

ELNA Meeting November 13, 2023.

Attendees: Barry Shalinsky (Prez), Pam Blackburn (B), KT Walsh (B Veep), Sacie Lambertson (B), Darrel Proffitt, Julie Proffitt, Julie Trowbridge, Peggy Robinson, Marlo Angell (LAC Speaker), Nancy Overmeyer, RJ Torrey, Lane Eisenbart (coordinator), Brenda Nunez(B z), Phil Collison (B secretary), Krista Gentry (B), Jan Butin, JT Thornburg, Aaron Paden (B treasurer), Julianna Patterson (B), Ellen Paulsen, Joe Bickford, David Lambert. 9 board members.

Called the meeting to order: 7:01

We did introductions

Agenda motion to approve agenda and minutes. KT 2nd Pam All in favor,

Elections. We have a slate of officers. Brenda, kt, sacie, aaron, pam, barry, phil, Julia, Krista, Darrel. 10 people We accepted the slate.

Officer elections. KT nominates Barry for Prez. 2nd by ?? Sacie nominates Phil for secretary and KT veep. Aaron seconds it. All are in favor.

We're doing adopt a family through ECKAN. We will adopt a large family. Wrapping Party is Sat night 12/9 from 6-8 at Aaron's downtown studio 835 1/2 Mass. Deadline is Dec. 10 or 12. Lane will email the whole group all the ages and we can respond with presents or money...

We are going to sign a card for Park's and Rec's Derek Rogers's retirement that is Nov. 29 at the Carnegie Building.

Marlo. La Yarda update. She's working on a documentary about La Yarta. Installation at LAC August 2024. It will be full immersion with screens, to experience what it was like. Those who lived there are in their 80's and so were young children at the time. The show is dependent on those old memories. There will be some artifacts (doors and windows?) from the original site. They are getting Livewell Lawrence to participate. They get folks outdoors so will organize events that get folks outside on the loop to see art installations etc. related to La Yarda. It's an under-recognized part of Lawrence history. Raising awareness. Questions? Where? Installation is at the Arts Center. Q. Target date? Aug. 24. Sculptures will take longer. They got a \$35k grant from Blue Cross. Doing more fundraising. Q: Is there RR involvement? A: RR does not respond. They will invite them to the opening and go from there. They (RR) see a big safety risk with folks crossing the tracks to get to it. Some of the structure is still there. Part of the outhouse is still there! Get her contact info? She gave it? Q: Have they looked at Habitat Restore for pieces? A: yes, they now have it on their radar. She says they are trying to make it into a traveling installation and put it on the road! Q: How did they find La Yarda? A: She won an ELNA east 9th grant and documented a ton of information related to that.

Approval of 2 sets of minutes, Sept and Oct. Sept change, need names of folks who attended from September (they are in an email at least). Woman on 1200 block of New York Street. Get her name, KT moves, Pam 2nded. Accepted.

Information and discussion items. Barry starts with his lovely t-shirt from the LMCMS 100th centennial celebration yesterday. It was good. His t-shirt reflects that. Alumni choir with the Excalibur choir. It was moving. A lot of energy went into keeping NY school open. Central lost. It was an outpouring of love from all over town. It should stay open. This event may help its status. T-shirts are still available at the River Rat T-shirt web site. Plus hats! And we can support their LMCMS fun run, go to their website. Shelly Miller trust made a nice donation. Who's Shelly? She was a force in the neighborhood and died too young. Was Prez in early 90's before she passed. Story of how she confronted the trucks and became the "ever vigilant neighborhood bitch". She died from a fast growing brain tumor. She worked at Wescoe Hall. She donated her house and used that to fund her trust. There's still a fair amount of money in it. It's at the Lawrence Community Foundation. Douglas County Com Fund. Q: Did she make the trucks turn around? A: Probably not, But, they thought twice...

Next. Every January in celebration of MLK Day NY school has a chili supper. For 40 years. Shelly always made veggie chili for that. School continues to need veggie chili and we'll make sure they get some for that. Also needs carrot sticks and other sides. We'll be looking for volunteers. Krista? Are they going in person this year? Yes. 1st time in a while. What kind of entertainment was in the past?

How do they get more people of color involved? A: The choir from St. Luke's AME has performed. And NY School kids. Julianna knows some dancers. Jan. 16th this year. Krista's kids go to New York School so she is our unofficial liaison. Pam suggests Lane has helped in the past. Check with her. Drop off desserts at the entrance to NY School on the day of. Jan. 16th. We pushed cupcakes last year mostly. It's really a wonderful event. They plan for about 200. It runs from 5-7.

Happy things now. Hobbs Park. There was a small group meeting to discuss a Hobbs visioning session last month. They got some good ideas. There was a parks and recreation session. Featured pickleball. No kickball. They excluded a lot of activities. We could only choose things they thought of. Discussed getting Hernley Architects to do some drawings. Shelly Miller trust will donate. We'll have to fundraise to help Hernly do those drawings. Is there more land available? To the east land is owned by Duane Schwada. It would be great to add that property to the park site. What would the stadium take to renovate. Miriam Hobbs donated the property for the children of Lawrence. There's a bb court there. And Other amenities. How will we engage there? There's a locker room in the stadium, and a kitchen that could be utilized. Negro baseball leagues used it. Satchel Paige pitched there. Lots of history happened there. The playground is nice there. And there are many playgrounds that are walking distance to EL. What needs to happen there? There's something for young children and more ages. Need to engage with HRA Lynne Zollner for help. Some Parks and Rec board members may be interested in supporting us. Many good ideas kicked around tonight. Talk to Barry if you want to get more involved.

Traffic Safety. Our CDBG grant may have been bypassed for 20 mph on Delaware 11th to 8th. The school board is discussing tax abatements for this project at 10th and New Hampshire meetings tonight. Planning Commission is considering an SUP for living units on the first floor rather than commercial. That's against the downtown plan. The units will be for 55 and up housing on all 4 floors. So they may be live/work units on the first floor. It matters b/c live work is not a grocery store. The analysis for the tax breaks was based on commercial on the first floor. So the commercial being left out impacts that analysis. They are doing this on the consent agenda. They need to be chastised for that. Q: First floor of Pachamama's, first floor on 888, would those be impacted? Retail on the first floor of those doesn't seem very well used. Another new development is proposed west of the wetlands at Iowa street. Would have more commercial. Why build more commercial zoning when vacancy rates are so high. The City and County are renting many vacant commercial spaces bailing out our high vacancy rates. Too many boondoggles have been built that taxpayers bail out. These new low income housing proposals are not serving low-income families.

More updates. Barry talked to Dr. Ashley Bloom who runs the Family Clinic near 19th and Haskell. She'd like to come speak to us next year. She is the one doctor east of Mass Street. We need more. Q: When are the board meetings? This is it. We only have general membership meetings. 4 of our meeting signs were taken this month. Lawrence has a sign ordinance. It provides signs are supposed to be on the yard side of the street. During political season this year, signs were everywhere. Every political sign on CT street was moved. Except for signs for a certain candidate. Is it possible the candidates took their signs? No. This was before the election. Who is taking down these signs? Trinity Lutheran Church report from JT. Now the advisory Board report.

Meeting adjourned.