

ELNA Minutes – July 11, 2022

Present: Pam Blackburn, Phil Collison, Lane Eisenbart, Krista Gentry, Sacie Lambertson, Kate Lowder, Brenda Nunez, Julia Patterson, Barry Shalinsky, KT Walsh, Frank Janzen, Lisa Larsen

Meeting called to order by KT. Introductions were done. Phil moved to approve the May & June minutes & Julia 2nd. Minutes were approved. June & July Agendas moved to be approved by Phil, seconded by Pam. Agendas approved.

Kaw Commons, \$13K in budget for designing amenities things at the River, including walking tour. Phil to invite to next ELNA meeting.

Lawrence Douglas County Health Department doing new countywide health assessment. Looking for 2 East Lawrence volunteers to be trained and to approve results of assessment. Phil volunteered. Others are interested but need dates.

Splash pad has opened!! Go check it out at Fifteenth Street and Burroughs Creek Trail

Proposed City budget eliminates Prairie Parks Nature Center. Prairie Parks Nature Center is popular with East Lawrence residents and others in town. East Lawrence Rec Center budget may also be cut by eliminating a full-time staff person. There would not be anyone in charge. Someone needs to know what's going on and Phil questions if any of these went thru Parks & Rec advisory board. Phil moves writing a letter that 1. Prairie Park Nature Center remain open. 2. East Lawrence community center needs to be well staffed by full time person. Krista moved amendment to include the Humane Society. 3. Support funding of Humane Society at current levels. KT seconded. Motion passed.

Discussion about consulting fees for new Branding Lawrence proposal. Some opine doesn't seem appropriate and should be funded by Chamber of Commerce. (it has already been implemented and signed a consulting company). Barry suggested that an ELNA member be involved in community engagement of this. Phil will write a letter stating that this is not a good way to spend city money and staff time when they are cutting essential services Pam moved & Sacie seconded. Motion passes.

East Lawrence Neighborhood Plan Update: 1st meeting at depot. Great turnout. Several more opportunities of walking tours with city planners. Looking for more details in August meetings.

Affordable Housing "incentives" for 1000 NH Lofts: Affordable Housing advisory board refused request for \$500K. It was declined as the request was out of cycle and they felt it was unfair to others. That amount would be ½ of available money. Tony Krsnich, the developer, has repeatedly said there is no need for 3-bedroom apartments. Krista to send email to ask housing authority about waiting list for 3-bedroom housing to see if Tony's statement has validity. Tony has said that EL no longer qualifies as low-income neighborhood thus no longer qualifies for extra funding.

Follow up on Outsider Art Walk by Suzan. 40 people attended. Downloadable narrative of walk will be available & on ELNA website.

Voter Registration deadline tomorrow at midnight.

Lawrence/DC Housing Authority about to do a variety of improvements to their properties

Several people have yet to hear if their children were accepted to NY Elementary Montessori program.

Vice-President: Tony K. to start work on Quonset hut on 8th.

Coordinator: working on newsletter, 4 pages. Should go to printers very soon. Good info from Central Middle School principal & admin. They are planning for LMCMS centennial. Lane will need hand deliverers soon. Please volunteer. Krista, Kate, Frank Sacie & husband will help.

Lane asking if we want to start meeting at school once school starts. Please think about it. Hobbs Park has been reserved for the 9/24th block party. Will go in for alcohol permit. Be thinking about raffle items. Lane will get letter updated for receipt.

Krista wondered if ELNA meeting info is posted on Instagram. Lane/Krista will look into it.

Adjournment