ELNA Meeting May 12, 2025 Welcomed by Barry at 7:04 p.m.

Attendees and Introductions: Barry Shalinsky (Prez), Krista Gentry (zb), Pam Blackburn, KT Walsh, Todd Foster, Sarah Norman, Sacie, Annette Conrad, Aaron Paden, Treasurer, Lane Eisenbart, Max Wilcox (bz), Brenda Nunez, marci francisco, Bob Schumm, JT Thornburg (z). b = Board member.
z = attended by Zoom.

Bob Schumm is a former City Commissioner and current City Commission candidate. He owned The Bull and Boar, Mass Street Deli, The New Yorker, and Buffalo Bob's Smokehouse. He is running because of the City budget process and its impact on property taxes. "We need affordable housing, and to complete the loop".

Approve the agenda and the minutes. Motion to approve, KT moves with a clarification of the single plane of the proposed R.I. townhomes. They are not compatible. Sacie 2nds. All in favor, all are in favor.

Annette is here from Art Emergency (AE), lives in North Lawrence. No report from AE, just here to observe.

Rhode Island Townhome development. KT reported neighbors met with Amber Sellers and Mike Dever today about the RI development. Earlier meetings were held with other commissioners. Todd Foster opposes 25 balconies overlooking their street. They could be building something that could blend in. Stan Hernly (preservation architect) was at the last HRC meeting and told Paul Werner his design looked good. This contradicts neighbors' thoughts. Q. Did the CC's listen to you (they have talked to all of them)? Bart L said it is a housing crisis and said we need affordable housing. Lisa hadn't looked closely yet but expressed surprise that the developer had said she was supporting the project. Finkledei likes Row Housing. Dever offered some tips on how to interact with the City. Amber was responsive to them. Could there be more incentives if they accommodate our needs (from the Motel 6 design)? Can ELNA write a letter of support that deals with the issues associated with the buildings? Marci got invited to a meeting with City important people and the builder was there suggesting we just do away with the HRC. And cited issues with the HRC being understaffed. Marci thinks LPA will weigh in but the neighbors don't have a lot of faith in LPA's motives these days. Phil moves that ELNA write a letter of support for the neighbors to have an impact on how this building will be built. Approved.

Parking Permit initiatives. Phil gave an overview of the Parking permit Pilot program, centered in University Place and along the east side of downtown. It would run from 8 to 5 or along Downtown parking hours (9:30- 6). Barry points out the folks who park will park a little farther away moving the problem around. Schumm suggests there be a requirement to add community parking with new housing developments.

Re-platting of City Hall and the Riverfront Mall. There's an initiative to re-plat the Riverfront mall and City Hall. The Simon's family owns the riverfront mall buildings, the City owns the land under it. There's legal stuff going on b/t the parties, and it could get ugly. This may or may not be related.

Good news stuff. Brook Creek / East Lawrence Neighborhood yard sale is May 31, from 8-2. If you want to participate Brook Creek is coordinating it. For a nominal fee you can be an official participant or go rogue. Art and Yard sales. Lane is working to get the word out to East Lawrence folks to be participants. She's getting more Pride merch for this neighborhood sale and for Pride Day. Pride parade is June 7th. We'll be selling pride merch. And there are volunteer opportunities with the pride march. Lane's presence is for selling merch primarily. Not being in the parade.

Hobbs Park – ad hoc committee is working to get on Municipal Stadium on the federal registry and the M-B House on the state registry. City Commission agreed to authorize submission of nominations.
Residential Preservation Committee. We've been meeting. We're talking about the neighborhood plan, demolitions, brick sidewalk repairs and more. Creating historic districts. There will be a meeting about the neighborhood plan on May 22 at the Carnegie Building put on by the City. 4-6 p.m. to discuss the next steps in the neighborhood plan. We want to have a good presence for that. Emphasize the historic streetscapes, building. We have not gotten any information about what is on that meeting agenda.

900 Penn demolition. The parking variance granted has expired. The new land development code does not include parking requirements, so the project could proceed with a new site plan. No word on the demolition.

Barry had a long talk with Cece Riley (city public works person in charge of brick sidewalk project) about the brick sidewalk project. He hopes to set up an in person meeting with Cori Wallace (city communications director) and Cece and Evan Korynta (city ADA coordinator).

Coalition for Collaborative Governance. It's a new group in town organized by Holly Krebs. ELNA has allied with them to try and have an impact on how the City does business. City surveys and public engagement have been disappointing. The group put on an evening featuring urban planning students at KU researching a single City initiative looking at how the City engaged with the public and the results of that. Barry has found the leadership of this group has been a fountain of good information as we interact with the City.

The Northwest corner of 9th and Penn will become a new event space. We are unsure of what the impact is on the tortilla factory.

CC is scheduled to finalize the Star bonds for the KU gateway project. They paid no sales tax last year so the increment of the Tax increment bonds will be based on no taxes. There are no improvements planned for the neighborhood. This is a big boondoggle.

We'll need some backups for Kickball concessions over the course of the summer. We'll get some more information out on this.

Max brings up the use of insecticides along Burrough's creek trail. There is a Firefly Festival there on June 14.

Treasurer's report. 11,703.41 in the bank. Plus $201 in venmo and paypal from kickball last night.

New York School raising money so all the kids can pay for their yearbooks. There is a garden club at New York School and they need help watering over the course of the summer. Lane will get it publicized.

We're probably going to lose the $5000 a year we get from the City. Barry is working on financial planning to keep us in the black.

Barry is actively running a recruitment drive for the next ELNA president! Elections are in

November! Meeting adjourned 8:58.