

# East Lawrence Neighborhood Association Minutes

*Monday August 12th , Delaware Street Commons*

Present:

Aaron Paden, Barry Shalinsky, Catherine Reed, Crystal Miles, Dave Lowenstein, Dr. Sabrina Winfrey, Holly Myers, James C. Dunn, Joe R. Bickford, Joshua Davis (NY), Kaitlin Stanley, KT Walsh, Lane Eisenbart, Mike Anderson, Pam Blackburn, Peggy Robinson, Phil Collison, Sacie Lambertson, Tom Leffert

The meeting was called to order at 7:05.

1. Introductions were made
2. Housekeeping Announcements
3. Approvals. The agenda and the July minutes were approved.
4. New business
  1. Timothy Leffert, Assistant Principal and Dr. Sabrina Winfrey, Principal of Liberty Memorial Central Middle School came to introduce themselves and to urge neighbors to contact the school and be aware of events. They passed out door hangers with contact information. Training in Restorative Practices is underway: rather than punishment, kids are helped to consider the sources and consequences of their behavior and what they might do to make things right. ELNA can help with the Fun Run fundraiser, the last Friday in November, plus there's a fund to purchase yearbooks for students who can't afford to buy them. Those interested in volunteering should contact the school. LMCMS should send announcements for publication in the ELNA newsletter.
  2. City Tree Policies - Crystal Miles City Horticultural Resources Manager. City guidelines cover tree planting. Developers must pay for tree planting, and in newly developed areas street trees are on private property. East of Iowa, street trees are in the public right of way. Trees cost about \$365 apiece and it's hard to find them. In response to the emerald ash borer ash trees are being treated (700 per year) or removed and replanted (250 per year). Planting is limited by the need to water trees. Damaged trees are being removed near Pickney. Along 9<sup>th</sup> St. in East Lawrence trees were removed to make way for stormwater pipes: if 40% of roots are damaged the tree cannot be saved. Forty trees will be planted along E. Ninth, shorter trees under the power lines. Westar trims them every 4 years. Homeowners may trim street trees up to 8 ft above the ground, and trim stump sprouts. No permit is required to cut down trees on private property, and dead trees must be removed by the landowner. Call 832-7970 or visit the city website to report tree issues. If you are doing sidewalk work, call Parks and Rec, they will come and trim the tree roots. Note that tree species vary in their tolerance of fill over their roots.
  3. Hope House Update. Tami Nevels sent a report. They are doing major paperwork with the city, civil engineers, architects, and in connection with the grant. They'll contact all the neighbors re this housing for people with persistent mental illness (8 units, including one for a professional). The remodel of 1241 Penn is almost complete after several major projects—people will be moving in this week.
  4. Election of Treasurer. Mike Anderson is taking a job in Savannah GA. ELNA thanks him for all his work. Aaron Paden was elected treasurer.
  5. Block Party Committee. Lane reported that the street closure regulations have become extremely complicated. She is working on this with the City. The Arts Center will loan barriers. The party is Saturday Sept. 28, in conjunction with New York School's 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary. We will

get new t-shirts. Raffle items, gift cards, donations and help including beer serving are needed. Music is needed. Phil, Aaron, Kaitlin and Joe will be on the committee. They'll meet next week.

6. Paper Newsletter overview. This is still the best way to reach people, and it's ELNA's biggest expense, about \$600 for printing and over \$300 for postage for each issue. Mike has hand-delivered about half of them in the past. We could reduce publication to quarterly (rather than 6 times per year). We could shorten the newsletter. We could sell more ads. Aaron will put a fact sheet together, and we should all think about ways to make/save money, and to improve the content of the newsletter.
5. Recurring Updates
  1. East 9th Update, City portion. Ninth St. is finally open.
  2. Rebuilding East Ninth Together update. The committee is working on getting permission for artists to install. Ardys Ramberg reports that the fish will not be reinstated—perhaps it could be placed at the N. Lawrence Depot? Some artists will be at the block party.
  3. Opportunity Zone update. Phil will follow this to see if there's anything in it for East Lawrence.
  4. Arts Center Greenspace Update -- Lane. The city has approved use by the Arts Center but the Center can't afford to develop the area right now.
  5. Advertisers for next newsletter. Aaron will talk to Slimmers. City Commission candidates may be willing to advertise.
6. Reports
  1. President. Phil sent in the CDBG report. He personally supported Brook Creek's objections to the affordable housing plan. No action was taken by ELNA on this. There's a meeting Thursday Aug 22 at 7 pm at the East Lawrence Rec Center to discuss this issue. We have a new city manager. People are needed to mow.
  2. Vice-President. See above.
  3. Treasurer. We have \$5084.41 in checking. BonBon will donate patties for the block party.
  4. Coordinator. Frank sent letters to board members. The Sept/Oct newsletter deadline is August 19. Lane will contact City Commission candidates, also the East 9<sup>th</sup> artists to publicize their events. Lane will clarify the cost of ads and how to submit them.
  5. Committees.
    - i. Budget/ Fundraising Committee
    - ii. Lawrence Association of Neighborhoods
    - iii. Planning Commission
    - iv. Historic Resources Commission
    - v. City Commission. On the agenda, plastic bags, sanctuary cities, sidewalks, budget audit, reducing the homeless shelter budget.
    - vi. CDAC
    - vii. New York PTO/Site Council. See above.

7. Updates /Announcements. Dave. Epicenter will have a show of posters and news photos at the Murphy-Bromelsick house August 24, 6-9 pm on August 24.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:03.