

Quarterly Neighborhood Performance Report - Quarter Two (November-January) Due Feb. 10

Neighborhood_ East Lawrence Neighborhood Assn __Completed By__ Phil Collison____ Date__ 2/10/2021 ____
 Phone Number/Email __ 785 843 8098 __ phil@pcollision.com ____

Each Neighborhood is required to have at least quarterly meetings. (minutes must be attached.)	Meeting Date #1	<u>11/09/20</u>	Minutes Attached?	<u>Y</u>
	Meeting Date #2	<u>12/14/20</u>	Minutes Attached?	<u>Y</u>
	Meeting Date #3	<u>01/11/21</u>	Minutes Attached?	<u>Y</u>
How was the neighborhood notified of the meeting(s)? (check all that apply)	email	<u>X</u>		
	newsletter	<u>X</u>		
	other announcement? (please specify)	<u>X Various Social media</u>		
Officer elections this quarter? (if so, attach list of new officers)	Yes <u>X</u>	No		
Each Neighborhood is encouraged to produce regular newsletters.	Date of Newsletter	<u>January 20 for Jan/Feb issue</u>	Copy Attached? (required)	<u>Y</u>

Also to be attached: _____

Neighborhood activity list for the quarter, including method of notification as well as estimated attendance. (Required) – *See Attached*

Best practices in regard to neighborhood events that can be shared with other neighborhood associations. Provide information on outreach, event, and outcome. (recommended) *We began the quarter with the culmination of our get out the vote event. In 3 days 4 Volunteers made 30 calls, knocked on 70 doors, and sent over 100 texts, and gave 3 rides to the polls. All in a non-partisan let's get East Lawrence to the polls. We ran elections and had a peaceful transition of power. We helped NY School with their annual MLK Chili Feed, collaborating with their PTA and the Sunrise Project to help feed 250 people on a drive through socially distanced manner accepting donations for the meals. We provided some desserts and volunteers to help serve.*

Any other information your neighborhood association feels will be information that will help to provide a clear view of your neighborhood associations accomplishments. (recommended). *These are pandemic times. We can't meet in person but we have still had 15 or so neighbors at our meetings. We have helped feed people. We are working on a needs assessment for our neighborhood that will help identify folks who are in need within our neighborhood and help them find the resources they need, whether it is food, transportation or Covid tests. Making sure that people can get help that need it.*

ELNA Board 2020-2021

updated 1/31/21

NAME	POSITION/ ROLE	OCCUPATION	ADDRESS
Aaron Paden	Treasurer	machinist, photographer	1208 Delaware
Dave Loewenstein	member	self employed artist	740 Rhode Island #1
Joshua Davis (NY St)	member	communications	846 New York St
KT Walsh	Vice Pres, HRC rep	Artist	732 Rhode Island
Pam Blackburn	Secretary	Software Analyst	830 Connecticut
Phil Collison	past President	Retired	933 Pennsylvania St
Brenda Nuñez	member	Cottonwood Supervisor	815 New Jersey
Barry Shalinsky	President	legal advocate	645 Connecticut
Suzan Hampton	member	urban/ architectural designer	1220 Delaware #9
Dennis "Boog" Highberger	member	state representative, attorney	1024 New York St
Anna McCoy	member	retired	1220 Delaware St #7
Sacie Lambertson	member	retired	715 New York St
Lane Eisenbart	Coordinator	communications, tech support, non-profit	1229 Pennsylvania St

East Lawrence Neighborhood Association

Meeting Agenda

Monday Nov 9th • 7:00pm-9:00pm

Join Zoom Meeting

Register in advance for the Zoom Meeting:

https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMpfuiprzwsEtG9W4sNt0g7_mK8KfYmibZu

Email Phil at phil@pcollison.com for the password.

1. Introductions - 2 min
2. Housekeeping Announcements - 2 min
3. Approvals - 4 min
Agenda / Minutes -- September, October
REMINDER: CDBG qrt report: fill in meetings attended, esp BOARD
4. New Business
 - a. ELNA Board -- accept slate - 2 min
Aaron Paden, Dave Loewenstein, Phil Collison, Pam Blackburn, Hannah Sroor, Barry Shalinsky, Brenda Nunez, Josh Davis, Suzan Hampton, KT Walsh, Boog Highberger, Anna McCoy
 - b. Elect Officers - 5 min
 - c. City Strategic Plan Update - 10 min
5. Recurring Updates
 - a. ELNA sponsored GOTV and Voter Registration drive - 5 min
 - b. Rebuilding East Ninth Together update - 2 min
 - c. CDBG Listening Sessions - 5 min
 - d. Update Neighborhood Plan - 2 min
 - e. New bus benches at 11th and Delaware - 3 min
 - f. New York Street Extension Update
 - g. Wishing bench status
6. Reports - 10 minutes
 - a. President
 - b. Vice-President
 - c. Treasurer
 - d. Coordinator -- newsletter? Adopt DARE Center for Christmas, dccf grant?
 - e. Committees - 10 min
 - i. Fundraising/ Grant funding
 1. Pursue other projects and grants?
 - ii. Lawrence Association of Neighborhoods
 - iii. Planning Commission
 - iv. Historic Resources Commission
 - v. City Commission
 - vi. Traffic
 - vii. CDAC - Form Committee to put together grant due in Jan/Feb
7. Updates / Announcements - 2 min
 - a. Book Drive for new Langston Hughes Library @ St. Luke
 - b. Winter Covid help in E. Law
 - c. ELNA as a non-profit?

Note about our meetings: ***We appreciate our neighborhood meetings as an opportunity to learn more about what is happening in our neighborhood. For this reason we request that our interactions reflect our pursuit of knowledge and assume that we are all in it for these same reasons. Assume good intent on everyone's part. We will make every effort to recognize everyone's viewpoints.***

1. ELNA Minutes – November 9, 2020

Present: Phil Collison, Pam Blackburn, Suzan Hampton, Boog Highberger, Anna McCoy Brenda Nunoz, Aaron Paden, Barry Shalinsky, Hannah Sroor, Josh Davis, Lane Eisenbart, KT Walsh, Dave Lowenstein, Lisa Larsen

Meeting called to order by Phil. September & October minutes were reviewed by board members. Dave moved, Barry seconded that both minutes be approved.

