

East Lawrence Neighborhood Association Meeting Minutes
Monday November 5th New York School Library
Minutes prepared by Catherine Reed

Present: Alex Olson, Catherine Reed, Cindy Suenram, Eric Jay, Joshua Davis, Judy Romero, Kaitlin Stanley, KH, KT Walsh, Lane Eisenbart, Lisa Larsen, Mandy Enfield, Mike Anderson, Pam Blackburn, Phil Collison, Todd Foster

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 pm.

1. Introductions

2. Housekeeping Announcements

- a. Meetings will be on the 2nd Monday of the month starting in January
- b. March 11th, 2nd Monday, USD 497 Spring Break, we will meet at DSC

3. Approvals. The Agenda and the August, September, and October minutes were approved.

- a. CDBG quarterly report: fill in meetings attended, especially BOARD.

4. New business

- a. Board Elections.

The new board consisting of Phil Collison, Catherine Reed, Aaron Paden, KT Walsh, Pam Blackburn, Mike Anderson, Joshua Davis, Kaitlin Stanley, Dave Lowenstein, Holly Myers and KH Harris was accepted unanimously. Phil will continue as president, Catherine as secretary, Mike as treasurer and KT will be vice-president. Lane is making a list of board contact information.

- b. Arts Place Grant, Rebuilding East Ninth Together.

The 9th St. Project team consists of Mandy (project facilitator), Alex (Arts Center), KT and Lane (neighborhood coordinators). Ideas and concerns should be addressed to Mandy. Lane is in charge of communications and will make a website including plans, calendar and budget. A Community Conversation for public input, the first of three meetings, will be held Saturday Dec. 1 from 9am to noon at the Sunrise Project.

- c. Wishing Bench.

Vandalism concerns and solutions. Dave L. may be looking into a grant for this. Lane suggested painting the base. For the time being we'll all keep an eye on the bench and remove anything that is definitely trash.

- d. CDBG application.

It's due Dec 1. Phil, Aaron, KH and Mike formed a committee to write the grant. We should include a request for infrastructure money, specifically to repair sidewalks. Phil will find out the details on this. If we do get the money, how will we decide whose sidewalks to repair? Phil will be in touch with Jeananne and Dave regarding their walk.

5. Recurring Updates

- a. Rebuilding East 9th, City portion.

It's hard to predict when the work will be completed. Surprises turn up underground, including a tunnel once used by the Underground Railroad as a passage for people fleeing slavery. The Connecticut and Ninth St intersection may be completed by the new year.

b. Downtown Plan -- Todd Foster, ELNA representative.

The planners, Houseal and Lavigne, www.hlplanning.com, are seeking public input. Todd attended a meeting where residents, landlords and business owners prioritized their concerns. A 12 to 15-year master plan will be developed, and public input on the plan will be solicited early in 2019.

c. 13th St bicycle boulevard. Phil. No new information. Two meetings will be held.

d. RiverKings. Phil wrote a letter in support of locating the museum at the Amtrak depot.

e. Downtown Grocery Store. Once again a grocer is being sought.

f. Conservation Overlay. KT asked the HRC to write a letter to the city requesting help in conservation overlay planning. The letter should be ready by the November meeting.

g. Splash Park. Nothing new on this.

h. Hike Through History. No update this time.

6. Reports

a. President. Phil will do the CDBG report. ELNA is registered with the feds to receive HUD funds after substantial paperwork.

b. Vice-President. No report.

c. Treasurer. The home tour cost ELNA \$63.00 and grossed \$3595.00. Thank you Eric and Mike and volunteers. We now have a balance of \$5889.80.

d. Coordinator. Lane passed on information from Jamie at the NY PTA. They want to celebrate the school's 150th birthday. There's an opportunity for volunteers to paint bathrooms, and a teachers' wish list in the school lobby.

i. Adopt a family. Lane will look into this.

e. Committees

i. Budget/ Fundraising Committee. This committee no longer exists.

ii. Lawrence Association of Neighborhoods. There's a concern that the Studio 804 buildings are overpriced. Discussion followed regarding affordable housing. Lot prices in Lawrence are substantial and city codes don't allow for high density. Possibly building more secondary units could address this problem.

iii. Planning Commission. No report.

iv. Historic Resources Commission. The plans for Bon Bon and 1024 Penn were approved. 1222 Connecticut will be torn down. 1215 Delaware is on the November agenda. HUB: a 7-story apartment building is being planned for 11th and Mass, with a parking garage on Rhode Island. This will be on the November agenda. Kaitlin will contact neighbors on RI to urge them to attend the meeting.

v. City Commission. Marijuana penalties will be lowered.

vi. CDAC. No report.

vii. New York PTO/Site Council. There's a concern with traffic safety during the road construction, especially when school is letting out. Should the city hire crossing guards? Possibly pickup sites can be changed. No mention of a food pantry at this meeting.

7. Updates / Announcements. None.

The meeting was adjourned at 9 pm.