

East Lawrence News

East Lawrence Neighborhood Association
P.O. Box 442393 Lawrence, Kansas - eastlawrence@yahoo.com
www.eastlawrence.com

November 2017



ELNA General Meeting

NOVEMBER 6th 7 pm
New York Elementary School
Library

Elections

Agenda

CDBG Grant Committee

Adopt-a-Family

Wishing Bench Repair Effort



From The President November 1, 2017

As I'm writing this, it's the day after the last big blow through the city. Who would have think we'd have thunderstorms, high winds and heavy rains in mid-October! I was in North Lawrence just after the storm blew through and it was hard to find a street that was passable. There were so many trees and limbs down. Later, driving across 9th street to the west the power was out along the way. 9th and Iowa was totally dark! But, East Lawrence never lost power. We were fortunate that evening.

This morning I have been reading up on the issues of the day. The sales tax issues for better infrastructure, better bus systems and more affordable housing. Air BnB, or STR's (Short Term Rentals as the City calls them). City Commission and School Board elections. The city's comprehensive plan. We should all be boning up on these issues so that we can be prepared to vote wisely on November 7th! Get out and vote! The outcomes from these issues will impact us greatly over the coming year and beyond.

The really good news that I see is that the rest of the City is trying to be more like East Lawrence. We have some of the best diversity of density, housing and wages than anywhere else in the city. We have mostly small and some large lots with large and small homes, duplexes and apartments. We are a grid street system, which means you can generally get in and out of the neighborhood from any street. We have strong schools. We have infill development and burgeoning small businesses and restaurants. All of these things are the things that are being encouraged in the proposed comprehensive plan called Horizon 2020. We have a strong sense of community that has helped shepherd these activities over time. We have recognized bad ideas when they have come around, and we have embraced good ideas. We are already a neighborhood that the rest of Lawrence wants to become. I encourage the rest of Lawrence to embrace those tenets in the plan to make your neighborhoods better! And to follow the plan!

Finally, how about that Block Party? We had a wonderful Block Party this year. The weather was perfect, the food was great, the cakewalk satisfied the sweet tooth and the music was divine. And the raffle had so many great prizes! (Thanks Frank!). There are a ton of details that go into making the party a success, and we couldn't do it without all the volunteers who worked to make it a big success. THANK YOU! And, special thanks to Lane Eisenbart, our coordinator, who knows how to pull all those details together. And thanks to YOU for coming out and supporting our wonderful community.

Thanks East Lawrence, for keeping the Community in the Neighborhood and being the model the City wants to follow as we progress farther into 21st Century!

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Fall Riverfront Cleanup

Day: Saturday, November 4th (rain or shine but heavy rain will cancel until spring)

Time: 9:00 a.m. to Noon

Park: At Santa Fe Station or Lower Riverfront Mall, East Parking Lot

Meet: Just north of the Santa Fe Station (7th and New York) at the entrance to the woods

Bring: Gloves and loppers, personal water bottle if desired

Wear: Long pants and sleeves, sturdy shoes

Please join us for our annual ELNA fall riverfront cleanup down by the river. Come down and experience the Kansas Riverfront in its fall splendor while doing a good deed. We will be clearing honeysuckle vines from the trail in order to make the trails open and usable. We will also be collecting trash along the riverfront and trails, and cleaning abandoned campsites of debris.

Thank you!

Mike Myers ELNA work day coordinator

1312 New Hampshire

785-218-2636

Pictured at right: Discarded clothes and abandoned camp materials on the river front



Block Party 2017 Thanks

Many thanks to all these folks for their help making the Block Party happen, plus our generous business friends who donated items for our raffle. Thanks for a good party. See you next year!

Aaron Paden
Alicia Kelley
Barb Michner
Brenda Nunez
Cari Davis
Catherine Reed
Charlotte Pessoni
Daina Holmes and kids
Diana Lehman
Elliot Bradley
Eric Farnsworth
Eric Jay
Frank Janzen
Hilary Barnett
Hilary Brown
Jason Fisher
Jay Holley
Jennifer Distlehorst
Joe Bickford
Johni Lacore
Josh Davis
Karl Ramberg
Katy Clagett
KT Walsh
Lisa Marie Benke
Marshall Maude
Michael Davis
Mick Palmer
Mike Anderson
Mike Myers
Mike Rheim
Nathan Jeffries

Pam Blackburn
Penny Blackburn
Phil Collison
Robert Baker
Rowyn Fisher
Staci Ahlvers
Sue McConnel
Suzan Hampton
Tami Nevels
Teresa Dixon
Tim VonHolton

