

East Lawrence Neighborhood Association  
Meeting Minutes  
Monday Nov 11, 2019 New York School library

Present:

Aaron Paden, Barry Shalinsky, Brenda Nuñez, Catherine Reed, Joe R. Bickford, Kathryn Clark, KT Walsh, Lane Eisenbart, Matt Lord, Pam Blackburn, Pat Watkins, Peg Robinson, Phil Collison

The meeting was called to order at 7:02

Introductions

Housekeeping Announcements

Approvals. The agenda and the October minutes were approved.

The board was reminded to fill in meetings attended for the CDBG report.

New business

a. Warehouse Arts District Plans - Pat Watkins for Tony K. Three projects are planned. Penn Street Lofts at 9th and Penn must conform to the Warehouse District Design Overlay. The drawings displayed show structures similar to the warehouses on the east side of Penn St. On the ground floor there will be 4000 square ft of commercial space and 7 live-work units. The second, third and fourth floors will be residential, all affordable for the sake of tax-credit financing. There is parking to support the tenants; additional parking north or south is contemplated. There's no bus stop at this time. Question: will retail space here compete with downtown? Suggestion: a laundromat and day care center are needed here. The second project is the Delaware St Live-Work (not tax credit). There will be 6 units with commercial space downstairs, living space upstairs, and garages. The third project is the Turnhalle. It will be restored with no structural changes, no definite use planned at this time. The Turnhalle project has federal and state historic tax credits.

b. Elections. It was moved, seconded and carried to accept the slate of board members, and of officers.

The 2019-2020 Board includes: KT Walsh, Kaitlin Stanley, Pam Blackburn, Dave Loewenstein, Kelly Rodriguez, Barry Shalinsky, Joshua Davis, Peggy Robinson, Brenda Nuñez, Catherine Reed, Aaron Paden, Hannah Sroor, and Kathryn Clark, with Phil Collison returning in a required position as past president. Phil Collison will serve as President again, along with KT Walsh as Vice President, and Catherine Reed as Secretary. We thank each person for their service. Board members will be interviewed for our website in the near future, and the January February paper newsletter will contain more details about each board member, along with their contact information.

c. CDBG is still writing its rules. Barry, Hannah, Kathryn, Phil and Aaron will serve on the CDBG application committee.

d. Phil wrote a letter of support to the Kansas Historical Society for a grant for remodeling of the AME church. It was moved and passed unanimously that he send it.

e. It was moved and seconded to send \$100 to Liberty Memorial School.

f. Letter of support to fund the homeless shelter. People are camping by the river, a bad situation for everyone. Phil will write a letter to both the old and new City Commissions supporting more funding for the shelter. The day shelter, open 2:30 to 6 pm at 10th and Kentucky, needs a washer and dryer, and their clients badly need hats, gloves and socks.

g. Loop and Riverfront Park progress. KT. Negotiations are going on with the railroad re the loop. This will take at least a year. A grant has been received for the trail north of 11th St by the river, the southern bank is eroding, action will be taken next year.

#### Recurring Updates

a. Holiday Family. Lane. We have adopted 2 families of 5. Sign up on the wish list for items you will buy. Cash donations are also accepted. The wrapping party will be at 835.5 Mass St on Dec 11, 6-9 pm. Food and drink will be served. thanks Aaron

b. East 9th Update, City portion. KT. The lights are on, bricks are being laid, a meeting will be held. KT will talk with the City Commission about this.

c. Rebuilding East Ninth Together update. Matt Lord for the East Lawrence Family Tree Project. He and 3 other artists will make family portraits and display them at a potluck. The portraits will be given to the families, who might not be able to afford art. A signup sheet was passed. Matt will write a piece for the ELNA newsletter. Lane. Youth Corps applications are due Nov 25, for artists 18 and under, individuals or groups. All ideas are welcome. The Epicenter recipe book needs recipes. Caryn and Kelly will have song and story workshops in February. Yarn it Forward is meeting Mondays 6-7 pm at the library. Public feedback is requested for the big sculpture.

d. 20 mph Speed Limit and stop sign at 8th and DE. Phil emailed the traffic engineer. The staff is now conducting research on city-wide speed limit reduction. This will come up at the transportation committee meeting. The stop sign request was denied. Barry suggests consolidating the traffic issues for discussion in January.

#### Reports

a. President. Phil. The DUNS registration is confirmed.

b. Vice-President. no report

c. Treasurer. Aaron. We paid \$165 for web hosting. We have \$3795.00 in the bank and \$425.61 in PayPal. We'll pay \$700 for the newsletter. We need more sponsors and business card ads.

d. Coordinator. Lane. Barbara Higgins-Dover from the River Kings wants to put together an outdoor film festival with local history emphasis. Lane wants to too! We'll see if we can make this happen in the spring.

Committees - 10 min

i. Lawrence Association of Neighborhoods. The Castle Tea Room isn't sustaining itself. There's a proposal to open a restaurant there. Public engagement is sought for opportunity zones, but the beneficiaries will be developers, not small businesses.

ii. Historic Resources Commission. 711 CT is going well, 941 Penn has been deferred.

iii. City Commission. They support St. Luke AME restoration. New generators will be installed at the water treatment plant. A tenant is needed for the Amtrak depot.

iv. New York PTO/Site Council. Barry. The big issue is a living wage for paraprofessionals. The TraumaSmart program facilitates helpful responses to behavioral challenges. Barry will follow up on the school food shelf/snacks program.

Updates / Announcements. Aaron: put homelessness on the agenda. There's a conversation on homelessness at the library, Nov. 16 from 1:30 -3:30.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:58. Minutes prepared by Catherine Reed.