ELNA Meeting January 13, 2025 Welcomed by Barry at 7:10 p.m.

Attendees and Introductions: Barry Shalinsky (Prez), Lane Eisenbart (Coord), Phil Collison (Secretary), KT Walsh (vp), Sacie Lambertson (b), Krista Gentry (b), Pam Blackburn (bz), Brenda Nunez (bz), Suzan Hampton (bz), Joe Bickford, Ellen Paulsen(z), Max Wilcox (z), JT Thornburg (z), marci francisco (senator).

Move to accept minutes and Agenda by KT, Sacie second. All in favor – we are.

Election for Treasurer. KT nominates Aaron. Sacie and Pam 2nd. All in favor of Aaron for treasurer. Unanimous. Aaron is treasurer.

MLK Chili Feed. They need veggie chili and desserts. There's a signup genius out there to sign up for those things. Lane is getting a big can of jalapenos and hot sauce. 6-7:30. Boys and Girls club are there until 6 pm. It's a fundraiser for the PTA and they hope it breaks even every year. It pays for the cook and other staff to stay late. It's an EL event for the community. It has a wide draw. There may be some entertainment. Perhaps Julianna's dance group and from AME, too. KT passed around pics from Julianna. She's in Brazil!. KT talked about a friend who knows a family who needs warm clothes.

Yart Sale. PTA is sponsoring our insurance so we have booked the gym from 5-8:30 Friday the 28th and then 7-3 on Saturday the 29th for the event. Phil and Mick are organizing the music. Music suggestions: Chip from last month, Joe B and hear and now. Lots of potential.

Need a picture. Dennis Domer is trying to put out the first volume of Embattled Lawrence and needs a photo. Phil will provide one.

Sidewalks. It's on the agenda. The City is pursuing a RAISE grant that may have something to do with that survey group discussed last month.

Follow up on requests for assistance with getting cars out of alley driveways. We passed on the info to the requestors we got back. And Barry got Pearsons auto body shop to plow out Brownie and Christie's driveway.

Hobbs Park Report. The Hobbs Park Committee meeting was postponed to tomorrow at 2:00 at Watkins Museum because of snow. Suzanne says she met with Lynn Z and Mary Miller in planning. The best grant to get is the national register grant. For project planning etc. Parks and Rec will be the lead stakeholder, KVKL, NAACP, Negro Leagues. County historical grants are also upcoming. Suggested a grant for someone to write the nomination to the federal historical registration. And suggested other fundraising ideas for a bigger project later. Hernley and associates has done a preliminary survey of what is needed at Hobbs Municipal Park. We'll work through this Watkins Museum Committee to forge a path forward. The pre-meeting for the grant is Feb. 20 and deadline is March 6th. We need to get Parks and Rec involved and the City Manager et al. Get their buy-in. Hobbs Park is a place where the negro leagues played and one of the few remaining stadiums from that era. Brenda wants to make sure that the proper history of that Municipal stadium is told.

Traffic Safety / Safer Speeds. We got the 20 MPH markings!

Max is telling us about the City's Vision Zero Steering Committee. Lawrence is one of the first to participate. The goal is to reduce the number of traffic deaths.

Marci brought homestead tax relief info. The Legislature will be looking at property tax reductions.

Residential Historic Preservation Committee:
Lawrence Land Development Code (LDC) updates, and the East Lawrence Neighborhood Plan. City Staff is hoping to have a meeting within a month or so and have an outline about 2 weeks before that meeting for our review. Phil is working with LAN to come up with a document that will reflect what LAN thinks the City missed out on putting into this iteration of the LDC. It says commercial “in a residentially zoned district” and should say commercial that abuts a residential district.
Demolitions. Krista shared a document showing the number of demolitions that have occurred.
Historic Registry. We are going to try and get some housing added to the local district. We also want to put in a demolition moratorium in East Lawrence. The doc shows there have been about 30 houses demolished in the last 10-15 years.
Any other volunteers out there for this? Max might. We will invite them.
1331 NY Demolition permit. We probably have a few days left to have an impact on this demolition.
A subcommittee on the HRC is looking at how other Cities are managing this.

Alphabet Soup. LAN. Phil is on the City Committee to update the 5 year plan for the bicycles.

President’s report. 1. Barry got a call from Paul Werner architects about a project in our neighborhood and wants to tell us about it. Barry said we’re having a meeting tonight and he said “we’re not ready until after we submit the site plan. Krista will dig a little on this.
2. Holly Krebs is looking at how the CC and City manage the town. She is holding irregular meetings. There could be good that comes from that. Barry suggested we were not being aggressive enough. None of our governing bodies (USD 497, County Commission) are being responsive. Marci adds they are looking for other anecdotes of people that paid attention but were ignored. They also want positive stories, too.

KT. There’s an issue with small kids from the housing authority playing at the parking lot of the Trinity Lutheran Church.

New Judicial building is making an agreement with that same Trinity Lutheran Church to use their parking lot.

Because of the weather situation the newsletters got stalled! They are being mailed.

Meeting adjourned. At 9:00. Thanks all!!