Waxman Candles
Stephens Real Estate
Ladybird Diner
Decade Coffee
StructReStruct
Om Tree Shala
KB and Co Boutique
Eccentricity
Mass St Mercantile
Levee Café
Bottleneck
Velvet Chair Hair Salon
O'Reilly Auto Parts
Love Garden
Weavers
Crema Dulce
Lawrence ReStore
ACME t-shirts
Sylas and Maddy's
Checkers Grocery

Wild Territory
Jimmy John's
Lucky Berry
Extra Virgin
Raven Bookstore
Fuzzy's Tacos
Third Planet
Rudy's Pizzeria
Ernst and Sons Hardware
Shana Cake
Mike Amyx Barbershop
Honey Bidwell's Honey Bee
Aimee's Coffee House
Cottin's Hardware
Lawrence Arts Center
Cory Phillips

The Estate of Sheryl Robertson
The Fix Salon
Jubilee Mystics
Sugarfoot Detour
Sara Taliaferro and Justice Matters
Lisa Larsen for City Commission
Emily Hampton and the Sunrise Project
Community Village Lawrence
New York School PTO
Lawrence League of Women Voters
Mike Anderson for City Commission
Lawrence Loop

Potluck Dish Makers!
Cake Bakers!



Tom Harper
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*Appreciating
Older Homes*

visit my website
Tom-Harper.com



ELNA Board Election 2017

Announcement:

The Election of the ELNA Board will take place on **Monday November 6th**, at our normally scheduled monthly meeting, in the **New York Elementary library**. Because we do not foresee an above average turnout for the election, as in recent years, we will NOT dedicate the entire meeting to election business. **We will have a regular meeting concurrent with the election.**

Procedures:

The meeting will be called to order as per usual, **at approximately 7pm** with approvals of the agenda and minutes if they are available. The first item on the agenda will be the ELNA election. All attendees will receive a ballot listing the names of the 14 Board candidates. Voters will be asked to select 13 names. (Phil Collison, as current ELNA President, is required to serve on the Board in the year following his term. His seat is not up for election.) Attendees will be given a few minutes to fill their ballots in and the ballots will be collected in a ballot box. After ballots are collected, the meeting will proceed with other agenda items, and the Coordinator will begin a tally. **Additional ballots and the ballot box will remain available for drop in voting until 8pm. Voting will close at 8pm** and the final votes tallied shortly thereafter. After the 2017-2018 Board is selected, the new Board will select officers. The meeting may continue with remaining agenda items until the meeting ends at or before 9pm.

Voting Eligibility:

All in-neighborhood individual (not business, nor non-profit, nor out-of-neighborhood associate) members are eligible to vote. East Lawrence property owners with property title in their personal name will be permitted to vote as in-neighborhood members. Proof of residence will not be required. A map of the official boundaries of East Lawrence will be available. Dues to become or renew a membership, \$1 for in neighborhood members, can be paid the night of the election.

Candidates:

All candidates will have declared their intention to run for the ELNA Board at the October 3rd ELNA meeting. All Board candidates must be voting eligible. Officers of the Board (President, Vice President, and Secretary), must have been board members for at least ninety days, and no more than 35% of the total Board can be new members.

Candidates for the 2017-2018 Board are:

Aaron Paden	Jennifer Distlehorst
Catherine Reed	Joshua Davis
Chris Lempa	Judy Romero
Cindy Suenram	KH Harris
Dave Loewenstein	KT Walsh
Eric Jay	Mike Anderson
Pam Blackburn	Vanessa Reynaga

Interviews for each candidate can be found on our website

<http://www.eastlawrence.com/november-elna-meeting-and-election/>

Furthermore:

Disputes regarding officers, eligibility, the interpretation of the bylaws, or other unforeseen conflicts will be resolved by decision of a Board majority.

Affordable Housing

Ballot Item -- *from Justice Matters*

The November 7 ballot contains three tax increments. The ballot initiatives represent a ten-year renewal on taxes we are currently 0.05% sales tax increment, while the others, 0.2% for public transit and 0.3% for infrastructure, would continue with the current uses. A "yes" vote to Question 3 means that, beginning in 2019, the 0.05% tax increment would go directly into the Affordable Housing Trust Fund. Currently, the money goes to a transit hub expansion fund that will accrue sufficient funds when the original tax expires in 2019. Visit the City of Lawrence web site at <https://lawrenceks.org/> to read ballot language and to get additional information.

Since the affordable housing problem is multifaceted, it is worth a closer look. The City of Lawrence commissioned studies in 1993 and in 2005. Both confirmed a persistent gap in affordable housing stock and the need for a dedicated source of revenue placed in an affordable housing trust fund to address the shortage. Currently, 1 in 5 residents in Douglas County are in a severe housing situation. They pay more than half their income for shelter. HUD recommends a household pay no more than 30%.

