





Eleanor Gardner 26:19
Hey Kendall, can you mute yourself please?
Kendall Simmons 26:21
Yeah, yeah, I just turned the dog off.
Bart Littlejohn 26:28 Yeah.
I'll just send the entire link to you.
Yeah.
And yeah, absolutely.
Absolutely.
Kendall Simmons 26:58
Yeah. Have you guys figured out yet I hate zoom.
Pat Miller 27:05
I think it's mutual with all Yeah.
It's helpful but you know, still not that much fun.
Kendall Simmons 27:15
Right? Exactly.

Bart Littlejohn 27:18
Yeah, yeah. And just go ahead, you know as well we're gonna have Monica Davis from Watkins museum there as well.
So cool. Yeah.
Eleanor Gardner 27:30
If anybody else was responding to Gary Smith,
I have done that.
Bart Littlejohn 27:41
Oh yeah.
Okay, cool. Wow, that's awesome.
Eleanor Gardner 28:20
Thank you all for your patience while
we
work with the fun that is technical
difficulties.
Bart Littlejohn 28:29
Yeah.
Yeah, absolutely.

Yeah.
Yeah, we're glad to have you.
Okay.
Okay.
Okay. Okay,
okay. Yeah, no worries.
Okay. All right. That's probably what it is.
Okay. All right.
No problem.
Sorry about that everyone. I was just trying to help somebody get in. So
cool.
Kendall Simmons 29:58
At least somebody's doing something. Haha, yeah.
Bart Littlejohn 30:04
All right, I say we call it at 1010 and get 'er started. So at least give a couple more minutes for somebody to come in. But

Eleanor Gardner 30:13

I'll keep watching the waiting room and let people in as well.

Bart Littlejohn 30:18

Okay, sounds good.

Pat Miller 30:37

I've been a little bit preoccupied with some other issues recently. Do we have the the agenda and last meeting's minutes posted someplace that everybody can see them?

Eleanor Gardner 30:51

Here is the agenda

on this screen, and then also the meeting minutes were included in the e-blast that went out and they're on the website as well.

Kate Kuzmyak 31:27

Hey, while we're waiting to get started, I'm taking the minutes so I was just gonna call out who all I have down as being here and then if anything's incorrect, or there's anyone else, just let me know. And I'm Kate, Kuzmyak. So I have Eleanor is here. And Nick and Kate. Bart. I see Monica Davis, Pat Miller, Anne Shaw Kendall and Steve Braswell. Tara Wagner and Christina Linville,

and Gary Smith.

And I think that's all I had. Does anyone else out there? Did I get anyone's name wrong?

Tara Wagner 32:15

Ben McKay is here with Tara.

Kate Kuzmyak 32:19 Can you say that again? Tara Wagner 32:20 Ben McKay m-c-k-a-y. Kate Kuzmyak 32:23 Okay. Thank you Kendall Simmons 32:24 for my name. Bart Littlejohn 32:28 Cool. Glad you can make it in Gary. Awesome. Gary Smith 32:31 Well, thank you. Thanks for your help. Bart Littlejohn 32:33 Yeah, no worries.

Alright, everyone, I'll go ahead and call it call this meeting in order at 1010 on June 20. I believe like Eleanor said she should have I think we all should have sent out the agenda and minutes, your way. So if you haven't had a chance to go ahead and review the minutes Please take a moment to do so. For I believe, February and may, I believe we didn't get around to approving the minutes in February. So we want to go ahead and do that. And then May was our last meeting. So

Kendall Simmons 33:26

such enthusiasm for the minutes...

Pat Miller 33:33
I move we approve the minutes for both May and February.
Nick Kuzmyak 33:38
Second that.
Bart Littlejohn 33:38
Okay.
All right. And I hear a second. Yep. Any sort of discussion? No?
Eleanor Gardner 33:46
although they think, quick, quick, tiny note, I think that the date might be wrong on the May meeting, I
think we held it on the 16th and not the 15th.
Bart Littlejohn 33:57
Okay.
Chay.
Eleanor Gardner 33:58
That's the only minor thing.
, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
Bart Littlejohn 34:01
Okay.
Pat Miller 34:03
I approve - I propose we approve the minutes, amending the correct date for the May meeting.
Bart Littlejohn 34:12
Okay.

All right. There's a second. Seeing is there's no discussion All those in favor say aye. Aye.

Unknown Speaker 34:19

Aye.

