

## ELNA Minutes – June 14, 2021

Present: Phil Collison, Pam Blackburn, Lane Eisenbart, Barry Shalinsky, Aaron Paden, Sacie Lambertson, KT Walsh, Ellen Paulsen, Josh Davis, Martha Thorp, Dave Loewenstein, Lisa Larsen, Marci Francisco, Joe Bickford, Frank Janzen, Boog Highberger

Meeting called to order by Barry. Introductions were done and agenda approved. Many minutes were approved (Phil moved and KT 2<sup>nd</sup>). Minutes were approved.

Barry outlined the changes to the bylaws to the group. Changes are to bring them into compliance for 501c3 status. Josh moved to approve the changes. Aaron seconded. Changes were approved.

It was moved by KT and seconded by Phil to apply for 501c3 status. Motion passed. Barry has the 1st draft done and will keep working on it.

Downtown Planning Process & HRC: Suzan talked about the background of historic regulations and the effects of circumventing them. People talk about wanting to live downtown. We need a good balance of local people with affordable housing and outside shopping. Enough parking is a must.

8<sup>th</sup> & Penn: there is a concern that it will be used for live entertainment. Noise and effect on parking are big issues. Site plan and more specifics are needed. Difficult to tell at this time if this is a good idea or not. ELNA should continue to watch.

816 RI demolition: this house has been vacant for a long time. Current owners have gutted the home. Important parts of flooring are already gone. Social history is very important. Normal notice of demolition was not received by any board member. Planning feels request should be denied. KT will write a letter for ELNA also opposing the demolition.

Depot parking lot: doing a great job incorporating the old brick into the design.

Voter Registration / Get Out the Vote for City Commission & School Board Election: As a 501c3 group, ELNA cannot come out in favor of any candidate. We can help in getting more people registered in a non-partisan manner. Pam moved and Sacie 2<sup>nd</sup>, for ELNA to investigate other opportunities to engage registration. Lane to investigate.

KT & Courtney Shipley, City Government: there are more opportunities to weigh in. One of the options is a directly elected mayor to set policy. Looking for what the responsibilities of mayor would be and how do those responsibilities coincide with the city manager. Who sets the agenda? If a commission member represents a district instead of being at-large, how would the districts be drawn?

HRC 1240 NJ: Demolition. This property is not in any environs. On a double lot.

901 Penn Garden Mural. Dave has submitted a request to the city. It should be on the July agenda.

Juneteenth: Link on website. Starts at 1 on the 19<sup>th</sup>.

Wishing Bench: KT wrote a letter to the owner of SW corner lot. No response.

Splash Park: City increased budget for additional equipment to use restorative water. It was brought up that Topeka has one and the water is used for a toilet & to wash clothes. How do we avoid these problems? Who in Topeka can we talk to about issues and take concerns to Park & Rec?

Insurance: should we have liability insurance as a 501c3? Barry to follow up with Dave as Dave did research a few years ago.

Eric Kirkendahl forwarded information on other cities that don't have issues with city funding. Barry has had informal discussions with other neighborhood groups that did not get CDBG funding.

Treasurer: \$3056.14, paypal \$1294.70. Kickball has taken in \$441, deposit of 298, 231 profit.

Coordinator: Hobbs park for Black Party on 9/25 from 5 to 9. Looking into setting up a merch table at the Farmers Market.

Meetings? Hybrid? In Person? Or Zoom? In July or August ? Too hot!

Meeting adjourned.