

ELNA Board 2015-16 Candidate Questionnaire:

YOUR NAME: Pam Blackburn

1. From the website: The purpose of the East Lawrence Neighborhood Association is to facilitate understanding with the City of Lawrence and Douglas County; to maintain and enhance living conditions; to foster communication in East Lawrence and to maintain good relations amongst neighbors, businesses, organizations and other neighborhoods in Lawrence.

As a board member, how would you contribute to ELNA's mission?

My rezoning efforts (see below) and helping those in the target area (north of 9th) receive communication to understand the changes.

I have been secretary this past year, helping document the monthly meetings.

2. How many full ELNA meetings have you been to in the past 12 months?

All.

3. Have you volunteered, donated, or attended ELNA events? If so, which?

I volunteered at the ELNA concessions for KVKL and had the bug bites to prove it! I think ELNA had 5 games. I contributed to the YART sale (Thank YOU, ELNA! Downsizing is painful). I worked the block party at the information table selling ELNA merchandise, raffle tickets & memberships. I attended the sidewalk dig in the spring. Need to apply my knowledge to MY sidewalk now.

4. What kind of project(s) would you like to pursue for the neighborhood?

I am working on the rezoning effort for the area north of 9th. The remainder of the neighborhood has already been rezoned to current use. There are many nonconforming dwellings in the north of 9th area which is making the rezoning a bit more complicated. After that completes, I will work on the urban conservation overlay to help determine if / what is appropriate.

5. How long have you lived in East Lawrence? Why did you move here?

2.5 years. I was downsizing and looking for a place appropriate for retirement with a vibrant downtown and mass transit. When I settled on Lawrence I was looking for an area that would make me walk! Looking forward to that downtown grocery store.

6. What are the major issues facing East Lawrence today?

Managing the change without losing the flavor of the neighborhood. Increasing property values are burdening low income residents, both homeowners & renters.

7. How would you characterize the essence of the neighborhood?

Many different income levels and interests trying to coexist.

8. What other community / city boards/ groups do you belong to or attended regularly this past year?

Living so close to 9th St, I try to attend the East 9th CAC meetings.