Aaron moved that the slate of Board Members be accepted. KT seconded.

Barry was nominated for President and accepted the nomination. Boog moved, KT seconded and Barry was approved.

KT indicated that she was willing to remain Vice-President. Josh moved, Aaron seconded and KT was approved.

Hannah was nominated for Secretary. Aaron moved, KT seconded and Hannah was approved.

Aaron will remain Treasurer as that position is voted on in August.

Lane talked about an email from LAC about the strategic plan. Derrick Rogers is leading a group and was looking for neighborhood representatives.

Lisa Larsen talked about the city strategic plan. It is updated every few years. Budgeting, focus, and spending will support initiatives from strategic plan. Six committees were formed, one on neighborhoods.

Pam asked about downtown strategic plan. There have been no notifications of meetings since before covid. Lisa said she would check.

Barry reported on GOTV: in 2020, 238 new voters were registered. Turnout in our neighborhood was 60% in both 2016 & 2018. 2020 turnout was over 68%. Knocked on 350 doors, Door hangers placed on 650 residences. 400 postcards mailed. Worked a registration table with LWV. 500+ text messages sent. 20 volunteers supported this effort.

Rebuilding East 9th together: Celebration was a great success. Report compiled and sent. Now archiving documents.

CDBG listening sessions: KT, Phil, Lane, Aaron, Marci attended. There is a 10 step matrix. They are waiting for input from ELNA on what should be added. Most felt like matrix was scored without reviewing the documents submitted and was too subjective.

Update neighborhood plan: although Scott McCullogh was engaged multiple times, with his resignation little is remembered of the conversations. Still not getting support.

New bus bench at 11 & Delaware. A local church is paying for multiple benches around town.

Questions if the kayak park is still being planned down by the dam. A lot of new activity is going on and a new access road has been built.

No update on where to move the Wishing Bench.

Officer reports:

Treasurer: 2189.10 in bank; 382.65 in paypal

Coordinator: City needs form on file for vendor. Merchandise popup for holiday sales. Holiday giving this year in support of the DARE center. Hoping to get 100 walmart gift cards for \$25 each. Community will be notified through enews and social media.

Needs assessment of neighborhood will be in the next newsletter along with human services contacts to connect people to resources.

Book drive for St Luke AME's Langston Hughes Community Library. Looking for books on Langston Hughes and racial issues both old and new.

Stuart added Phil to the citizen committee on policing. There are 3 others on the committee.

Lisa reminded everyone that Covid money for rental assistance is still available.

Meeting adjourned.

Note about our meetings: We appreciate our neighborhood meetings as an opportunity to learn more about what is happening in our neighborhood. For this reason we request that our interactions reflect our pursuit of knowledge and assume that we are all in it for these same reasons. Assume good intent on everyone's part. We will make every effort to recognize everyone's viewpoints.

ELNA Meeting
December 14th 2020
via zoom

Introductions and check ins

In attendance:

Kristin Morland, Jenny Barton, Josh Davis, Dave Lowenstein, marci francisco, Joe Bickford, Peggy Robinson, Frank Janzen, KT Walsh, Boog Highberger, Lane Eisenbart, Aaron Paden, Pam Blackburn, Suzan Hampton, Barry Shalinsky, Phil Collison, Hannah Sroor

Motion for approval for agenda, agenda is approved.

President's remarks:

Goals & priorities for the coming year: stabilizing sources of funding, might consider 501c 3 status, long term supports in place to make sure the character of our neighborhood is preserved, enhancing communications (specifically receiving communications from neighbors), want to continue to find ways to address the needs of at risk neighbors. Opening up the floor to new participants to share any needs or ideas they have.

Updates:

Lawrence association of neighborhoods: lowering speed limit to 25 mph on all residential streets, 9th, 11th, and 13th street will be changed.

HRC:1023 New York half bath and mudroom, 839 Pennsylvania Scott Trettel is adding onto it, and restoring the quonset hut, 1330 Rhode Island asked to tear down the concrete garage.

Planning commission: kayak park- will be putting it in at the river, will want the road leading down to it rezoned, it will go before the zoning committee. Who all is paying for it? Who will be running it? Does East Lawrence want to create a list of questions about the project to submit?

- Will start email thread to board to start conversation about questions

Traffic committee: no new updates

City Commission: no updates

Replacing waterline on 1300 block of Rhode Island, East lawrence requested special attention to preserving the brick sidewalks and streets during this project

Fountain at depot at 7th street- it is promised that it will be restored, hopefully funds for that will be in the parks and rec budget for the year

Get out the vote and registration drive: voter registration numbers went up more than a couple hundred from the last election cycle.

Rebuilding east ninth street together: Mandy, KT, Alex and Lane, are working on an essay Public library will archive everything about materials and designs that are submitted for rebuilding east ninth street together

Public Transportation dept still receiving input for transportation services, kiosks around town to receive input

Updating neighborhood plan- needs more movement and buy in from city commissioners- discussed this at LAN meeting last month, hopefully something will come of it

Wishing bench status: still trying to get a hold of Matt Gillhousen, so that we can possibly move the wishing bench to Slimmer's property. Dave will draft a letter

Brick Streets and Sidewalks Committee: KT, Phil, Pam, Suzan

Elna merch sales: Lane has all the merch at her house, sold two pieces of merch today! Thinking about having another pop up on wednesday. Going to try and push them for the holidays.

The big event: KU's big volunteer day is April 17th, they contacted us to say that they can perform any job that does not require a power tool, things such as raking leaves or gardening. The sign up will be on the KU big event website in early February. No qualifications to sign up.

Holiday giving: DARE center donations '

Langston Hughes Library: will be a book drive at St Lukes for the library

Newsletter: needs assessment, might want to ask how residents consume info most?

Covid mutual aid: what are we doing? What should we be doing?

501C3 Status-this could help us diversify our funding. Anyone want to work on this? Boog, Dave, Jenny. Pros: qualify for a lot of grants, and wouldn't affect the funding from the city through CDBG Cons: must complete financial records. If you are under 25,000 though, it's pretty simple.

