

## Old West Lawrence Association – Summary of Membership Meeting 02/26/22

**Call to Order – President’s Remarks.** On February 26, 2022, the Old West Lawrence Association (“OWLA”) held its annual meeting by Zoom. OWLA President Eric Kirkendall called the meeting to order at 10:06 a.m. with 185 neighbors attending. President Kirkendall noted the unprecedented attendance for an OWLA meeting and set rules for conduct of the meeting, in view of scheduled time of 2 hours and a lengthy agenda. Kirkendall thanked many OWLA members and his fellow officers and reviewed the activities of OWLA during his 2 years as president of the association in the “best neighborhood in America.”

**Minutes of 2021 Annual Meeting.** Secretary Mary Carson presented the minutes of the OWLA annual meeting held on January 30, 2021, and noted the full minutes are posted on the OWLA website under documents.

**Financial Report.** Treasurer Steve Lopes presented a financial report that was shared on screen. The report showed a treasury balance of \$4,842.85 as of December 31, 2020. Expenses in 2021 of \$2,138.67 were detailed, with the largest payments for insurance, the OWLA picnic, and preparation of two newsletters and the Traffic Safety Notice Flyer, which were distributed to all houses in OWL. OWLA received donations of \$3,375 during 2021, and the ending balance on December 31, 2021 was \$6,079.18. Treasurer Lopes noted that OWLA is funded entirely by voluntary donations. In the past the association charged minimal membership dues, but changed to donation-only funding many years ago, noting that voluntary donations express a vote of confidence in OWLA.

**Stormwater Project.** OWLA resident Ben Hayes reported on City efforts to address long standing storm water drainage system problems in the Jayhawk Watershed that regularly lead to flooding in parts of OWL. The existing stormwater system is not adequate to handle increased runoff caused by more impervious surfaces in the watershed and greater frequency of flooding rains attributable to climate change. The City has divided the project into four parts (A-D), but currently has funding only for Part A, consisting of expansion and replacement of the drainage system from the Kansas River to 8<sup>th</sup> Street. Part A is scheduled to be completed by 2024. The funding necessary to complete phases B through D of the Jayhawk Watershed project remains to be determined.

**Traffic Safety Project.** Charlie Sedlock, chair of the Traffic Safety Committee, which was created by vote of members at the 2021 OWLA annual meeting, reported the committee recently expanded to add nine neighbors to the original group of volunteers. The expanded committee met with the City and representatives of JEO (traffic engineers), and Sedlock reported a productive discussion, acknowledging that the test project in OWL has enjoyed some significant wins and some failures. The committee will continue to work with the City and its engineers to help the traffic safety project meet its objectives of reducing traffic on local streets, an overall win for all of OWL. The Committee will consider other types of traffic calming measures, including measures that reduce access to local streets from arterial streets like US Highway 40/6<sup>th</sup> Street, and measures employed in successful “slow streets” programs in other cities. Sedlock reported that the City intends to modify the existing traffic calming structures beginning the week of March 14. Modifications or removal of the existing barriers and diverters are planned for 8<sup>th</sup> and Mississippi, 7<sup>th</sup> and Mississippi, 8<sup>th</sup> and Alabama, and 7<sup>th</sup> and Illinois. The city may be planning changes for median barriers on Ohio and Louisiana - this needs to be confirmed. Sedlock noted traffic calming projects are expected throughout the City, and OWL’s pilot project will benefit other neighborhoods.

**New Business – Proposed changes to Bylaws.** President Kirkendall reported that OWLA has received four (4) separate proposals for amendments or replacement of OWLA bylaws. The bylaw proposals were presented to OWLA by Kyle Johnson, Karen Kressin, Byron Wiley, and Jim O’Malley. Each author of a proposal was allowed 5 minutes to present their suggested bylaw changes and rationale for it. At 11:05 Kyle Johnson discussed his proposal, followed by Karen Kressin at 11:12, Byron Wiley at 11:18, and Jim O’Malley at 11:23. At 11:30 Kirkendall thanked each for their proposal. Steve Lopes made a motion to appoint a bylaws committee to review the 4 proposals and report back to the association. The motion was seconded by several members and presented for a vote of the membership. **The motion to create a Bylaws Committee was approved by a recorded vote as follows: Yes: 138 votes. No: 4 votes.**

#### **Election of Officers for 2022.**

##### **President**

President Kirkendall opened nominations from the floor for President of OWLA. Nominations made were:

Kyle Johnson - President

Katie Oliver and Mary Carson – Co-Presidents

Others nominated and who declined the nomination were Eric Kirkendall, Charlie Sedlock, Steve Lopes and Byron Wiley. Kyle Johnson, Mary Carson and Katie Oliver made brief presentations.

A ballot showing the nominees for president was submitted to vote of the membership, and the vote was recorded as follows:

**Katie Oliver and Mary Carson – Co-President - 113 votes (76.4% of total votes)**

Kyle Johnson, President – 35 votes (23.6% of total votes)

##### **Vice-President**

President Kirkendall opened nominations from the floor for Vice- President of OWLA. Nominations made were:

Kyle Johnson – Vice President

Karen Kressin and Katy Nitcher – Co- Vice Presidents

Others nominated and who declined the nomination were Josh Hunt, Nora Murphy, Michael Morley, Steve Lopes, Ward Lyles, and Susan Keim. Kyle Johnson, Karen Kressin and Katy Nitcher made brief presentations.

A ballot showing the nominees for vice president was submitted to vote of the membership, and the vote was recorded as follows:

**Karen Kressin and Katy Nitcher– Co-Vice President -95 votes (69% of total votes)**

Kyle Johnson, Vice President – 43 votes (31% of total votes)

## **Secretary**

President Kirkendall opened nominations from the floor for Secretary of OWLA. Nominations made were:

Kyle Johnson – Secretary

Nora Murphy – Secretary

Jennifer Carttar - Secretary

Others nominated and who declined the nomination were Michael Morely, Haley Bruns (with Kyle Johnson), Byron Wiley, Charlie Sedlock, and Denise DeTommaso. Kyle Johnson, Nora Murphy and Jennifer Carttar made brief presentations.

A ballot showing the nominees for secretary was submitted to vote of the membership and the vote recorded as follows:

**Jennifer Carttar– Secretary** -52 votes (39.4%of total votes)

Nora Murphy – Secretary – 44 votes (33.4% of total votes)

Kyle Johnson, Secretary – 36 votes (27.2% of total votes)

## **Treasurer**

President Kirkendall opened nominations from the floor for Treasurer of OWLA. Nominations made were:

Kyle Johnson – Treasurer

Steve Lopes - Treasurer

Others nominated and who declined the nomination were Nora Murphy, Denise DeTommaso, and Charlie Sedlock. Kyle Johnson and Steve Lopes made brief presentations.

A ballot showing the nominees for treasurer was submitted to vote of the membership, and the vote was recorded as follows:

**Steve Lopes– Treasurer** -86 votes (68% of total votes)

Kyle Johnson - Treasurer – 40 votes (32% of total votes)

## **OWLA Officers/ Executive Committee for 2022:**

Katie Oliver/Mary Carson – Co-Presidents

Karen Kressin/Katy Nitcher – Co-Vice Presidents

Jennifer Carttar – Secretary

Steve Lopes – Treasurer

Meeting Adjourned at 12:40 p.m.