

- ELNA Minutes – June 13th, 2022

Board Members Present: Phil Collison, Lane Eisenbart, Krista Gentry, Sacie Lambertson, Julia Patterson, Barry Shalinsky, K.T. Walsh, Ellen Paulsen, Joe Bickford, Aaron Paden, (Pam Blackburn on vacation)

Community Members Present: Jenny Barton, Timothy Morland

Meeting called to order by Barry. Introductions were done. Vote on May minutes put on hold - we did not have a quorum to make the vote. Agenda vote put on hold - we did not have a quorum to make the vote.

Information and Discussion Items:

Upcoming Community and Neighborhood Events

Juneteenth Celebration

- K.T.: This Friday night at Victory Bible Church - Community Gospel Program @ 7pm
- Juneteenth Parade Saturday Morning downtown
- 12-8pm Juneteenth Celebration
- Lane: Still need volunteers, link to sign up is in E-newsletter!

Make a Wish: Community Identity and Outsider Art in East Lawrence (Suzan Hampton)

- Walking tour on July 9th @ 9am beginning at the "Wishing Bench"

Neighborhood Plan Revision Update - next meeting June 30 @ 4-7pm

- Barry: Open house where you can drop in at your convenience and stay as long as you're able, the purpose is to look at maps/charts - planning staff will be there, make comments/share feedback and take survey on paper/online. The city wants to learn what the people in the neighborhood want to include in the neighborhood plan. Takes place 4-7 pm at the Train Depot at 7th and New York, there will be additional meetings to follow. We had a pretty good turnout at the last meeting at New York School. We encourage people to come to the next meeting on June 30th.
- K.T.: The postcards got sent mistakenly to the Southwest Lawrence neighborhood - interested in getting kids involved, potentially a scavenger hunt to reach more youth.

Misc. quick updates - City Commission, Planning Commission, HRC, LPA, etc.

- Phil: Sunset Hill - avoid driving during pick up times, closures are not off the table, there is still a budget crisis - trying to encourage more neighborhoods to come out.
- The K-10 rebuild from Wakarusa to Lone Star Lake, new route?
- Courtney is trying to put together a committee to rewrite all of the codes based on plan 2040. Residential zoning will probably take a couple years or more to get going.
 - Anyone in mind for the committee? Clarion Associates from the Pinckney neighborhood was selected to be the land representative. Tressa Hill was chosen as representative as well.
 - It would be great to have someone on the ELNA board to represent as well. Courtney is open to welcome new folks. The latest meeting was May 18th, 2022.
- K.T.: HRC is slow at the moment. Talked to Jim Carpenter working with special courts for better support - really need sober/transitional housing, suggested that maybe that needs to be a part of our neighborhood plan.
- Barry: The City Commission is thinking about transitioning to a City Council where districts would be represented instead and elected Mayor to break ties - suggested a hybrid system with some Council elected by districts and others at large. They are going

to decide whether to put a proposal on the November ballot, wishing they would've done this in August.

- Krista: What prompted this discussion/transition? Solution in search of a problem? Not sure where it came from.
- Barry: If you look at our current city commission, Courtney and Amber, both live on the Westside and yet, if they had been running in districts, they would not be on the City Commission, because they won based on their votes from the Eastside.
- Sacie: It'd be interesting to have a real discussion about this so that the people know what they are voting for.