Jenny's contact info: Jenny Barton 739 Connecticut St. 785-764-0269 email: thatonegirlfromkansas@gmail.com

Kaw nation formally requested the big red rock be returned to the tribe. More info at : <https://www.robinsonpark1929.com/>

Officer's reports

President: He's here! Already talked about everything

Vice president: already reported

Treasurer: Received another \$2000 from the Shelley Miller Memorial Trust to do voter engagement work.

Secretary: nothing

Coordinator: received check from The Percolator and the city. Merch, DARE drive, December 21st 6:30-7:30 Kansas beats the virus meeting, memberships have all expired so board members need to renew. MLK chili feed: organizing with Sunrise for a to go community meal. Might need volunteers to drive and deliver meals or make baked goods

East Lawrence Neighborhood Association

Meeting Agenda

Monday Jan 11, 2021 • 7:00pm-9:00pm

Register for Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/join/zoom-join?from=addon&addon=register/tZ0rc-6sqzlrH9X21yLpZi38MIg6RpLORxDz>

Or, email Phil at phil@pcollision.com for the zoom link and password

Introductions and check-ins (15 min)

Approvals (5 min)

January Agenda / December Minutes

REMINDER: CDBG quarterly report: fill in meetings attended, especially BOARD

Board Vacancies (10 min)

Board member position

Secretary

Information items (40 min)

Lawrence Association of Neighborhoods

Historic Resources Commission

Lawrence Preservation Alliance

Planning Commission

Traffic

City Commission

Easement work at 14th & Rhode Island

Bowersock Dam Road

Parks & Rec update: Fountain at Depot and splash pad at Burroughs Creek Park

Rebuilding East Ninth Together update

City Strategic Plan update

Update Neighborhood Plan

Lawrence Transit route redesign survey

Wishing Bench status

Holiday Giving – DARE Center update

MLK Chili Supper – New York School

New York School / LMCMS updates

Douglas County Dems MLK / Inauguration service project

Places for rent?

Discussion / Action Items (35 min)

Brick Streets and Sidewalks

ELNA Merch sales

The BIG Event

Covid Mutual Aid / Kansas Beats the Virus Grant

Langston Hughes Library at St. Luke AME

CDBG Grant Application

501c3 Status

Officer / Staff Reports & Miscellaneous items (15 min)

President

Vice-President

Treasurer

Coordinator

Adjourn

Note about our meetings: We appreciate our neighborhood meetings as an opportunity to learn more about what is happening in our neighborhood. For this reason we request that our interactions reflect our pursuit of knowledge and assume that we are all in it for these same reasons. Assume good intent on everyone's part. We will make every effort to recognize everyone's viewpoints.

1. ELNA Minutes – January 11, 2021

Present: Uma Outka, Frank Janzen, Anna McCoy, Sacie Lamberton, Barry Shalinsky, Josh Davis, KT Walsh, Pam Blackburn, Aaron Paden, Lane Eisenbart, Phil Collison, Lisa Larsen, Boog Highberger, Dave Lowenstein, Joe Bickford, Michael Davidson, marci fransico, Suzan Hampton

Agenda approved.

Meeting called to order by Barry. No minutes were available for review.

Uma came to our meeting to talk about periodic air pollution events around Delaware & Hobbs park. There seems to be a toxic smell (diesel) permeating. In 2019, she contacted Phil, but the smell was not constant. In 2020 she called the city who referred her to KDHE. Uma talked to the regional office, Pat Simpson, who said that air quality monitoring was not possible at a neighborhood scale. Discussion followed in the meeting about what the smell could be, a large generator occasionally used? It will be publicized in the enews to get a better sampling of scope and frequency. The smell seems to be between Delaware & New York between 10th & 11th.

Board vacancies: Sacie Lamberton is interested in joining board. Pam moves to add Sacie as a board member. Aaron 2nd. It was approved.

As Hannah is moving to Colorado, there is a secretary opening. Phil moved for Pam to be secretary. KT seconded. It was approved.

It was discussed at the Lan meeting that funding for neighborhood associations are not likely to be covered by CDBG funding anymore. We should still apply. There may be other options thru city. There is a Multimodal study session of impact to neighborhood of lan's actions. None of our suggestions to change metrics made the study list.

Barry to attend information mtg.

Jay Holley is the new neighborhood representative to the HRC.

LPA: St. Luke AME fundraiser raised \$41,000 and most of construction needs covered by this & grants. What's left is restoration of the 2 towers. (book drive ongoing, raven & dusty bookshelf).

Traffic: tomorrow: City Commission will provide an update on new traffic changes that makes neighborhood streets 25 mph. 11th St will remain 30 mph.

The City commission is exploring the idea of directly elected mayor in an upcoming work session presentation. Lisa reminded everyone about the Covid assistance fund. ~300K not used yet. There are discussions about single use plastic bag ordinance. 5 yr plan on sidewalk improvements plan. Neighborhood plans: Staff to have full report later in January.

Easement work at 1300 block of Rhode Island proceeding without damage to brick infrastructure.

Bowersock Dam Road: no update. Working on additional holes then they will redo the bank at abe & jakes.

Parks & Rec update: Fountain at Depot and the splash pad at Burroughs Creek Park will be worked this year!

Lawrence Transit route redesign survey ends 1/15. Looking for more input. <https://lawrenceks.org/listens/>

Wishing Bench status: Phil will put together email and send to matt about moving it across the street.

Holiday Giving & DARE Center update: \$500 walmart gift cards. + large laundry basket of stuff were collected.

MLK Chili Supper – New York School: no MLK chili supper as in the past. It will be a drive thru pick up. Free will donations.

Douglas County Dems MLK / Inauguration service project: douglascountydems.org; having MLK day, inauguration day, and service day. They are collecting food, personal care items for several non-profits. Leave on Barry's porch if you wish to donate.

Discussion / Action Items

Brick Streets and Sidewalks: (sacie?) & pam & phil. Mtg soon.

ELNA Merch sales : lane

The BIG Event

Covid Mutual Aid / Kansas Beats the Virus Grant : zoom mtg w/ board members , made \$100 , ideas to reduce covid. Jamie climate & energy; outdoor movies ; how to do the yart sale outside; wi-fi in parks for free;

Officer / Staff Reports & Miscellaneous items

President : Michael Almon is now brook creek VP. They do not have a president.

