

Name: Barry Shalinsky

I am a long time East Lawrence resident. I returned home in 2019 after an unexpected twenty-year detour, with my wife and two sons (now students at LMCMS). I do part-time contract work from my home office, and serve on the Lawrence Board of Zoning Appeals. I am Democratic Precinct Committeeman for the area north of 11th Street and east of Mass., and do a lot of volunteer work for the Lawrence Jewish Community Congregation. I was ELNA President for three years in the mid-1980's, and somehow find myself doing it again. We love living in the historic Mary & AJ Griffin home at 7th & Connecticut and are slowly doing our part to preserve it for coming generations.

East Lawrence is a wonderful neighborhood with a powerful sense of community, grounded in our history, streetscape and cultural institutions. Our diversity is our strength. The things that make us special have long been under threat by economic and political forces that would sanitize and homogenize the neighborhood into something we would no longer recognize as East Lawrence. ELNA's job is to keep East Lawrence, East Lawrence. Right now, that means protecting New York School, first and foremost. As ELNA President, I will always be involved in zoning and land use, traffic safety, keeping our people resilient and ELNA strong.

At a loftier level, I would love to learn how to be a better person and a more effective advocate. At a practical level, it would be nice to learn how to do more basic house repairs and create a damn spreadsheet. Sadly, I have just about given up on art, music and foreign languages.