Traffic Safety update

- Phil: Old West Lawrence folks had a lot of ideas about traffic (traffic bumps) - celebrating receiving more time
 - Eric from Old West Lawrence provided us with a traffic radar gun. Kate Lowder did some speed tests on Connecticut Street, but we decided that it probably wasn't the safest idea. Kate did zoom into the Old West Lawrence meeting last week - how do citizens engage with the commission? Nick Kuzmiak has been an advocate for the traffic committee.
 - The meeting with Dave Kronin and Jake Baldwin at Sacie's went well - we put together a letter, outline, questions - we had a good discussion about how do we know the changes that we make are actually positive and safe for East Lawrence - CDGB request was approved for pavement markings, do they work? (8th and Connecticut), funding resource with CDGB.
- Sacie: David drove over there (Old West Lawrence) today and found one traffic bump made out of rubber (800 block). At the traffic meeting they were very courteous and listened, but they have a lot of requests and seemed pretty backed up, so it will take some time. We can bring funding with us - so that's a plus.
- Barry: They have lots of ways of measuring traffic speeds and counts, if we can define exactly what kind of data we are interested in collecting that would determine what tool they would provide for us to collect the data. So we need to go in with a specific ask. The other thing is, they are trying to create some standards so things aren't done haphazardly. Spent a lot of money on 9th street, but no crosswalks on the pedestrian corridor. Focus areas: 8th and Connecticut/Delaware St. between 8th-11th (Krista put together data about incidents).
- Tentative Traffic Committee Meeting, June 12th (which has passed), Phil will send out an email to schedule a new meeting, preferably on a Sunday at 1pm!

Public Schools Update

- New York is transitioning to a Montessori school, which should keep it off the ballot for school closures this next go around
- Barry received correspondence from Liberty Memorial Middle School "Central" - they are interested in increasing the the depths of their partnerships with East Lawrence
 - Special year coming up - Central will be celebrating its Centennial next year and they want us to be involved with publicity and helping to plan a community event

around this. Barry will be meeting with them tomorrow June 14th, 2022 to talk through how the ELNA board can be of help.

- K.T.: USD497 Specifics in staff/student protection that we can request to include in our newsletters? Interested in safety rules/active shooter protocols in light of school shootings. Written policies look good on paper, but in the day-to-day are they effective? Reach out to each school's cite council?
- Krista: Signed up for the pre-school montessori school, haven't heard anything back. Curious to how much notice families are going to get to know if their children will be accepted into the program/school.
- Ellen wrote three times to the school board about safety in schools, one response, not very helpful. Barry wrote to the school board after a student collapsed at a track meet and the ambulance was not able to make it to the track efficiently. Safety and accessibility continues to be a concern.

Housing Policy Discussion

- New housing geared toward - studios and 1 bedrooms, problem with not enough kids to keep our neighborhood schools populated, why are we giving subsidies for studios/ instead of incentivizing housing for families.
- Anyone interested in creating a housing committee?
 - Krista is interested. Phil would like to be informed of the meetings, and suggested the "Affordable Housing Committee Meetings" and "Tenants and Homeowners" (Mike Myers) as well. K.T. is not able to join, but can speak on the new apartments being built on the 1100 block of New Hampshire when the time comes.
 - Phil: Ask for volunteers in the newsletter.

ELNA Budget and Finance Discussion

Internal Neighborhood Engagement Discussion (Membership and Newsletter)

- Delaware Street Commons Celebration this Saturday, the 18th from 3-5pm - FREE Icecream.
- Hand deliver the next batch of newsletters? Julia and Joe are in to help with deliveries.

Officer / Staff Reports & Miscellaneous items (15 min)

President: Nothing additional to add.

Vice-President: How are they going to build a kayak park/dock when the river gets too high, what's the status of the river walk/road? Going to reach out to Dave Kronin. For the 9th and New York intersection, payment in June, city can repair brick, coordination with ELNA and New York School to find a time to begin construction that does not interfere with the day-to-day.

Treasurer: \$1054 dollars in profit from the kickball concessions and the equivalent of \$400 in stocks. I project that after next week we will have raised about \$2000, so we are in a good place at the start of the summer. Thanks Julia, Lane, Barry, Zippy, and Justin (and Pam). On the non-fundraising side, people really do appreciate us there selling food and also for what we do.

Coordinator: Requesting Hobbs Park for our Block Party - Potential date: Saturday, September 24th, 2022. Working on the August and September newsletters.

Secretary: Julia took minutes for today's board meeting while Pam is on vacation.

Adjournment