Vice-President: chamber of commerce is looking for more black owned business to join.

Treasurer: > \$3000, \$500 Pay pal

Coordinator: new advertiser; Harper law.; social service league: is open m-f for voucher clients. Board is taking over all positions. Only available for people in crisis . have had to layoff all other employees

Lane reminds all board members to pay for membership!! She has gotten responses on need for services. Older people needing help. There will be a Mar/Apr newsletter (collect in Feb)

Boog is now sworn in as our state representative. House leadership has taken Covid seriously & security. This is not so true in the senate.

Big rock: Kaw nation has sent a letter formally asked for their rock be returned. Discussion on how that is going to happen. County owns it, city maintaining. It is believed the rock will be moved outside of Council Grove which is the last piece of land owned by the Kaw. Founders plaque needs to be removed. Robinson park will need to be reimaged. What should happen? Will be looking for foundation help.

Meeting adjourned.

Suggestion to have someone from willow to talk about domestic violence.

ELNA activities for 2nd Quarter Nov Dec 2020 and Jan 2021

We usually have at least one rep at all City Commission and all the Historic Resources Commission Meetings during the time frame. The City should be mindful of the meeting format not being conducive to participation and should go the extra mile to recognize public comment. We did attend all 3 LAN meetings via Zoom. Every Thursday we send out Thursday E-news to about 400 email subscribers. We held elections in November and elected a new President. The other officers remained the same. We will include a board roster that reflects that. We had a successful Christmas adopt a family program and adopted the D.A.R.E. Center and provided \$500 worth of gift cards plus a large assemblage of requested supplies. We also helped publicize a MLK day of service project and collected over a dozen boxes of food, clothing and personal care products for six local agencies in mid-January. In January and February, ELNA is conducting a neighborhood needs assessment, inviting neighbors to let us know of special needs due to the pandemic and cold weather. In January, we received over 25 responses.

11/1-3/2020 Civic engagement non-partisan Get out the Vote activities – 30 calls, 70 doors visited, and over 100 texts sent, 3 rides to polls. 4 ELNA volunteers. No CDBG funds spent.
11/6/2020 Agenda Setting meeting with the President and Vice-President
11/9/2020 Regular ELNA Meeting with 17 neighbors
11/14/2020 Old President met with new President for smooth transition
11/18/2020 Attended LAN Meeting with 16 members, one ELNAn
12/9/2020 Signed agreement with Percolator to facilitate new funding options
12/14/2020 Regular ELNA Meeting with 17 Neighbors
12/16/2020 LAN Meeting with 10 members and one ELNAn
12/18-23/2020 collaborated with Lawrence Public Library for info to update mailing list
12/21/2020 8 Neighbors met with Kansas Beats the Virus, an initiative by the Climate and Energy Project to discuss strategies for conducting activities in a Covid-safe manner
12/28/2020 Met with a LAN subgroup to discuss invitation to participate with the Multi Modal Transportation Commission with 4 folks, 1 ELNAn
1/3/2021 Attended MM Transportation Commission representing LAN and ELNA. 27 participants with one ELNAn
1/11/2021 Attended Board meeting of Lawrence Preservation Alliance
1/11/2021 Regular ELNA Meeting with 17 neighbors
1/11/2021 Update neighborhood contact info on City website
1/12/2021 Attended mandatory meeting for CDBG grant applicants
1/12/2021 Met with Peaslee Tech director to discuss vocational training program for repairing brick sidewalks in Lawrence
1/13/2021 President met with Brook Creek NA VP to discuss issues of mutual concern

1/15/2021 President and VP met with City Fire Chief and Parks & Rec Dept to discuss the possibility of temporary fire pit in Hobbs Park to facilitate socially distant interactions.

1/19/2021 New York School MLK Chili Feed that served over 250 free meals asking for donations for NY School. 2 ELNAn's helped to organize and desserts were donated.

1/20/2021 LAN meeting with 15 members and guests, one ELNAn

Week of 1/22/2021 President discussed East Lawrence historic register nominations and future activities to promote East Lawrence history with Brenna Buchanan and Dennis Domer

1/28/2021 Begin collaboration with City on Safer Streets campaign

East Lawrence News

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

January 2021



ELNA

General Meeting

January 11 7-9pm

Online via Zoom

Agenda

always available at <http://www.eastlawrence.com/meetings>
Email Phil at phil@pcollison.com
for zoom link info

Board Contacts

Barry Shalinsky, President,
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www.eastlawrence.com

From the President

Barry Shalinsky

November was a banner month for elections in East Lawrence. We had a turnout of over 1500 East Lawrence voters in the 2020 General Election, over 70% of our registered voters. I am proud of our level of civic engagement. But this column is about another election that took place that month.

The East Lawrence Neighborhood Association (ELNA) held its election for Board members and Officers via Zoom in November. Not surprisingly, turnout was much lower for the neighborhood election. I was unanimously elected as ELNA President because I was unsuccessful in convincing the members that they really wanted to vote for somebody else, anybody else. So here I am, writing a President's Column. Special congrats to Boog Highberger, who won re-election as our State Rep in that other election, and then was elected to our ELNA Board.

For those of you who do not know me, I live in the historic Mary and AJ Griffin house at 7th and Connecticut with my wife and two sons, who are students at LMCMS. Luckily, it is a big house, because the four of us have been here together nearly non-stop for most of 2020! A long time East Lawrence resident, I left in 1999 with my dog and cat for what I thought would be a few months. Twenty years later, in the summer of 2019, I moved back with a family. I was ELNA President for three years in the mid-1980's, and here I am doing it again. Our family does a lot of community volunteer work, so we are in familiar territory here. I am grateful to have a dedicated board serving with me, including my capable predecessor Phil Collison, with a very organized and talented neighborhood Coordinator, Lane Eisenbart, who keeps us all on task.