Bart Littlejohn 34:21

Any opposed? All right, minutes are passed. Okay. And now we'll just go ahead and go into the Treasurer's Report. Pat, if you can go ahead and help us out with that?

Pat Miller 34:33

Sure. Currently, so we just paid a whole bunch of expenses and I have a reimbursement request into the city so it's not as scary as it sounds at first. So we have \$68.12 in our checking account. But I have a request for reimbursement of \$1,930.30 out. I have two bills that I have yet to pay - one of those are repaying Bart for the Zoom subscription and then, when we receive the reimbursement and those bills are paid, we will have \$1,800.18- \$8- excuse me- \$1,880.80 left in our checking. So that's that's a relatively healthy balance. We currently have \$223.16 in our savings and \$154.29 cents in our petty cash. And then for our grant year to date, our initial allocation was \$4,800. So far, we have submitted expenses for \$3569.13, with our remaining grant balance that will go through the end of July of \$1,230.87. So that's what we have remaining. I chatted a little bit with Eleanor: I know she's doing a lot of catch-up work as our new coordinator and estimating that her hours in June, pretty hefty because of all the great work she's doing, will be about 40 hours and we're paying that at \$15 an hour, so that's \$600 that is our estimated payment for coordinator fees in June. Which would leave \$630 left in our grant for the remainder of this period through the end of July. So that would have to cover July coordinator and then any other expenses we have, so we may not have enough to do another newsletter, but because we've really ramped up our visibility online, we may not need one. So that's something to discuss.

Bart Littlejohn 37:12

Okay. Yeah.

Well, I mean, it's actually good news considering that we were probably looking at the prospect of not, you know, totally fulfilling our grant beforehand. So it looks like we'll actually be able to meet it. So. Is that, Pat, do you think that's something we need to discuss now? Or can we like table it?

Pat Miller 37:36

I don't think- yeah- I don't think we need to discuss it now. We need to be mindful that after June, the remaining grant balance will be about \$600. So it depends on how we use it later in July. And if we have any other expenses. I know Eleanor had - well- Eleanor had a couple expenses with regard to the

food drive.

I don't think those would be grant eligible, those would be something to take out of just our funds helping out the grant. So...

Bart Littlejohn 38:07

Okay.

Nick Kuzmyak 38:09

Okay.

All right, that sounds good. All right.

Bart Littlejohn 38:16

Now, what I'll do is just a little bit of a shift up. I'll go ahead and talk about CDBG. Just a brief debrief about that, and then I'll go ahead and introduce our speakers. So we can go ahead and get into the discussion because I, since we have guests here, I wouldn't want to keep them any longer than possible.

So

but yeah, just to go ahead and start with: what I'll just explain is for all those that don't know, we get our funding through the Community Development Block Grant, which is CDBG and it comes from the Department of Urban- let's see- HUD. HUD, yes? Essentially. So they go ahead and distribute that to communities and agencies all across the country. But this year, the city of Lawrence instituted a matrix to go ahead and determine what the funding will be, instead of having it go through a committee, or I'm sorry, a board- an advisory board, which it had done years previously. So given that new system and the new consideration of it, we got a significantly less amount of money this year than we had years past. Just due to a lot of the the factors within the matrix. It didn't really- since it's the first year of it, it really

didn't separate the needs of a neighborhood from the needs of an agency. Some something like shelter or you know, Catholic Charities. So we were all lumped in the same box, and it really served to kind of disenfranchise the neighborhoods a bit. So they cut our funding by about 60%. But what we did is we lobbied for additional funding, because you know, we need it for a coordinator and also to get out information to those in our neighborhood who don't necessarily have access to the internet and, or who don't have the means to go ahead and, you know, get that access. So we want them to go ahead and be informed as well. In doing that, we were able to increase our funding by \$1,000. All the neighborhoods would, or were, across the board. So our current total that we'll probably be receiving from the city for next year will be let me go ahead and see if I can bring it up...

It was there. Let me see if I can- There we go. It'll be \$2,889. Like I said, our previous year's allocation was \$4800. So it's still a significant decrease, but at least we were able to get \$1,000 more. So.

Pat Miller 41:15

Bart, is that final? Have they made the final vote on that, or is that still

proposed?

