. City of Knoxville Department of Community Development

Request: Under our block grant contract create options that illustrate appropriate façade enhancement recommendations that meet or exceed the Façade Enhancement Guidelines of the Empowerment Zone.

Volunteer Professional Advisors: Mr. Duane Grieve and Mr. Frank Sparkman

Facades: Lusk Auto Body
Service Awning and Lonnie's Auto Trim
Select Equipment Service
Locke Plumbing
Rental Rental
Knoxville Neighborhood Housing and Commercial Services
Harold J's Barber Shop
3930 MLK Boulevard
2634 Magnolia Avenue
Ruby's Restaurant Burlington
718 & 724 North Broadway
2444 MLK Boulevard
Lonsdale House
2255 McCalla Ave
Granning Paint

14. City of Knoxville Department of Community Development
Request: Create an application for infill housing applicants use, and, participate in committee review of applications for infill housing
Application creation, Perry Childress, ETCDC DesignWorks Program Coordinator
Committee representation, David Watson
15. Belle Morris Elementary School PTA
Request: Programming and space planning for a new art classroom building
Volunteer Professional Advisor, Ms. Beth Eason, AIA, Elizabeth Eason Architecture
16. Knox Heritage Inc.
Request: Create documents representing existing building condition of two George Barber houses in Park Ridge, 1618 & 1620 Washington Avenue
Volunteer Professional Advisors
Mr. Randall DeFord, AIA, C. Randall DeFord Architecture
Mr. Frank Sparkman, AIA, Sparkman Associates Architects
17. Knoxville Neighborhood Housing & Commercial Services
Request: Create documents representing existing building conditions and make recommendations for improvement to enhance services delivery
Volunteer Professional Advisor: Ms. Margaret Denney, Design Innovations Architects, Inc.
18. City of Knoxville Office of Strategic Initiatives
Request: Review existing conditions and make recommendations for enhancement of pedestrian in the public spaces of the Central Business District
Volunteer Professional Advisors, ETCDC DesignWorks Committee
Mr. Ric Mixon, AIA, Wystwynd Designs
Mr. Doug McCarty, McCarty Holsaple McCarty Architects
Mr. Frank Sparkman, AIA, Sparkman Associates Architects
Mr. Blake Graham, AIA, Barber McMurry Inc.
Mr. Patrick Hardin, Esq.
Ms. Charlotte Moellendick, UT student intern and ETCDC staff employee
19. Knoxville Museum of Art
Request: Space programming and planning for adaptive reuse of the north lawn.
Volunteer Professional Advisor:
Mr. Doug McCarty, McCarty Holsaple McCarty Architects
20. East Tennessee Regional Leadership Association, (Regional)
Request: Provide fiscal agent services, and administrative support.
Staff services provided by Ms. Jan Mosadegh, Program Director
Ms. Jane Myers, Executive Director
21. East Tennessee Housing Development Corporation
Request: Provide fiscal agent services, and administrative support.
Staff services provided by Ms. Jan Mosadegh, Program Director
Reverend Walter Ghosten, Board Chair
Terrence Carter, Executive Director

22. Blount Mansion

Request: Review overall campus and make recommendations for improvement in uses and pedestrian traffic flow.

Volunteer Professional Advisors:

Ms. Christina Geros and Mr. Blake Graham, Barber & McMurry Inc.

23. Lisa Ross Birth & Women's Center

Request: Review existing spaces and newly acquired space, assist with programming and space planning to accommodate additional client services.

Volunteer Professional Advisor: Mr. Dan Brewer, AIA, Brewer Ingram Fuller, Architects.

24. Maxwell Academy, Rogersville

Request: Review existing building with recommendations for stabilization and adaptive reuse. Assist with land use planning for trails and public spaces.

Volunteer Professional Advisor: Not yet recruited

25. Fourth & Gill Neighborhood

Request: Study streetscape along Luttrell Avenue behind Graystone and make recommendations for improvement:

Volunteer Professional Advisor: Mr. Ben Dieterle, National Park Service landscape architect

26. East Tennessee Housing Development Corporation

Request: Create a housing subdivision land use plan for Ohio Avenue in Lonsdale

Volunteer Professional Advisor: Mr. Ric Mixon, AIA, Wystwynd Design

27. West High School PTA

Request: Provide a landscape master plan for the school campus

Volunteer Professional Advisor: Ms Sara Hedstrom, ASLA, Hedstrom Design

28. Fountain City Connections

Request: Assist with pedestrian pathway layout for community access to proposed skateboard park.

Volunteer Professional Advisor: Not yet recruited

29. French Broad Preservation Association

Request: Assist with community consensus building around quality growth planning

Volunteer Professional Advisor: Not yet recruited

30. Wesley House

Request: Assist with programming and space planning for a new community building to serve the youth of Mechanicsville and surrounding area.

Volunteer Professional Advisor: Mr. Jim Odle, AIA, Odle & Young Architects

31. Knox County Government

Request: Participate in committee review of proposals for development of the old Knoxville News Sentinel property in downtown Knoxville.