I have four priorities for ELNA in the coming year: 1. ELNA funding. We were dealt a gut punch in 2020 when City Hall reduced our CDBG grant funding. We will explore becoming a 501c3 organization in order to be able to pursue other funding opportunities. 2. Update our official Neighborhood Plan and put long term land use protections in place. Our pleas to update the plan have been ignored by the Planning staff for the last few years. We will persist with the City Manager and City Commission until successful. Our built environment and streetscape are a treasure for all of Lawrence that must be protected. 3. Enhance communications. We do a decent job of communicating to neighborhood residents using various platforms. We need to develop better means for neighborhood residents to communicate with ELNA. You can read about (and respond to) our first communication initiative for 2021 in this newsletter. 4. Better serve the needs of at-risk residents. This goes back to my roots. I got my start at ELNA as a VISTA volunteer in 1980-81. It was my job to visit neighborhood octogenarians in their homes to see what they needed and connect them with community resources. As it turned out, these Seniors themselves were some of our best community resources and neighborhood volunteers. In Covid-world, in-home visits are not feasible, but meeting needs is critical!

We look forward to a brighter 2021. ELNA wants and welcomes your ideas, suggestions, constructive criticism and creative energy. Remember, we are all volunteers, and the only way things get done is by working together in a well-coordinated fashion. We have vacant board positions from time to time, and can always use new volunteers. If you need something, or if you can contribute something, please be in touch!



ELNA Merch for Sale

Tshirts! Hoodies! Stickers! Coozies!

ELNA's got tshirts, hoodies, stickers AND coozies for sale. Tshirt sizes range from 2xl to small, ladies cuts and unisex, in colors black, grey, heathered blue, and a few random others. We've got baby onesies and hoodies too! Tshirts are \$12 or \$15 depending on cut, hoodies are \$25, coozies are \$3, and stickers are \$1. Email eastlawrence@yahoo.com with questions. Free doorstep local delivery!

A Note About Our Possum Lady

This last fall, we printed a new run of merchandise featuring the image of a possum, hanging upside down, with a wrench in one paw. (Do you call it a paw? Is it a hand?) You may have seen this image in other locations around town, such as the back parking lot of Cottin's Hardware. The original possum art is the work of ELNA Board member and local artist Dave Loewenstein, and has been reproduced with his permission. We have Pride of Gumbo printing, at LFK Press on E8th St, to thank for printing the tees!

Here's what we know about the possum lady:

Our Lady Possum, is definitely a lady, for reasons unexplained. She's handy and unafraid of work, as evidenced by the wrench she carries. Got a clog? Possum Lady can probably fix it. Because she is an East Lawrence resident, we can presume that Our Lady Possum is in fact an Opossum, the only New World marsupial, and a distinct animal from the Australian Possum, which is more closely related to a kangaroo. But the "O" is silent 'round these parts. A rare and beautiful, mostly nocturnal creature who eats ticks and can't get rabies, she can be fiercely protective of her territory and her young. Like a true East Lawrencian, she's also a bit of a scavenger. Never one to judge, Possum Lady says "in east lawrence, you're okay."

Holiday Tree-Cycling available again

Recycling your holiday tree is a great way to return it to nature. When the holidays are over, you can place live-cut trees at the curb or alley by 6 a.m. on your collection day, and City crews will collect them so they can be given a second life as wildlife habitat.

BANKRUPTCY
STOP GARNISHMENTS & SILENCE BILL COLLECTORS
SAVE YOUR HOUSE – SAVE YOUR CAR
John Harper – Jerry Harper
We've Been at This Since 1978 & Know How To Help
Call Today for a Free Appointment Tomorrow
785-354-8188
Lawrence Lawyers
We are a debt relief agency that helps people file for relief under the Bankruptcy Code

KU's Big Event

The Big Event is KU's largest single day of community service. It is a chance for KU students, staff, and faculty to give back to you, the Lawrence community. Each year, we recruit nearly 3,000 KU students, staff, and faculty volunteers to work at over 300 local job sites as a way of showing our appreciation to the city that has continuously supported our University and its students for over 150 years. In Spring 2021, we are looking forward to providing a wide range of community services to the Lawrence community with our student volunteers.

KU's annual Big Event is currently scheduled for April 17th from 10am to 2pm.

We can perform any job that does not require a power tool. For example, in our last event, Mini Big Event in October 2020, we only performed outside jobs such as raking leaves and gardening due to COVID-19. There is no requirement to receive volunteer help. It's first come first serve. Sign-up for the event will be open in early February. With these changing times, you can check back on our website for any up-to-date information:

<https://thebigeventku.com/>

Sunrise News

Dear Community,

We have been asked for how long we plan to continue our Wednesday night weekly community meals. The answer is that we anticipate offering this program throughout 2021. We are so grateful to receive a Basic Needs grant from United Way of Douglas County and a grant from Kansas Blue Cross Blue Shield in addition to Lawrence St. Patrick's Day Parade and the countless COMMUNITY donations It takes a lot of resources to offer 250-300 quality, home-cooked (packaged) meals to our community each week - and we are so grateful to have the support of our wonderful community. We are happy to continue this weekly ritual of community care throughout 2021.

Community Meal Connections

Since the beginning of the summer, we have increased the number of meals served from 80 to 250! Thank you for coming out for dinner and contributing to this community resource. Even though we have increased the number of meals we serve, sometimes we run out before everyone can get something to eat. So, we could use more community support to make even more meals available to people of all ages and backgrounds. Sign up to be a community cook! Community cooks can make a batch of whatever is on the menu at Sunrise, drop it off and we will serve it during our Wednesday meal. Check out our Facebook page to find the sign up sheet.

We have also been experimenting with a new meal option, our Community Meal Connections program. Community cooks can be matched with a household to share dinner one night a week, two nights a month, or whatever works best for you. We have already had good results! For those that love to cook and have the resources to share, it is a wonderful way to care for community members. Email melissa@sunriseprojectks.org or call 785-865-1618 to sign up! Community Meal Connections Sign-Up:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1FAIpQLSeMPiBS_DlkG8f110Kuuir66ORziq2bnV1auM1Jstq-VhlhpQ/viewform

Clare's Community Closet

Community member Clare Nderagakura has opened a free clothing closet to serve the needs of Lawrence in this time when school closets and other clothing resources are closed or limited. Currently Clare is accepting donations and shopping appointments at the shop at 720 Delaware #1.