Bart Littlejohn 41:21

I'm not sure if it's final. But

they say- so- the last meeting, they were going to make the final vote on it. But there was a demonstration that happened regarding a prisoner at the- or, a young man who is a prisoner at the Douglas County Jail, and he has been for the last five years. So they kind of they moved ahead, the law enforcement discussion that they had planned to have, they moved that ahead earlier in the meeting so they could go ahead and address the people that were there at that moment. So they really didn't make a final determination at that time. And I heard just only a couple days ago that we'd gotten an extra thousand dollars. So I'm not really sure exactly if this is the final or that will be coming sometime in the future.

Eleanor Gardner 42:15

With it being published in the Lawrence Journal-World, is that any indication that that's likely to be the final amount or, or?

Bart Littlejohn 42:25

Well, if it's not the final, that's the way I- since it's published in the Lawrence Journal-World that that will be the floor, as I would put it. So they won't go below that, though. I mean, they can- they can always give us more, but they probably won't go below that since it's been published in the newspaper. So

any questions?

All right. And Eleanor, I'm sorry. I probably cut you off on your communication audit. But if you don't mind Would you mind us getting to the discussion earlier?

Eleanor Gardner 43:03

No, that's totally fine.

Bart Littlejohn 43:04

Okay, cool. Cool. All right, just to get it started with I don't know if you guys have been paying attention to the newspapers lately, but we've had a couple of editorials regarding just Pinckney and, you know, given the times and the considerations that everyone is making regarding monuments and naming and

Nick Kuzmyak 43:27

things of the past that you know, had

Bart Littlejohn 43:30

that had not been

probably had not been thought of in that way. So, but our guest, Gary Smith, wrote one of those editorials, and if he wouldn't mind, I would let him go ahead and explain exactly what it was about and, you know, kind of how it affected Pinckney.

Gary Smith 43:53

Well, I hope you folks, some of you have read the letter to the editor. And that was my full say on the whole matter. I'm not a Pinckney Neighbor. And I believe from here on in it's all about what the Pinckney Neighborhood wants.

I was in South Carolina 28 months ago with a Pinckney neighbor- a friend. And

we were at Hilton Head,

South Carolina.

There's a PGA tournament happening there right now. It's getting a lot of attention because because it's one of the first sporting events since the virus and their gated communities at Hilton Head and Hilton Head Island full of million dollar retirement homes, and the gated communities are all called plantations. They're not called gated communities, they're called plantations. I spent three days there and it bothered me the whole time every time I passed one of the plantations especially seeing young black men mowing grass and weed whacking on the plantation. Thinking about what it must have been like what it must be like to go every every morning through those signs. And on the way out of town, my friend from Lawrence and I discussed that. And just before we got on the highway, there was a sign that said Pinckney. And she noticed it and said Pinckney, look! And so we researched it, and that's the first that we knew about Charles Pinckney. And Charles Pinckney was a wicked racist. He wasn't just a racist, he was a wicked racist. If you read the letter, you'll know this already that that that he, he was a slave owner and he was one of our founding fathers. So he deserves a little bit of respect because he, he risked being hanged by the crown on our behalf, so he deserves a little respect.

But that's not all he did.

He co-sponsored the fugitive slave clause in the constitution. That basically was one of the main things that caused the Civil War. So he's got blood on his hands there too. But what it did was it gave special consideration to the slave owners. It tied the northern states, the non slave states, to return fugitive slaves to slave owners in slave states.

I think that makes him what I'm calling him a wicked racist.

And so the building and your neighborhood are named after him. And that bothers us now, me and the friend down in South Carolina, and that bothers us, and so I put it in my head. I'm an artist, I'm a fine artist, and put it in my head and thought processed on it for 28 months and last week I wrote it down in 35 minutes. It was easy. I hate fascists; I hate racists. And racists are fascists. And and so I made it my goal to, when the time was right, to put the letter out and to make and to, which would, in effect force the neighborhood to make a decision. A follow up editorial, distracted from the racism issue into how the street was named and that didn't matter. He said in there, though, that my idea of renaming it for Michelle Obama, the neighborhood and the school for Barack Obama, he said there was no connection

for Barack Obama whatsoever. And that's not true. He gave his final policy speech a couple days or the day after his final State of the Union speech here in Lawrence, and he might have passed right past Pinckney School during that day. He was here for for a night, he spent a night here. And so and so there is a connection with Barack Obama. Not just for being our president and Michelle Obama, not just for being the wonderful first lady she was, you know, and so and so this experience I put out the the letter, and I know it's forcing you now to take a stand, there's three, there's three different three different messages that are come, they're going to come out of of what you do from here on out with this information. There's a-- three different statements are going to be made. If you decide not to do anything that's going to be a statement in itself at this point. I've sent a copy of the same letter I sent to you, Bart, to the mayor. And, and I'm trying to get the discussion started and it started in the Journal-World.

