

ELNA Meeting 06/08/2026 Called to order at 7:00

Attendees and Introductions: Pam Blackburn (B), Darrel Proffitt (Pres), Barry Shalinsky (B), Sacie Lambertson (B), Krista Gentry (B), Lane Eisenbart (Coord), KT Walsh (B), Phil Collison (Sec), Eric Kirkendall, Joe Bickford, Courtney Shipley (B), Sarah Norman (B), Jan Butin (B), Aaron Paden (Treas Z), Eric Murray (z, from the buyers of the Allen Press Building, and a candidate for the Senate against Roger Marshall), Frank Ramirez (Z also with Eric Murray, with an assistant of project development.)

It was noted that attendance decreases in the summer...

Agenda and minutes approval. Add Eric Murray to agenda. Moved by Barry, second by Sacie. All were aye.

Minutes approval Motion to approve KT, Pam 2nd all were aye.

Eric Murray is here from an Atlanta company that wants to develop what could go in at the Allen Press building. Their name is Eastside Innovations. Many communities were developed during industrialization and segregation. "Eastside" happened all over. Community impact developers. Not for industrial but maybe as a communal hub. Coffee shops, makerspaces, etc. Brings old buildings back to life. Will meet with neighbors, stakeholders et al. Environmental mitigation is ongoing. Eastsideinnovations.com He'll put email addy in the chat. 150,000 sq feet. City Foundry in St. Louis is owned by them. Comments. Jr. High kids need something to do. How about a roller rink? Or mini-golf?? Allen Press is the most recent use. Before that it was the Stokely bean plant. Maintain the architectural features of the buildings as the buildings were built. Ans: Keep as much original as possible. Family Fun and Family entertainment. Could the board get a tour?? Yes. Tax credits for state and national registry could work here? Also, Hobbs Park hosts the municipal stadium and there is an effort to get that on the registry. Could be a nice dual fit. MK asked about the history of East Lawrence. Dennis Domer is a good contact for that. There is a survey out there that they provided. Fill it out.

Newsletter. There's an outline. Get voter stuff. Maybe include Shane in the newsletter pre-production. Hoping to go to the printer next week? Should we go for some ads? We may not hit the sweet time for campaign ads?

Block Party slated for 9/26. 4th Saturday in September.

Trans inclusion statement. It's not done, yet. Max has moved outside of the boundaries in EL. Our By-Laws state they can finish out their term.

Kickball concessions. We've done 2 games.

Pride Parade Merch sale. Worked great until it rained. About \$250 in sales? Need bigger sizes of the pink shirted ELNA shirt. There will be more pop-ups, maybe with Art Emergency for final Friday happenings.

Hobbs Park meet and greet at BonBon. There are Hobbs Park t-shirts there. Where'd they come from?? They are old shirts. A portion of Hobbs park t-shirt sales could go to them. We'll have to find the design.

County Grants. St. Luke AME and Lib Hall got them, Hobbs didn't. They are county grants and this is a City Park?

East Lawrence Neighborhood Plan. Lynne Zollner HRC Administrator wants to put together a sounding board committee consisting of perhaps 7 different folks in the neighborhood. Professional and Lay people. It's important to get all the voices so they don't sabotage later in the process. Lynne is an advocate. People could apply to be a part of the committee. Renters, homeowners, business folks, POC, Computer savvy. And available for 2 years of meetings. Darrel and KT will meet with her again soon. Density can exist with respect for History and Preservation. There are changes to the WAD conservation overlay going in front of the CC on July 7th. We ought to look at those changes to the Conservation overlay so we can comment meaningfully.

Residential Preservation Committee. There are notes that summarize this meeting.

CC will discuss adding Datacenter policies to our Land Development Code tomorrow night. Darrel plans to attend that meeting and comment as necessary. We would probably be against DataCenter movement.

711 New Hampshire Affordable Housing Project. There's been minimal public engagement on this topic. The City will be considering selling this property tomorrow night. The company's request for AHAB funding was turned down. This project would have no access to parking and it would be folks potentially with mobility issues with no dedicated parking. The construction could have a bad impact on the surrounding businesses. Look at 9th street construction and it's impact on those businesses. There was no RFP nor RFQ. It was a request for information that took us to this point. It was also noted that currently Airbnb's are allowed in affordable housing projects. That is not congruent with affordable housing. It is questionable that building housing downtown brings people to town. Parking is an issue downtown even if the City doesn't recognize that. Can someone write a letter and have it go in by noon tomorrow?

Alphabet soup. By-law amendments changes. Barry will manage that.

Chamber of Commerce wants a directly elected Mayor that would serve a 4 year term. We think that would make that mayor a commodity for the Chamber. They would have too much power. They want to get this on the ballot for this November. We just voted this down a few years ago.

Treasurer Report. \$ Everything is good.

Coordinator. Memorial for Leon Kimball 6/27 at St. Luke's AME

Adjourned. At 8:56.