Also, if you'd like to volunteer your time to sort and hang clothes, your help would be appreciated.

Community Needs:

Gloves, Hats, Socks, Underwear, Boots and shoes, Blankets Every Age, Every Size, and for all the sexes.

Community Closet Needs:

Donations always accepted even \$5 goes farther than you'd think.

Toilet paper/paper towels, Storage Bins, Clorox Wipes

Tents for the Houseless:

When and if you are able please consider donating to my goal of 150 tents. You can either bring a tent you purchase or donate any amount to help. The average cost for one is \$50. If I can find a better deal I will.

Clare Nderagakura

785.410.3372

clarescommunitycloset@gmail.com

720 Delaware #1 Lawrence KS 66044

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/CCommunityCloset/>

PayPal: clarescommunitycloset@gmail.com

Venmo: @clare-nderagakur

Reduced Speed Limits In The New Year

Look for a press release from the City in January or February of 2021 informing residents of the upcoming implementation and changes to the speed limit on residential streets. The release will feature a map that people can click and view which streets will be changing the speed limit. But we can say right now that East 9th, 11th, and 13th Streets will be included in the speed limit change. Signage will be installed in January and it is expected to take 4-6 weeks to complete signage for the entire city. Also sometime mid-January or February, the City will launch a public awareness campaign with yard signs, magnets, stickers, brochures, etc. So, just a heads up. Stay tuned.

MLK Chili Feed 2021

New York Elementary and New York PTA will partner with Sunrise Project to bring you the annual MLK Chili Feed, pandemic style, on Tuesday January 19th at 5:30pm. Like Sunrise Community Meals, the meal will be to go, but this time it will be at New York School, 936 New York St. Just drive, walk, or ride to the South playground and pick up your meal. And get this, friends, this year the Chili Feed will be TACOS! Both meat and vegetarian options. So exciting. Sunrise Meals and the MLK Chili Feed are always open to everyone. Free will donations to NY PTA will be accepted via cash, venmo, and paypal.

If you'd like to contribute desserts to the meal, contact Ms Saltz at ssaltz@usd497.org.

ELNA Meetings 2021

The ELNA Board meets on the second Monday of each month, unless we must reschedule due to a holiday. Traditionally, we've met in the New York School library, 936 New York Street, but we'll meet via zoom for the foreseeable future. The link to the zoom meeting is always posted at the top of the agenda, and the agenda as it is known can always be found at <http://www.eastlawrence.com/meetings/>. If you have any trouble finding the link, or getting access to a meeting, just email Phil phil@pcollison.com. We meet from 7-9pm.

Here's a list of dates for the new year.

2ND MONDAYS January 11th, February 8th, March 8th, April 12th, May 10th, June 14th, July 12th, August 9th, September 13th, October 11th, November 8th, December 13th.

Traditionally, we also have a Yart Sale in March, and Block Party in September, but we'll see what the world looks like when the time comes. We will always still have Board declarations in October, and Annual Meeting and Board Elections in November.

One More Thing! A link to the agenda for each month can always be found, as it is known and updated, here: <http://www.eastlawrence.com/meetings/>.



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—Andrei Codrescu

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Board Interview Questions

Introduce yourself -- what do you do for a living? for hobbies? what do you want people to know about you?

What projects do you want to work on, or issues do you want to learn more about, in this year of your ELNA board service? Basically, what's so important to you that you want to serve on the ELNA Board?

The obligatory silly question that is supposed to give us some insight into who you are as a person -- If you had to be shipwrecked on a deserted island, but all your human needs—such as food, water, shelter—were taken care of, what two items would you want to have with you?

Barry Shalinsky

ELNAPrez@yahoo.com
785-330-5067 (mobile and text)

A long time East Lawrence resident, I left in 1999 with my dog and cat for what I thought would be a few months. Twenty years later, I moved back with a wife and two sons (now students at LMCMS). I do part-time contract work from my home office, and serve on the Lawrence Board of Zoning Appeals. I am Democratic Precinct Committeeman for the area north of 11th Street and east of Mass., and do a lot of volunteer work for the Lawrence Jewish Community Congregation. I was ELNA President for three years in the mid-1980's, and somehow find myself doing it again. We love living in the historic Mary & AJ Griffin home at 7th & Connecticut and are slowly doing our part to preserve it for coming generations.

I have four priorities for the coming year: 1. Stabilize sources of ELNA funding. We cannot rely on City Hall for stable ongoing CDBG grants. We should explore becoming a 501c3 organization. 2. Update official Neighborhood Plan and put long term land use protections in place. Our built environment and streetscape are a treasure for all of Lawrence that must be protected. 3. Enhance communications. We do a decent job of communicating to neighborhood residents using various platforms. We need to develop better means for neighborhood residents to communicate with ELNA. 4. Better serve the needs of at-risk residents. Always important, this is even more important in Covid world.

A solar powered ham radio set up to be able to communicate with the outside world and hopefully have some chance of getting home safely. Some good reading material – maybe some vintage East Lawrence newsletters, the East Lawrence story collection edited by Caryn Mirriam Goldberg and Boogorama!



Aaron Paden

aaronpaden@gmail.com (785) 840-6400

In the work-a-day world I am part of a group at KU that builds radar systems that measure polar ice sheets and in my own time I photograph (document) artwork. I also coach youth soccer and play soccer and love cooking food for neighbors and friends. Another man's trash is bound to have me thinking I should use that for something so if you see a butt & some legs dangling out of a dumpster – it might just be me.

I will continue to work on ELNA finances but I am really looking forward to being able to do neighborhood events like the YART Sale, the Block party, ELNA concessions at the kickball games, and neighborhood work days. Stay safe out there – we'll all be together again soon!



Board Member and Secretary **Hannah Sroor**, our 12th Street neighbor, is moving! Sadly, Hannah will be leaving the Board at the end of January. We thank Hannah for all her work in her time on the board -- organizing Burroughs Creek Clean Ups, helping with Adopt a Family and other outreach efforts, as well as taking notes at our meetings. Thank you, Hannah! We wish you great good fortune in your new adventure in Colorado.