Like I said.

But there's three statements: there's not there's not making a decision on it, it's going to be a statement in itself right now, and I'm sorry for that. But the- if you do decide to get rid of the racist name and honor the neighborhood and honor the school with a fitting honoree, that's going to be another statement. And then if you went all the way into the last paragraph of my letter to the editor, where I suggested that the neighborhood be named for Michelle Obama - named Michelle - and the school be named for Barack Obama, because I said in the letter, he did some good things too. And and that that would be a third level of statement renaming a racist honoree thing after a black woman and a black man. And really, that's about all I have to say. I appreciate you for listening, you know, and for considering it now. Because I understand the Journal-World told me that they're doing some kind of article on this. So they're gonna keep going on it and other people are going to keep commenting on it. And so like I said, there's a decisions that have to be made for you folks now. And I'm not - I'm an outsider - I'm not from the neighborhood. And so I shouldn't be here for that discussion. That should be all about you guys. And I'll end with this. That if it does come down, that you want to change the name of the neighborhood and the school, the school board's gonna kinda of want to wrestle the name of the school from you and I don't think you should let them do that. I think you should step forward bug-eyed and said, it's our kids going to that school. We should be able to name that school, please. Anyway, that's my last comment.

## Bart Littlejohn 50:44

Thank you, Gary. I appreciate that. And I'm glad that you you've gone ahead and brought it to our attention. Additionally, we have an additional speaker as well. I'd be remiss if I didn't mention her as well. Monica Davis from the Watkins Museum, and she is here as well, to give us a little bit of background on the neighborhood as well. Monica, if you wouldn't mind, go ahead and filling us in on the background of Pinckney.

#### Monica Davis 51:12

Okay. Oh, I wanted to say hi to everyone, um, to the best of my research abilities in the last five years, and it's not my only research topic by any means. I have yet to find a definitive primary source document that ties the naming of Pinckney to Charles Cotesworth Pinckney. The closest document that I can have to the time period is the Thomas H. Webb, who is the secretary of the New England Immigrant Aid Society. He had a publication that was titled Information for Kansas Immigrants. And this is the 1856 edition. In it, he's talking about how the streets of Lawrence are to be named. And this is specifically on the numbered streets and I'll read you the quote, "At right angles to these run other streets, which are named after individuals distinguished for their patriotism, philanthropy, and love of liberty."

The Streets of Lawrence

first appeared in maps that were printed in Boston, probably by the New England immigrant aid company. From a survey that was done in September of 1855. When they first came out in '55-'56 time period, the name Pinkney, without the 'c', appeared on the streets. So when the school was built in 1871 it - which was the practice at that time - was named after the street on which it was located. Hence, when the neighborhood association came, they took on the name of the school. So we've inherited, from an unknown source, the name of the school from the street, and then the neighborhood association from the school. There's a strong possibility that the name Pinckney was from a street in Boston, because there is a street in Boston by the name of Pinckney. The settlers, whether they chose the names or the New England immigrant aid company chose the names, I do not know. But that's the course that I can can document as far as the naming. Now there are multiple individuals by the name of Pinckney who have been involved

in politics, that this could be the source of.

Around the early 20th century, is when I first came upon instances of them identifying Charles Cotesworth. There was another Charles Pinckney who signed the Constitution, who was Charles Cotesworth's cousin,

he

wasn't listed in the Harvard

list for Pinckneys. Just Charles Cotesworth. Charles Cotesworth's mother is also listed. She was the one responsible for bringing Indigo into production in South Carolina. As well as his brother, Thomas, who

was also a politician. A gentleman by the name of William Pinkney, without the c, was a politician from Maryland. So those are all candidates that could have been the source of the name. There's no- I have yet to find a definitive tie to any specific individual from the 1850 time period.

Bart Littlejohn 56:10

Okay.

So

Monica I, I would ask, so what would you

What would you suggest? How should we get started if we want to go ahead and like definitive defdefinitively find out the history of the neighborhood? I mean, like, is there a way we can? I mean, it sounds like you've done some research on your own, but

Monica Davis 56:37

As far as the the actual name, the best source would probably be primary source documents from the New England Immigrant Aid Company. I know Kansas State Historical Society has some of those.

