

ELNA Meeting August 14, 2023

Attendees:

Board Members present: Barry Shalinsky (Prez), Pam Blackburn, Phil Collison, KT Walsh, Krista Gentry, Sacie Lambersson, Brenda Nunez (via zoom), Lane Eisenbart (coordinator).

Attendees: Julie Trowbridge-Alford, RJ Torrey, Charlotte Pessoni, Jan Butin, Joe Bickford, Nicolette Proudfoot, Ginger Chance, Justine Burton (CC Candidate), JT Thornburg (zoom), RJ Torrey.

Called to order 7:00

Approve minutes: KT moves to approve, Krista 2nd. No discussion. All in favor all. No nays.

Approved.

Approve agenda Pam moves, Krista 2nd. All in favor. Approved.

Wishing Bench. Background, items on the Wishing Bench were being stripped regularly. New: KT is putting stuff on it, and seemingly the stuff is staying put. There is no camera on it at this time. Should we leave the sign up that says don't take stuff(!)?? Yes! People always engage at the wishing bench. Ginger Chance agrees that the issue might be resolved. She has seen a lot of concern about it. It made the paper. There is still a bout \$300 in the bank account allocated for the WB from donations.

Justine Burton is here and is running for CC.

She is about change. She grew up here. Lawrence is not the same. Our infrastructure needs work. CC doesn't seem to have a vision for Lawrence. Lawrence could be brought more together. Seems to be west side v downtown. I-70 is a main entrance and offers big potential. We need a grocery store in North Lawrence. The focus needs to be on everyone not just special interests. Gotta get everyone involved. She got tired of complaining and decided she would be a participant. Her Aunt ran the Amtrak / Train Station Diner. And she worked there.

Air Quality. Specifically Repetition Coffee has a certain odor. There is particulate debris (husks) that comes out of the burning process for the coffee. It smears and is greasy when it lands and is hard to clean off cars and impacts buildings, paint, etc. "They need to find another place to burn". The last time this came up things were not as clear. Nicki has receipts – Pictures and more. Many nearby neighbors are impacted and are talking about it. She will keep us posted.

Board Elections in November. Our by-laws state that if you want to run in November. Be ready to declare your intentions in October and pay your dues. We can have up to 14 board members.

Block Party. Hobbs is reserved. Parks and Rec waived the Fee. Chairs and Tables are rented. We need donations for the raffle. Facebook event is created. She's working on volunteer shifts and raffle items. Sept. 23rd.

Newsletter is being worked on.

Alphabet Soup. CC, HRC PC, LMCMS, NYS. PIRC. School Board is considering the tax abatement for Border's Building tonight. Turnhalle is also asking for abatements. Discussion ensued pro v con. Turnhalle is a new business. Borders is an office move from one part of Lawrence to another part of Lawrence. Manhattan, KS offers a rebate to owners of old houses. Can we do that here? Some Cities have a vacancy tax. Can we do that here?

August 26th at noon planning meeting for LMCMS centennial celebration at noon on Nov. 12. A Sunday.

1036 Rhode Island is doing a remodel and upgrade. 2 Sundays ago 8th and CT had another accident. Multimodal Transportation Commission (MMTC): In the CIP (capital improvement plan) there is \$350 k allocated for a 13th street bicycle boulevard in 2027. Phil will write a letter objecting to a bike blvd. And share it before he sends it in. Pam moves Phil writes a letter about above and will submit to board before submitting to the City. Seconded and approved. Phil reported on LAN, Bus Barn updates. And Meeting in a box and suggests that we get a meeting going.

Dennis Domer's book Embattled Lawrence is now available. JT has a book in a box that he's willing to loan out. Logistics about how to get that going. There are 2 chapters very specific to East Lawrence.

BCMC Board of Commissioners Meeting Committee. Reducing the numbers of advisory boards. They want to move from 40 to about 20. Aviation Board got combined with the Multimodal commission. Duh! Sustainability Adv Board could get dumped and would be built into all the other boards. The public was not allowed to speak at these meetings. No public comment at those. Taxes are going up!

Jan Butin says Since 2007 she's been fighting the city about native plants. It took the City a long time to recognize her monarch site status. She finally has gotten the issue resolved.

Coordinator asks Should we do a Fall Cleanup? At the River? With Kevin? Lane's switching to a new card reader system on our website, Paypal is changing so we will be changing. Meeting adjourned at 8:53.