Phil Collison

933 Pennsylvania ST
phil@pcollison.com text or call 785-843-8098

Hi. My name is Phil Collison and I have lived in the neighborhood since 2003 and at various times since 1976 when I moved here. I am fortunate to be able to be retired during this covid era. I still try and get out on my bike and I walk on the BCT fairly often, too.

It's all about location, and I find East Lawrence's location to be most appealing. I want to keep our autonomy and diversity flowing and spread it to other parts of the city. I want to get beyond the latest fads in planning and development to ensure that we like where we end up in the future.

I guess I'd want to have my bicycle along and somewhere to ride it, and maybe a mountain to go hiking on!



Dennis "Boog" Highberger

mrboog@att.net 785-424-3262

I have lived in East Lawrence for 11 years, on a great block with great neighbors. I am an attorney with a general civil practice, working out of my home on New York Street, and I am also the state representative for the 46th district of the Kansas House. On a sunny afternoon or evening you may find me reading on my front porch or out cruising on my Farnsworth Bicycle Laboratory 3-wheeled recumbent bike– if so, be sure to stop and say howdy. I should also take this opportunity to plug my new book, *BOOGORAMA*– it's a collection of articles and letters about Lawrence and it's amazing neverending cast of characters– available at The Raven Book Store and at <https://mrboog.wixsite.com/boogorama>.

I want to help preserve the things that make East Lawrence such a great place to live while being open to positive change.



Anna McCoy

pannam@sunflower.com 785-917-0160

Retired Montessori guide. Tai Chi, gardening, vegan, co-housing at Delaware St. Commons, autoharp and singing

To be of service to my neighbors and help keep green spaces. Promote East Lawrence food production

Seeds and pencils and paper wait that's three maybe I can make paper





Dave Loewenstein

dloewenstein@hotmail.com

I'm a dad to an incredible three-year old. I'm also an artist focused on community-based projects. I've lived in East Lawrence for 20+ years, and I'd like to learn how to do some close-up magic tricks.

I serve on the ELNA board because I want to help ensure that the neighborhood continues to be the affordable, welcoming and imaginative place beloved by so many.

A telescope and sketchbook.



New Jersey Street neighbor **Brenda Nunez** returns to the ELNA Board. Brenda has lived in and around East Lawrence for over 70 years, and served on the ELNA Board on and off for decades! The knowledge, perspective, and no-nonsense wisdom she brings to our group is greatly appreciated.



Josh Davis

jd12345@gmail.com

I have lived in Lawrence for close to half of my life, most recently for the past fifteen years in East Lawrence. I work in publishing with an emphasis on research. I appreciate opportunities to travel and read a good book. I am passionate about the policy debate programs in our schools (go Lions and Firebirds!), as I feel I got some of my best education from this activity.

I have always been impressed by how ELNA brings in so many interesting guests to our meetings that inform all of us on services and opportunities. The issues I care about most about are affordable housing, preventing domestic violence and the art.

An ebook reader with as many books as I could afford on it and a solar charger to power it.

Lane Eisenbart

ELNA email eastlawrence@yahoo.com

I'm not a board member. I'm the Coordinator, ELNA's only employee. So, I don't vote or anything, but you'll see my name on a lot of your ELNA correspondence and social media, and I organize ELNA events and projects. I thought it might be worthwhile to introduce myself. My ELNA work is actually only less than 40 hours per month, so it's not my only job. I work full time for another small private non-profit, Positive Bright Start, doing similar stuff. I've taken a few side gigs over the years, like the E9th project, the Hike Through History project, and I've built a few websites. I also make stuff. Jewelry mostly. I have two teenage daughters and three cats and I fancy myself a gardener. You might see me running through the neighborhood from time to time, but don't say hi, because I won't stop, and because I can't hear you with my earbuds in. I'm the big dork with the red and white adidas fanny pack to hold my inhaler, hanky, and spare mask.

I think I could quite contentedly while away many years on a desert isle if I had enough books to read and stuff to make. But I'm not sure how to make those just two items. So, while we're fantasizing, 1.) a magical box that supplies all the craft makin's I want (beads, yarn, fabric, sewing machine, etc), and 2) a magical bookshelf that provides me with any book I want, plus appropriate recommendations.



Pam Blackburn

pamblackburn55@gmail.com

Pam has worked in software development for a very long time. She is now at KU working in the Achievement and Assessment Institute. She moved to Lawrence in 2013 and has spent the time since working on various home improvement projects. The family is still going thru stuff from the move. Recently she found her mother's macramé books and made a plant hanger for the porch. Knitting is also a pastime but it makes the hands hurt because she pulls the yarn too tight. Did anyone say tense?

Pam is interested in keeping East Lawrence affordable and controlling the types of development occurring.

Hmmm. Lots and lost yarn with instruction books & needles. Somehow that's probably more than 2 items!

Suzan Hampton

Intro/what I do: I'm an architectural and urban designer certified in sustainable building. I do architectural consulting and work with students in the architecture studio program at KU. Before serving on the ELNA board, I co-founded Friends of Lawrence Area Trails to advocate for walkable neighborhoods and better trails to improve transportation equity and protect the environment. My husband and I live at Delaware Street Commons. For fun, I play music (fiddle), dance (flamenco), do photography (urbanex) and serve our three cats (extremely spoiled).

Why am I serving on the board? I believe local policies should be crafted in close partnership with local residents. With others, I intend to advocate for inclusion of East Lawrence residents on policy issues and new development up-front, before decision-making is already underway.

There's a real risk in our neighborhood of losing long-time neighborhood residents along with the qualities of East Lawrence that make it special. I hope to be of service by advocating for planning and development policies that are in line with neighborhood needs and wants, and preserve our neighborhood's (weighty) cultural legacy.

Finally, I want to help people keep their homes and keep our neighborhood vibrant. I support affordable housing options and creative solutions to providing housing and other amenities that benefit East Lawrence. I enthusiastically support East Lawrence-based non-profits, small businesses, artists, musicians, and makers and want to apply my energy so they can continue doing great work in our neighborhood.

Desert island question: "The Professor" from Gilligan's Island and sunscreen.