I've looked at some online - I've been through newspapers, looking for instances of the name Pinckney, not just for Lawrence, but for the entire United States that are on newspapers dot com. So. There's several local historians, Virgil Dean comes to mind, who might be able to give you better insight on where to begin a quest if you decided to investigate the name association to an individual. There's a potential to find that. I know in David Dary's book The Informal History of Lawrence. He cites the same source that I did. And they had a team of historians researching that book pretty extensively. There's a possibility there's no no definitive list for these. Um, I sent Eleanor a link to a couple of the maps. I've looked at some of the other street names that are now numbered. You know, they're all Revolutionary soldiers, people involved in combat and the Constitutional Convention.

Steve Braswell 59:01

What is that remembered for? What about signer, Jefferson Davis, president of the Confederacy. There's a big difference.

Gary Smith 59:12

Can I ask Monica a question?

Monica Davis 59:16

Sure.

Gary Smith 59:17

Monica, didn't you say at the beginning, when you first started speaking that there was some kind of thing you found about Founding Fathers being people that streets were named after?

Monica Davis 59:32

Right.

Gary Smith 59:33

So so that, to me, is a pretty good indication that's the Pinckney that we're talking about. And how the school was named, is really irrelevant if you end up deciding in your mind that this was Charles, you'd think. So anyway, I'm going to go ahead and bow out and let you folks have your discussion because again, I'm an outsider, I appreciated hearing Monica because I always love the history, you know, but I'm gonna go ahead and bow out now and I appreciate you asking me to have been here.

Bart Littlejohn 1:00:02

Well alright!

Monica Davis 1:00:04

To respond to that. As I mentioned, there were several other Pinckneys that are notable besides Charles Cotesworth Pinckney that has been become associated with the name of Pinckney school and Pinckney Neighborhood.

Nick Kuzmyak 1:00:25

May I ask a question real quick? To my knowl- I don't know if I caught this in your in your statement, but I did catch it in the email that Eleanor forwarded to us - and that is that the original name of the street, Pinkney, is without a 'c'.

Monica Davis 1:00:39

That's correct.

Nick Kuzmyak 1:00:41

On the original plotted maps, and it was only changed to include the 'c' sometime in the 1870s or something. Is that right?

Monica Davis 1:00:48

The first instance that I have for the inclusion of the 'c' is in the 1873 Beers' Douglas County Atlas.

Nick Kuzmyak 1:00:59

Okay. So in that case, it seems reasonable to assume that perhaps it was named for the only person on your list of four with no 'c' and his name William, who is famous enough to have a Wikipedia article, so I don't know if that's good enough.

Monica Davis 1:01:13

Well, interestingly enough about William. A biography was published on him in 1853. And when I did the count comparison for the various names, of course, his name shows up the most across the digitized newspapers, on newspapers dot come.

Nick Kuzmyak 1:01:14

Interesting, so he was a pretty famous guy, I guess. Or...

Monica Davis 1:01:49

Well, they were definitely promoting his biography during the 1853 1854 1855 time period.

Nick Kuzmyak 1:01:59

Hm, interesting So, here's another kind of question for hoping as a historical expert you could answer, um, in recent years, you know, as we've seen the the removal of a lot of Confederate monuments. I think a lot of us have been a lot more educated as to how they appeared in the first place. And it was that they weren't there immediately after the Civil War. They came up in the Jim Crow era to basically reinforce the social hierarchy, the racial hierarchy, right. So it's not like they were originally there. I

wonder, is there any precedent for renaming, neighborhoods and other things in the 1870s, which, if I remember correctly, was kind of like the post reconstruction rise of the Ku Klux Klan? Is there a possibility that things were also renamed during that period to promote Confederate ideals? Is that a thing?

Monica Davis 1:02:51

I am not aware of anything like that. That's not something that I've really studied. I pretty much focus on on the Kansas and Douglas County history.

Eleanor Gardner 1:03:09

I wanted to point out that Christina Linville had raised her hand right after Gary had asked a question or had responded, so I just wanted to give her the opportunity to speak.

Christina Linville 1:03:24

Can you guys hear me okay? I'm on a headset. So

Monica Davis 1:03:29

Sure.

Christina Linville 1:03:30

Can you- you can hear me all right?

Eleanor Gardner 1:03:32

Yes. Yeah, we can hear you.