Committee participant: David Watson

32. City of Knoxville

Request: Assist neighborhoods in consensus building around a traffic-calming plan that is acceptable to Knoxville City Traffic Engineering.

Services have or are being provided to the following neighborhoods:

- Old North Knoxville (Completed)
- Fourth & Gill
- Forest Heights
- Forest Hills
- Forest Glen – Tobler Lane
- Kingston Woods (Completed)
- Oakwood / Lincoln Park
- Five Points / Park City (Completed)
- Crystal Lake (Completed)
- North Hills
- Pond Gap
- Old Sevier
- Edgewood Park

33. Knox County Government

Request: Committee participation for planning and implementation of the 2008 Neighborhood Conference.
Committee participant: David Watson

34. Hall Oldfield Maryville Empowerment Inc. (Maryville/Alcoa)

Request: Space programming and renovation alternative for the old Hall High school
Volunteer Professional Advisor: Mr. Faris Eid, AIA, Design Innovations Architects

35. Market Square Merchants Association

Request: Assist in schematic design alternatives for Gay Street entrance enhancements to Market Square.
Volunteer Professional Advisor: Mr. Brian Pittman, McCarty Holsaple McCarty Architects and Ms. Christina Geros, Barber & McMurry Inc.

36. Knox Housing Partnership

Request: Provide street view alternatives for various housing options at the Chestnut Grove building sites.
Volunteer Professional Advisor: Ms. Margaret Denney, Design innovations Architects, Inc.

37. Old North Knoxville

Request: Provide landscape options for the newly installed traffic circles.
Volunteer Professional Advisor: Mr. Ben Dieterle, National Park Service landscape architect

38. Arnstein Jewish Center

Request: Space programming and finishes for the existing building, create a more inspirational rather than functional interior appearance.
Volunteer Professional Advisor: Mr. Faris Eid, Design Innovations Architects.

39. East Tennessee Foundation

Request: Provide fiscal management services for South Haven Neighborhood Association and Vestal Community Organization
Fiscal Agent: David Watson

40. Tellico Library
Request: Space programming and planning for a new privately owned public library
Volunteer Professional Advisor: Not yet recruited
41. Knoxville Tree Board
Request: Board of Directors retreat facilitation
Volunteer Facilitator: Ms. Linda Rust, Community Volunteer
42. Monroe Community Health, Vonore
Request: Space programming and planning for new facility
Volunteer Professional Advisor: Not yet recruited
43. East Tennessee Quality Growth
Request: Fiscal management services
Fiscal agent: David Watson
44. Breakthrough Corporation
Request: Space programming and planning for expansion of their existing Maryville Pike facilities
Volunteer Professional Advisor: Mr. Len Johnson, AIA, Johnson Architecture
45. Smoky Mountain Soccer Club
Request: Land use master planning for their fields and support areas off Watt Road.
Volunteer Professional Advisor: Mr. Jim Hodge, P.E., Hodge Associates
46. Friends of Literacy
Request: Corporate logo and brand development
Volunteer Professional Advisor: Ms. Barbara Boeing, Boeing Design & Illustration
47. Joy of Music
Request: Vandal deterrent measures and web site design.
Volunteer Professional Advisors: Mr. Brian Ewers, AIA, Dollar Ewers Architects and Ms. Kim Davis web site design.
48. Fort Sanders Elementary School
Request: Shading alternatives for the wheelchair swing area.
Volunteer Professional Advisors: ETCDC DesignWorks Committee members
49. Hastie Natural Area
Request: Creation of a land use master plan for this south Knoxville park based on community input.
Volunteer Professional Advisors: Ms. Linda Rust and Ms. Mary English
50. Race Relations Center
Request: Web site design and layout
Volunteer Professional Advisor: Ms. Kim Davis
51. Camp Tanasi
Request: Update of land use map created by the Design Center some 20 years ago.
Volunteer Professional Advisor: Not yet recruited

52. Mid-East Community Action Agency, Rockwood

Space programming and planning for a new administration and program building in Roane County.

Volunteer Professional Advisor: Not yet recruited

53. Downtown Design Review Board

Request: Study on street parking signage relative to pedestrian pathways within the CBID and make recommendations for improvement.

Volunteer Professional Advisor: Mr. Mark Donaldson, MPC Executive Director

54. Emory Valley Center

Request: Space programming and planning for a new administrative facility in Oak Ridge.

Volunteer Professional Advisor: Not yet recruited

I hope to never undervalue, or fail to recognize all the volunteers that contribute their time and energy in support of the Community Design Center and its mission. I do from time to time fail to recognize all the efforts of the paid staff. Without a doubt, one reason for the success of the Design Center is the dedicated, unselfish staff that so willingly works above and beyond the call of duty in support of our mission. Any other employee group, bar none, will not exceed customer service both inside and outside this organization!

Thank you to my fulltime and able-bodied assistant Jan Mosadegh, and to our part time staff Perry Childress and Pat Donaldson.

David Watson