

## ELNA Minutes – April 12, 2021

Present: Phil Collison, Pam Blackburn, Aaron Paden, Lane Eisenbart, KT Walsh, Barry Shalinsky, Anna McCoy, Boog Highberger, Dave Loewenstein, Ellen Paulsen, Brenda Nunez, Josh Davis, Joe Bickford

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

La yarda neighborhood documentary has received grant funding. They are currently doing research and collecting oral history. It is focused on the 1920 – 1950 era when Mexican American families came to work on the railroad. This was common in so many cities in Kansas and even nationally. The German POW camp was nearby and was integrated into the neighborhood. Scholarly interviews starting. They are planning a 15 minute documentary which came out of wishing bench documentary. A well and some fencing still remained.

The northeast Depot parking lot was to be constructed as part of renovation. City uncovered a large expanse of bricks in the area to be made into a parking lot. ELNA visited the site w/ city and suggested that bricks be incorporated into design. City is reviewing the request and may be feasible without many change orders. One can see where the old depot was (that was thrown into the river) and the floor of the freight depot.

Community Free-idge: April 5 officially opened. Soliciting food for pantry & money donations.

Lan: 3/17 meeting, the police review group was there.

HRC: 1306 NH new addition: asking for it to be allowed to remain a duplex. 1308 NH wants to build a garage with upstairs for studio (no kitchen, bath).

Lawrence Preservation Alliance : doing survey on how LPA impacts the city.

Blowing / overflowing Dumpsters & Trash: 1200 RI. City supposed to be doing 2x weekly pickups. The city cannot do a larger dumpster, no one can explain why or not responding. Everyone should be monitoring the trash situation in the neighborhood. We will probably see this as more of an issue as more apartments are built. It appears it is a Landlord issue (housing authority) by not providing adequate trash disposal containers, not a neighbors.

Sidewalk inspection: no complaints heard from neighborhood. No brick sidewalks involved.

Brick streets & sidewalks policies: no new news. Meetings have occurred but nothing going forward. Barry contacted parks and recs: no update on tree planting grant.

The big event is coming up on 4/17. Our river cleanup is this weekend. Friends of the Kaw cleaning on 4/24.

Native Lands Updates: Robinson Park. Looking for History of park stories & it's movement to Lawrence. Geologist inspecting rock to verify condition & how it was installed.

Swimming Pool Kiosk regarding discrimination in Lawrence has been installed. Go look at it. History of integrated swimming pool and how it plays into our civil rights history.

ELNA was not recommended for CDBG funding. City says to find alternative funds for \$1300 from general fund. City is looking at the 2022 budget for funding of 4 neighborhood associations. A spirited discussion followed on basic CDBG rules and their changes to rules. Does it make sense for ELNA to pursue 501©(3) status?

Wishing bench: should it be a city stop? Phil moves that ELNA does not want the wishing bench to be part of a formal bus stop. We welcome a nice covered modern bus stop on Delaware. The wishing bench should be part of the neighborhood culture and should evolve as it does. Decay is a sign of life. Pam 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion passes. Barry will communicate to transit. Wishing bench committee to further investigate when it has to be moved and where it can be placed.

President report: Barry has requested a meeting with the city manager.

VP report: There will be open zoom mtg on the bus hub. All are welcome to join next Monday.

Treasurer: 4047.57 in the bank. 760.27 paypal balance. KVKL may start in July. Other fundraising suggestions are welcome.

Coordinator: apr/may newsletter in progress. Eudora attic storage. Natural Breeze.

Meeting adjourned.