

ELNA Meeting Minutes  
January 6, 2013 at the Percolator

In attendance: Christine Kosirog, Eric Jay, Josh Davis, Sara Minges, John Gascon, Pam Blackburn, Mike Myers, Steve Moring, Bill Wachspress, Adam Smith, Frank Janzen, Phil Collison, KT Walsh, Brenda Nunez, KH, Aaron Paden, Jacki Becker, Lane Eisenbart

December 2013 Minutes: Jacki moved to approve, John seconded, approval unanimous.

**Freedom's Frontier:** Julie McPike came to familiarize us with the work they do.

*History/Overview*-National Heritage areas (49 across the nation) share distinctive landscape (41 counties in eastern KS and western MO), nationally significant story (here the boarder war story), designated by Congress. Ours passed in 2006 since that time FF has been working in our area to tell our story. National Heritage areas work with National Park service to access funds and have technical assistance, then work to distribute those funds and resources across the area.

*Mission*-Build awareness of our stories across the nation, try to inspire respect for multiple perspectives, preserve/share important stories that add to the quality of life, empower residents. Settling the frontier (native americans) is also a theme they look at, as well as the enduring struggle for freedom (such as what happen to African Americans and suffragettes after the Civil War ended).

*How FF could work with ELNA*- Interpretive grants offered (\$500-\$5000 for 1 year) to allow partners to tell their stories (interpretive signage, murals, walking/biking/driving tours, videos, website content, schools, museums). Applications are simple and user-friendly. Also offer technical assistance (for example, how do we get started on a biking tour). May not have all the answers, but they will likely know who does.

*Meeting details*-Local office in basement of the Carnegie Building at 9th and VT. Bimonthly meetings, open to the public, (move around 41 county service area) meet from 10am-2pm (morning is meeting, afternoon is workshop) and offer partners a great way to meet others who are doing history work in the area. Have over 150 partners and 20-60 people at meetings! FF can elevate partners' work by showcasing on website, inclusion on map, focused brochures (like underground railroad sites in KS and MO). They help with projects they are invited to help with (like QR816 project). Local partners include Watkins, CBB, Marla Jackson, LeCompton State Historical Society. The more local projects we can share with FF the more grant opportunities are possible through FF resources.

*Questions-*

Does FF offer any assistance/resources for higher tech projects? FF has worked with a few simple high-tech projects (walking tour of Black Jack signed with QR code) and could lend their experience to those types of ideas.

Can FF provide the hosting of data? No, but they could talk about different models to be that access point to the video/audio/etc.

Would a grant to get the ELNA site to host something like this be possible? In the past, grants have been given for start-up projects and you could include this cost into the grant.

What is the grant cycle? Grants awarded quarterly, next deadline Feb. 15. Come in to consult with FF by February 1, then they will help as much or as little as needed after that.

**Common Ground Community Garden:** Steve Morning (from Sustainability Action Committee) came to talk with us about garden at 13th and Pennsylvania. 2 spots in the area-one which community members can rent space in, as long as they use organic production practices. The other is dedicated to permaculture principles. 400 lbs of food were donated last year. They would like to attract more members, 6-7 spaces are available (10X10 or 10x20 plots-\$100/year + security deposit). The "Perma Commons" garden work is done through a collective effort-watering, weeding, harvesting are handled as a group/in teams. This garden also serves as a demonstration garden to educate, provide space for workshops. Possible to pair with experienced garden at no cost. ELNA can pull content from Sustainability Action website for our next newsletter. They are also on Facebook.

**Burroughs' Creek trail expansion**-addition to agenda by Mike Myers. Mike shared that he met with city manager, city engineer, Bob Schumm, and some engineers from the city this morning and the city will be applying for KDOT grant by Feb. 14 for 2015 funds to go towards completion of the trail from where it ends now to Constant Park(?). Some parts of the trail are still up in the air, but they are moving forward. They requested letters of support from stakeholders in the community. City will provide Mike with grant details as soon as possible, he will share with ELNA and a letter can be drafted at that point. This leads to further conversation about how east Lawrence interfaces with the river-worthy of future conversation.

Adam moves for ELNA letter of support, Josh seconds, unanimous approval. Aaron will do rough draft when Mike has more info and send out for board approval. Jacki will do similar letter from KVKL.

Mike also brought up idea of early spring clean up along the river, he is happy to organize.

**Saunny Scott home (keeping people in their homes):** LJ World ran story in newspaper that she is at risk of losing her home of 30+ years, which has been adapted to support her adult daughter who also lives there and requires a wheelchair. Christine would like more details and, because of the work Saunny has done for all of Lawrence, would like to investigate if anyone in the community has started a donation fund. Bill shared that she lives near 19th and Barker. Christine will follow up with Lisa Harris (Barker Neighborhood Association-331-8281, lharris@ku.edu), reporter, tenants to homeowners as resources.

**President report:** NH street road closure due to construction (currently down to one lane, they want to close the entire road until end of March). 900 block of RI closed as a courtesy to people living on the block during construction. This has already resulted in some safety issues for residents and will likely be made worse by closure of NH as well. Need for better signage and police support of the detour route. "Liquidated Damages Clause" could be put on deadline, so if the deadline is not honored funds will need to be paid to a good neighborhood cause (some examples may be Arts Center, Turnhalle, brick street repair, etc). Josh and KH will craft a response.

**Vice-President report:**

- December 10 Cultural Arts District approved by CC. City will look at matching funds for grant to hire director.

**Treasurer report:**

- Current bank balance is \$5253.
- Proposed balance sheet for income/expenses for next year, with adjustments to CDBG and walking newsletter 1 time, we'd lose \$1100. Need to think about fundraising, walking date for newsletter, reducing cost of block party. Yart Sale makes good money, block party made \$80.

**Coordinator report:**

- December tasks-wrote newsletter, completed NYE building request form for Yart Sale (set up March 28, sale March 29), updated website, had a few new members, posted November meeting minutes, updated mailing labels, LAN dues mailed.
- January tasks-post more links on website, update historic info, post December meeting minutes, reach out for Martin Luther King chili feed volunteers, start on newsletter (deadline Feb. 14) which will have garden focus (maybe something about the curb survey if ready, will also start having something about east Lawrence history and businesses in every newsletter, and extract highlights of oral history project from the MLK chili feed).

**LAN:**

- Still looking for CDBG low-mod people? Or, maybe we just needed to connect Pam? We'll start there.
- Rental licensing for landlords-final decision will be made at meeting on Jan. 7.

**PC:**

- "East Nacho Lots?" doing subdivision at 1206 Penn. Not sure if it will be single home or multiple residence. Zoned RS5.

**HRC:**

- Cordley school expansion presented, its pretty.
- Subcommittee created to update ? document.
- Mark Thiel will be presenting on brick streets this month.
- County court house and Watkins both added to local register!

- Pollinators mural followup-Compton refused to meet (with ?) about mural, finally agreed then backed out 10 minutes prior to meeting. They will keep trying to meet with him.

**CC:**

- Approved Farmers Market using city parking lot for 2014, but wanted them to have 5 year plan for the future.
- Rideshare program presented, city planners asked to do a report do see if we should do this program in our city.
- CC/HRC joint meeting is tomorrow night (see email from Lane).

**CDAC:**

- One more representative needed.

**PTO:**

- MLK Chili Feed Jan. 21 5-7 pm. Planning group will meet on Jan. 14.

**Site Council:** no updates

**Updates/announcements:** no updates

Aaron moved to adjourn, Jacki seconded, unanimous approval.