

East Lawrence Neighborhood Association

Minutes December 3 2018 • New York School Library, 936 New York St

Present:

Aaron Paden, Catherine Reed, Cindy Suenram, Dave Lowenstein, David Brown, Holly Myers, Joe R. Bickford, Judy Romero, Kaitlin Stanley, KT Walsh, Lane Eisenbart, Mike Anderson, Pam Blackburn, Pat Kehde, Phil Collison, Reid Nelson, Arch Naramore

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 by Phil Collison.

1. Introductions

2. Housekeeping Announcements: The next meeting will be Monday January 14, and from now on meetings will be the second Monday of the month. On March 11th, the 2nd Monday and USD 497 Spring Break, we'll meet at Delaware Street Commons.

3. Approvals. The Agenda and the December minutes were approved.

Phil reminded everyone, especially board members, to list meetings attended for the CDBG quarterly report. An additional meeting will be held the third Monday of every month, at 8:30 pm, for the executive board and anyone else interested in ELNA, place to be announced.

1. New business

a. Update on HUB. A seven-storey building plus a 2 ½ storey parking garage is being planned for 11th and Mass streets. There's concern that this huge ugly structure and its 665 occupants will have an adverse impact on the downtown architecture and culture. The new building would impact historic structures on that corner. Parking will be a problem. The Planning Commission will discuss this at its February meeting. It was moved, seconded and passed that Phil and KT write a letter urging the Planning Commission to deny this use. Phil will send the letter around to the board for approval before sending it. We should also consider alternative uses for that space.

b. Reid Nelson, streetlights. The replacement lights installed by Westar are so bright they are hazardous to drivers. Reid and others, including the KU astronomy club, have approached the city and finally have an agreement that softer amber lights will be installed. These can be seen at 9th and NY and at 14th and NY. We should be vigilant and contact Westar and the city to be sure that the better bulbs are installed. Some lights are maintained by Westar, others by the city. At Westar, contact vince.avila@westarenergy.com; at the city, contact Ted Lohman, lohman@lawrenceks.org.

1. Recurring Updates

a.

b. Sidewalk project for JeanAnn and Dave. They need help to repair their sidewalk. Holly can recruit young volunteers for this. ELNA will follow up in the spring. Aaron volunteered to write a letter to the city supporting JeanAnn, this passed.

c. Rebuilding East Ninth Together Project -- Lane, KT. The Saturday listening session went well. The committee will discuss input and set up another listening session. The website <rebuildingeastninth.com> is up, posts are on Facebook, there will be a video on YouTube, and Mandy will write a summary for the ELNA newsletter.

d. East 9th, City portion. No update.

- e. Downtown Plan. No update.
- f. 13th St bicycle boulevard -- Phil. Nothing to add tonight.
- g. RiverKings -- Phil, status of letter. The letter has been sent. The possibility of siting the museum at the Amtrak depot will be on the City Commission agenda.
- h. Downtown Grocery Store. Hope is fading.
- a. Conservation Overlay. HRC is still asking the city for help with this.
- 6. Reports
 - a. President . The CDBG grant has been submitted, we're asking for \$12, 000.
 - b. Vice-President. No report.
 - c. Treasurer. We have \$5196.11 in the bank. Food sales are a big income source. Mike is exploring other methods for fund raising so we don't lose money this year.
 - d. Coordinator. The newsletter deadline is Friday Dec. 14. The Adopt-a-Family wrapping party will be Monday Dec. 17, 6-8 pm at Aaron's studio, 835 1/2 Mass St. Bring paper, ribbons, tools etc. The YART sale will be Saturday March 30, 2019. Lane will e-mail Jamie re the NY school 150th Anniversary.
 - e. Committees
 - i. Budget/ Fundraising Committee. No committee.
 - ii. Lawrence Association of Neighborhoods. We need a new LAN rep and the dues are due Jan 21. Better communication with neighbors and the city are needed.
 - iii. Planning Commission. See HUB above.
 - iv. Historic Resources Commission. BonBon and 1215 Delaware St. projects were approved. The huge North Lawrence development will include a bait shop.
 - v. City Commission. Body cameras and downtown cameras are coming. A kayak dock is under consideration. California fire refugees are invited to Lawrence.
 - vi. CDAC. Nothing to add.
 - vii. New York PTO/Site Council. See coordinator's report above.
- 1. Updates / Announcements. Phil checked with CDBG—they can't fund sidewalk repairs. Let's brainstorm capital improvements such as bus benches, possibly with trash cans. Dave Lowenstein is having an art walk/open studio Saturday Dec 8 at 1 pm, all are invited.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:59 pm.