The Affordable Housing Trust Fund is managed by a Board of stakeholders -- homebuilders, city staff, local non-profit housing and service providers, a public housing resident, and other community leaders. Housing trust funds work by leveraging local dollars to bring additional dollars from other public and private sources. Our community is not currently competitive for some funding resources because we lack ongoing dedicated local dollars. The national rate of leveraging is six dollars for every local dollar invested, so we are missing a significant opportunity. Affordable housing trust funds are used in over 550 cities, providing a wide range of experience for Lawrence to consult as it expands this process.

Local housing providers are experienced at leveraging public and private dollars. The problem we face is one of source and of scale: we simply do not currently have local

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Block





Block Party 2017

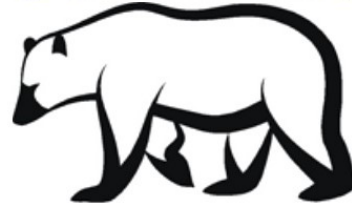


ELNA Adopts a Family for the Holidays

Want to help ELNA adopt a family for the holiday season?

For many years, the East Lawrence Neighborhood Association has adopted a family (or two) in need of holiday support, through the Ballard Center. As a group of neighbors, we purchase food and gifts for the selected family. In the coming weeks, we will receive a wishlist of items from the family, and as soon as we acquire this list, we will be looking for neighbors to purchase and donate gifts. If you would like to volunteer to donate items, contact Lane at eastlawrence@yahoo.com, or Phil at 785-843-8098 by phone.

DUSTIN STUMBLINGBEAR
for COMMISSIONER



NATIVE AMERICAN VETERAN
FIGHTING FOR YOU!

Paid for by Stumblingbear for Kansas. Steven X. Davis, Treas.

Vote! As noted in previous newsletters, ELNA does not endorse any candidate for election to any office. We do, however, encourage all East Lawrencians to get out and exercise their right to vote. A general election has been scheduled for Tuesday November 7th 2017. Advance voting options are available as well. Most of East Lawrence polls at New York Elementary, but some residences at the extremities of our boundaries will poll at Trinity Lutheran Church and the East Lawrence Rec Center. If you have any question as to your polling place, or the status of your voter registration, you can visit our very informative County Clerk's Office website: douglascountyks.org/depts/county-clerk. You can even check your voting history and view sample ballots.

On Tuesday, August 1st Lawrence voters helped me finish 2nd in the primary. Thank you for demonstrating your confidence in me to lead Lawrence forward!

On Tuesday, November 7th I'm asking for your vote again in the general election.

Together we can:

- Ensure city-owned assets are managed properly while developing alternative revenue streams to ensure long-term sustainability
- Focus on public safety, equitable infrastructure, a vibrant arts and culture scene and access to high speed fiber to remain *unmistakably Lawrence*
- Demand transparency in local government
- Re-evaluate the use of tax incentives to protect taxpayers and make sure that development benefits the entire community

MATTHEW
HERBERT
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Let's Finish What We Started

VOTE
November 7



Paid for by Matthew Herbert for City Commission. Rachael Sudlow, treasurer

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dedicated dollars in the amounts necessary to address the scope of the problem at the rate needed. Last year, Family Promise received requests from 419 different families. They can serve 20. Habitat for Humanity has 20 applications and can serve three. Tenants to Homeowners has 78 people on their waiting list. Lawrence/Douglas County Housing Authority has a waiting list of 403 individuals and families—with people waiting up to two years before being housed. These lists represent only people who meet eligibility requirements for these services. The need extends well beyond these lists. Also note that Federal resources we currently receive, HOME and CDGB funds saw a reduction of 36% since 2012 (see City web site).

The City Commission just authorized the hire of a consulting firm to complete a comprehensive housing market study. This study will provide needed data to help prioritize projects. In the meantime, a “yes” vote on Question 3 will allow seventeen months for housing providers and other community leaders to start developing projects for the most immediate and known need. Voter-endorsed local funds, managed locally, give a powerful tool to start addressing the shortages on a scale that can really make a difference.

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HARDWARE & RENTAL

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Lisa Larsen

for City Commission

Professional and Experienced

- ✓ *Current Lawrence City Commissioner*
- ✓ *On the West Hills Neighborhood Board of Directors*
- ✓ *Former Small Business Owner (22 yrs)*
- ✓ *Kansas Supreme Court Certified Mediator*
- ✓ *Licensed Professional Geologist*

I ask for your vote on November 7th!

www.larsencitycommission.com

Paid for by the Lisa Larsen for City Commission committee, Sarah Merriman, Treasurer

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