

ELNA Meeting 5/5/2014 at New York Elementary

In attendance: Christine Kosirog, Pam Blackburn, Brenda Nunez, Leslie Soden, Robert Baker, Cindy Suenram, Bill Wachspress, Boog Highberger, Susan Tate, Ben Ahlvers, Nicholas Ward, Dave Lowenstein, John Gascon, Josh Davis, Michael Almon, Aaron Paden, Lane Eisenbart, Eric Jay, KT Walsh

March Minutes: KT moves with corrections, Josh 2nds, unanimous

Affordable Housing: Robert Baker came to tell us more about inclusionary zoning. He also shared that Leslie is starting an affordable housing coalition. What is inclusionary housing? PowerPoint (see attached) handed out from an innovative housing institute in FL. Government funding for affordable housing is being sequestered, so other methods are needed to ensure that it survives. How it's done and enforced is dependent on the municipalities. Shortage of affordable housing unless you have a Section 8 voucher, but these are also being restricted. We've lost 72 tax credit units since 2012, due in part to Westgate Apartments going out of business. His research has shown that tax credit housing is at nearly 100% (98.6%) with available units going down. Good examples to follow are Cambridge, MA for how to deal with this problem, they required that 12% of housing be affordable or pay the cost for that housing. Over 20 years they claim over 2000 units of affordable housing have been created. Density has to be controlled for, but it could happen here based on density on either end of EL. Other models exist that can be used as a basis for brainstorming. What can we do? A real broad based coalition needs to be formed. See article from Journal World stating that we are most expensive neighborhood (Loghorn, 4/29). May need to redefine our criteria of diverse neighborhood. Write a plan in order to make it a campaign issue. Anyone interested is encouraged to contact Leslie Soden to become a part of the Affordable Housing Coalition. John says that the city claims that you can go to the Horizon 20/20 page and find an email to give feedback to. Susan Tate added the importance of affordable housing as well as workplace came up over and over again during the cultural arts district meetings.

Arts Center Update re: Free State Film Fest, Ben Ahlvers. Festival will happen June 25-29. Been going on for 4 years now, has grown into multifaceted event. Received grant to help with that growth and it includes film, art, music and ideas. Outreach has occurred as part of the grant with VanGo and their films will be shown on Friday night. Art component-Granada to Bowerstock will have temporary projections on the buildings, as well as down 9th street (between CT and NY), NY school will also be involved all the way down to the Warehouse district. Performance based events will occur as well. Ideas component being led by KU primarily. Kicks off on 25th with doc on Johnny Winter and performance by him as well. Grant is for 2 years so it will likely be happening again. Complex, immense and exciting project. Coincides with the tour of Lawrence bike race. Waiting to hear back about ArtPlace grant in June.

Fundraising: Committee met and created list of potential ideas for raising funds. Refresher-we're about \$3000 short of the CDBG funds so we need to get some cash. Ideas from meeting include: round up at registers, east side calendar, more advertising on merch, more KVKL concessions, tables at Food Truck

on merch, more KVKL concessions, tables at Food Truck festival and HCHC, east Lawrence business tab on website.

River "Adopt a Park" Program: Mike Myers looked into the Adopt-A-Park program for our riverfront park. City provides bags, organization must do clean up at least 4x/year. Christine motions for Mike to move forward with program, KT seconds, vote unanimous.

Penny's area truck routes: Tabled until June.

Reports:

President-Nothing

Vice-President-Not here

Treasurer-Not here

Coordinator-April work included Yart Sale clean up, updated website with business tab as well as resource tab for Dave Evans, newsletter. May will include reserving Percolator for meetings, processing memberships.

Committees:

LAN-Brenda. New meeting room possibly at back room of Mirth. Chamber of Commerce-county and city are giving them \$450K/year but they refuse to open records, so they will send a letter. Mike Myers added that the city is taking public comment on the budget, and many people were there to discuss this issue.

PC-Nothing

HRC-KT. Mike Myers is rehabbing home across from him. Cromwell environmental is moving to old building on 6th and Vermont. Lynn Zellner working hard on group listings, hoping to get them on May and June agendas for City Commission. Jim Slough (freestate glass) wants to tear down structure at 8th and RI and put in massive structure (2 units, 7 bedrooms). Because of current shape, not a lot of weight to argument that it is an historic structure. Also, couple at 808 RI wants to add large addition to back of the house. Mark Thiel will give brick street presentation to HRC on May 15, KT urges ELNA members who are on the brick streets committee to attend and speak about what the group wants for brick streets in EL.

CC-1106 RI proposal came in from Stan Hernly and Mike Myers-sent on to public review committee. Bid request sent out for 21st and VT, first street to get new bricks. Library? Parks and Rec bought new software to track and list every important tree in the city. Jenny O'Brien's Lawrence On Board proposal got approved for 6 month trial. Corliss said he will be asking the board for more \$\$\$ for sidewalks-sidewalks will be separated residential vs. commercial. SNAP Lawrence and DG County will be kicking in an extra \$25 to be used at farmer's market. Lease submitted for grocery store, negotiations are in progress, nothing is in place.

CDAC-Nothing

PTO/Site Council-Teacher appreciation this week. May 16 movie will be shown, movie tbd.

Arts Center-Nothing

Horizon 20/20-Proposal for series of open houses, great opportunity to get answers on questions. See website for details. There is also a survey going around to randomly selected addresses throughout the city to get info on what is important-this info goes to the steering committee.

Updates/Announcements:

Ride with city commissioners tomorrow May 6, 5:30 at former Riverfront Mall! 2 mile loop through EL and downtown. Sustainability Action Network will be giving PP presentation either next week or following week to advocate for bicycles at CC. Phil Collison's band playing May 9 from 6:30-9 at Signs of Life.

Leslie announcement-new non-profit. 2 projects helped the Shelter apply for funding, also doing a Kickstarter to help get funding for outside lights on building. Need a total of \$4400 to light playground and basketball area. Go to www.GoFundMe.com/8s8ty4

Mike Myers-Adaptive reuse of historic properties should be added to future agenda.

Adjourn: Josh moves, Cindy seconds, vote unanimous.