KT Walsh

kathleenbridgetwalsh052@gmail.com

KT Walsh, she/her, Hi all, I'm an artist/housecleaner/landscaper/dumpster diver. I've lived in beautiful East Lawrence for approximately 45 yrs. I'm happy to live in a place where people care so much about their neighbors & the neighborhood culture & subcultures. Psyched to have some new people on the board along with steady board members staying on. More so than ever we should work on poverty, racial justice & sustenance in the hood. Fun & frivolity (at a distance) is what will get us through.



Earth Care Forum Series – 2021

Sundays, January 3 – February 7

9:00 – 10:10 am

Zoom Link here: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86455642954?pwd=YzdJKzNGUTd4YUf6SmFKMGFwNEdhZD09>

January 3 Construction of Tiny Homes at the Lawrence Community Shelter

Presenter: Dan Rockhill is the principal of the Architecture firm Rockhill and Associates and is the JL Constant Distinguished Professor of Architecture at the University of Kansas School of Architecture, Design, and Planning

Description: Rockhill will provide origin of KU Architecture Program and discuss the necessary planning and development required for the construction of these sustainable homes.

January 10 How (and Why) to Tattoo Greenhouses with Semi-Transparent Solar Panels

Presenter: Rebekah Waller, Ph.D. candidate, University of Arizona, Biosystems Engineering

Description: Greenhouses are increasingly seen as a critical part of resilient food systems. Waller will present photovoltaic "tattoos" as an inexpensive eco-friendly strategy to produce food and renewable energy on the same land footprint.

January 17 Thinking Deeper: How Roots Mediate Human Activity in Earth's Critical Zone

Presenter: Emma Hauser, Ph.D. candidate, University of Kansas, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology Department (Dr. Sharon Billings' laboratory)

Description: Hauser will examine the ways plant roots contribute to nutrient availability, the ways human activities are changing roots, and what that may mean for future nutrient availability.

January 24 Sustaining the Douglas County Food System

Presenters: Jasmin Moore, Sustainability Director, Lawrence/Douglas County and Kim Criner Ritchie, Sustainability and Food Systems Analyst for Douglas County

Description: Join the Lawrence-Douglas County Sustainability Office for an overview of progress on community food system goals outlined in the Douglas County Food System Plan. This discussion will highlight the Partnerships for Food Resource Recovery Project launching in 2021, funded by a recent \$90,000 USDA award to the County to support efforts to reduce and recapture food waste.

January 31 Climate Change and Need for Refrigeration

Presenter: Mark B. Shiflett, Ph.D., P.E., Foundation Distinguished Professor, The University of Kansas, Chemical and Petroleum Engineering

Description: The presentation will be on history and future of refrigerants and current research, including the recycling/repurposing of refrigerants.

February 7 The 2020s: The Do-or-Die Decade for Climate

Presenter: Stan Cox is a research fellow in Ecosphere Studies at The Land Institute in Salina, Kansas. His most recent book is *The Green New Deal and Beyond: Ending the Climate Emergency While We Still Can* (City Lights, 2020).

Description: The "New Deal" aspects of the Green New Deal and the Biden Administration's climate plans are timely as we confront a pandemic and economic hardship. But the "Green" part needs to be fortified with the most crucial element of all: a direct mechanism to drive fossil fuel use down to zero by a strict deadline.



Since 2015, the EcoTeam of First Presbyterian Church, Lawrence, KS, has coordinated presentations by well-informed individuals addressing significant earth care concerns. First Presbyterian Church is recognized as an Earth Care Congregation of the Presbyterian (USA) denomination and is a member of Lawrence Ecology Teams United in Sustainability (An interfaith network of green teams related to the following faith traditions: Muslim, Jewish, Catholic, Protestant.)

Neighborhood Needs Assessment

Jan 2021

We'd like to hear from you. How are you faring in these topsy turvy days? How can we help you? How can we help you get the information you need?

Please return/ respond by March 1st 2021

Assessment Return Options

return paper by mail in an envelope with stamp (to ELNA at PO Box 442393, Lawrence KS 66044)

return paper to the news box at 9th and New Jersey

email us if you'd like someone to come pickup your paper survey (to eastlawrence@yahoo.com)

answer questions in an email (to eastlawrence@yahoo.com)

answer questions by google survey

<https://forms.gle/mxqKTuh64C82yKZi9>

(you'll also find the google survey linked in our enews and on our website)

What do you need but don't have, or are having trouble accessing? (check all that apply)

- ☐ Health care
- ☐ Affordable contraception/sexual health resources
- ☐ Personal protection equipment (masks, etc)
- ☐ Information about/notice of community COVID testing availability
- ☐ Child or Elder care/ Respite care
- ☐ Educational support for school age children
- ☐ Mental health support (including depression, anxiety, substance abuse)
- ☐ Social interaction (including entertainment or spiritual connection)
- ☐ Food
- ☐ Clothing and/ or warm winter wear
- ☐ Hygiene supplies (general, feminine, other)
- ☐ Rent and utility assistance
- ☐ Employment/ Job resources
- ☐ Legal advice
- ☐ Help with physical tasks such as home or personal care
- ☐ Personal electronic devices such as a cell phone or laptop
- ☐ Internet Connection
- ☐ Technical support for your devices
- ☐ Free printing services or faxing
- ☐ Transportation
- ☐ Home repair
- ☐ Other: (please elaborate) _____

Do you have ideas for how your neighborhood association could help you with any of your needs?

What are you missing most in your neighborhood during COVID restrictions and precautions?

For our reference, please tell us in which ways do you connect to ELNA information? (check all that apply)

- ☐ Thursday ELNA enews
- ☐ Facebook Fan Page
- ☐ Facebook Discussion group
- ☐ ELNA Instagram
- ☐ ELNA twitter
- ☐ ELNA paper newsletter
- ☐ ELNA personal emails
- ☐ ELNA website

Additionally, we'd like to ask a few questions about the Lawrence Public Library.

Do you use the Library? Y N

If you do, what services do you use? _____

If you do, what services would you like to see _____

How do you get information about library programs and services? _____

If you don't use the library, is there a barrier that keeps you from using it? _____



Tom Harper

CRS, ABR, GRI,
e-PRO, REALTOR

785-218-6351

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