

East Lawrence Neighborhood Association Minutes

Monday March 11th 2019 • 7:00pm-9:00pm Delaware St Commons

Present:

Aaron Paden, Catherine Reed, Chad Matesi, Dave Lowenstein, David Lamberton, Sacie Lamberton, Jane Eldredge, Jay Holley, Joe R. Bickford, Judy Romero, Kaitlin Stanley, KH, KT Walsh, Lane Eisenbart, Michael Almon, Mike Anderson, Mike Rheim, Pam Blackburn, Patrick Watkins, Peggy Robinson, Phil Collison, Richard Renner, Rodney King, Scott Stager

The Meeting was called to order at 7:05 by president Phil Collison

1. Introductions
2. Housekeeping Announcements
3. Approvals. No approvals.
REMINDER: We were reminded to fill in meetings attended for the CDBG quarterly report.
4. New business
 1. East Lawrence Criterium Bike Races -- Michael Morley. A bike race is tentatively scheduled for Sunday, July 7, from 9 am through 5 pm. The race would start at the Cider Gallery and follow a route including New York Street and Ninth Street. Neighbor Mike Rheim is part of the organizing group and is trying to talk to impacted neighbors—this route was chosen because it's not densely residential. There's a concern that AME parishioners may be endangered and inconvenienced by the race—possibly an alternate route or date could be developed. Morley wants to meet with a committee outside meeting time.
 2. Richard Renner, performing artist, is thinking about a Front Porch Festival this fall or next spring. Bands, poetry readings, puppet shows and other events would be staged on neighborhood porches within walking distance, all in one afternoon through early evening. About 20 houses would be involved, two or three bands would play at each. There will be no entry into houses and no alcohol. Porta-potties will be needed. Richard is applying for a Rebuilding East Ninth Together grant to do this—if it's funded, Richard will get back to ELNA for help with publicity. Steve Mason is in favor.
 3. LAC. Phil. Plans have been in the works, for years, for the Arts Center to buy the Salvation Army Building and convert it to green space. There is City involvement and some legal obstacles. Margaret of the Arts Center has been in touch with Phil to ask for collaboration with East Lawrence. If LAC needs a committee to help, Phil, Mike Anderson, Aaron Paden and Jay Holley will help.
 4. HUB Presentation by CORE Spaces. The company is requesting a permit to build a 250-unit, 614-bed apartment building on the NE corner of 11th and Mass Streets, plus a 272-space parking structure with housing on New Hampshire St. In response to HRC concerns the company has reduced the height by two stories, removed most balconies and added retail at street level. Concerns remain that parking won't be adequate and that the building is out of proportion to the area. Concerns remain regarding what effect the proposed building would have on housing affordability and on gentrification of the area. HRC and the Planning Commission will continue to study permitting this structure.
5. Recurring Updates
 1. Yart Sale. March 30. Let's donate to and publicize this sale. Lane has made an event on Facebook, please share.
 2. Sidewalk project for Jean Ann and Dave. Sunday April 28.
 3. East 9th Update, City portion. The sidewalk by the Wishing Bench is done.
 4. Rebuilding East Ninth Together update. RFP1 is out.
 5. Downtown Plan -- Todd Foster. No report.
 6. 13th St bicycle boulevard -- Phil. Temporary, pop up features will be placed at 13th and Connecticut on Thursday March 21. There will be no left turn onto 13th. There are concerns that

the city is not receptive to comments on this issue. Aaron will write a letter to the city suggesting 12th or 14th St, rather than 13th, as the bike boulevard.

7. RiverKings. No report
 8. Conservation Overlay. HRC is still asking the city for help. Staff time is needed. Demo permits are out for 1009 New Jersey and 1241 Pennsylvania.
 9. Advertisers for next newsletter. No report.
6. Reports
- a. President CDBG funding has been allocated, about the same as last year.
 - b. Vice-President (above)
 - c. Treasurer. We have \$3894.42 in the bank, down about \$1000 from last month. How can we increase readership of the newsletter?
 - d. Coordinator. YART sale, prep for NY school's 150th anniversary on Sept. 22. Get items in for May/June newsletter by April 15th/
 - e. Committees. Most of these were covered above.
 - i. Budget/ Fundraising Committee
 - ii. Lawrence Association of Neighborhoods
 - iii. Planning Commission
 - iv. Historic Resources Commission
 - v. City Commission
 - vi. CDAC
 - vii. New York PTO/Site Council
2. Updates / Announcements. None.