

## Board Interview 2025

Lane Eisenbart, Coordinator

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1200 block of Delaware

I have lived in East Lawrence since the fall of 2005. I just keep moving from street to street in the 1200 blocks – New York, then Pennsylvania, now Delaware. I think I'll stop trying to move. My youngest daughter (who is now an adult!) was born in the house we lived in on New York Street. I'm officially embedded.

I work a couple jobs. I'm ELNA's only employee, so not technically a board member. I work less than 10 hours a week and do the newsletters, enews, socials, website, email, merch, events, and more. I do something similar for Positive Bright Start. That's my real job, where I get insurance and stuff. There, sometimes I get to hang out with three year olds in our PreK classroom. Sometimes I fix someone's computer. I make sure we never run out of copy paper OR toilet paper. It's a pretty good gig. I also make things, jewelry mostly, and sell them as my label (and Instagram handle too if you wanna look me up) LadyIronbeard. I dance a little. Play music a little. Bake a little. I build the occasional website too!

I read a lot. I make stuff. Aaron and I are working, slowly but surely, on our beautiful old house. I currently only have two cats and I feel I need more. So, if you should find any kittens this spring, you know where the cat door is. I want to be patient and compassionate, but I'm also kind of a petty b\*tch, so maybe know that too.

I am deeply saddened by the current state of the world. Hateful politicians, climate change, end stage capitalism, etc etc. It's enough to really beat me down if I let it, you know. But, I can't give up. I've got to keep going if only because my to do list is just so very long. So, I ask myself, how can I make this hurtful world better for me and my beloveds? The only answer I keep coming up with is that it has to start here. In this neighborhood, in this City. What can we do to ensure that people can survive and thrive? What can we do to make Lawrence a safe place for queer people, people of color, women, children, the poor, the unhoused, others, not just in name but in practice? And, to reference that petty b\*tch comment from above, we need City leaders who actually listen to what residents have to say. When people say they hate your project, listen, and do something differently!