Christina Linville 1:03:34

Cool. Okay. Um, so I think regardless of who the street originally was named after, we have over 100 years in Lawrence of the name of the street, being associated with Charles cotesworth Pinckney, we have signs Sorry, I'm out of breath I've been running. Um, we have signs all over the neighborhood with his name and his influence on them we have inside the school. There's like a whole section on the upper level that is dedicated to celebrating Charles cotesworth Pinckney. He is mentioned on the website. So I think at this point regardless of who the street and the neighborhood and the school were originally intended to be named after that association has become so synonymous with Pinckney, that we're not

going to be able to get away from it by explaining to people that there is some question as to whether that was the original intention. I think at this point, we need to look at the impact more than the original intent and take that into consideration with more weight. I will say that as far as renaming the school, Dr. Lewis who is the superintendent, for those of you who may not have kids in school, he sent out an email which I posted in the PNA Facebook group that basically said, this is already on the district's radar and we're going to discuss it as a Pinckney community like a Pinckney school community this fall. So I don't know that we really need to spend a whole lot of time discussing the school angle. Because it seems like that's going to be a factor whether the neighborhood decides on it or not. But in terms of the neighborhood, I just think that it is going to be so hard to extricate Charles cotesworth Pinckney from our history because we have been promoting that relationship for the last hundred years.

Kendall Simmons 1:05:36

May I ask a question, please?

Can anybody hear me?

Bart Littlejohn 1:05:41

Yes, yes. Yes. Go ahead Kendall.

Kendall Simmons 1:05:43

It- it's hard, I can't see my picture or anything. Um, I don't know how many of you read my my stuff but I've had some responses to that I posted to Pinckney in the first place. But um, what I got from a lot of people both on the list and off was they had no idea of who the Pinckney guy was or anything, there was no association in their minds at all. I I wonder how much of this we're making up now. And I don't mean just us are making up now when it really hasn't been relevant to people over well, the guy died 195 years ago and Pinckney stuff was named, oh, 107 years ago or something like that. So does it really matter because we're making a mountain out of a molehill. We can't then use that molehill as our excuse for changing stuff. And like I had said, you know, talking with some friends of mine. And obviously, I can't speak for all blacks. But they were really annoyed by this, because there's so many things that need to be dealt with and they, they just were like, "this isn't even on the bottom of the list. This is on the bottom of our feet for God's sakes, we don't even care. It's below the dirt." It's there's so many things that are so much more important that need to be changed. And worrying about a school name or street name, or I mean a school name or a neighborhood name, that nobody even knows what it stands for. And it probably doesn't stand for Charles Cotesworth Pinckney is like, you guys, were talking right at the very beginning about losing all your CDBG money. This is going to cost money to do this. And it's not just signs and stuff, but if you think about the school n everything, we're talking about, you know, tons of money on on stationery and all kinds of things. And is it really down important? As one of 'em said, it just seems like a case of white savior syndrome. It's like people got worked up about

it. And then it's like, but why not find out what really matter? Does this really matter? Or are we trying to make it matter? When it doesn't? I mean, if you think about that, Gary had said that, oh, you know, that Pinckney he was a vicious racist. Well, actually, if you go through his history, he wasn't vicious racist. And when Gary originally written the letter he wrote virulent, which is quite different. You want a vicious racist? Look at Thomas Jefferson. That man was a vicious racist. This wasn't just an economic issue to him. And, you know, there's a point at which ya have to use perspective, and I don't see, perspective about stressing out about something like this. I just don't see it. And I like- I loved what Monica said, because she was talking about perspective. And I just, I really hope that we look at it that way. Is this really worth our time when there are so many more important things we need to be doing to help our neighbors?

# Eleanor Gardner 1:09:32

I see that Christina has raised her hand and so I'll let her respond and then go to you, Nick.

#### Christina Linville 1:09:41

So I, first of all, I just want to point out that it is perfectly possible for myself and for everybody in the Pinckney Neighborhood Association, to care about this issue, and to also be doing things in other areas of our lives to help those others areas of equity deficit in our town. And I think it's pretty presumptive of anyone to assume that we aren't also doing that. I can tell you that Pinckney school right now is working on fundraising for a grant that would help us diversify our library. So that we can get books in the library on anti racism, we can get books that feature people of color as main characters. Matter of fact, that's why I'm running this morning. I am trying to run 100 miles in 10 days to raise money for that particular cause. Like, I think it's, I think it's very presumptive to assume that this is what all of us are focusing all of our attention on. But whether you think it's it's a mountain being made out of a molehill, it's in the Li world now. It is on everybody's radar. So people are going to be thinking about this and talking about this and I can tell you now working in activist circles in this community, they are already discussing it and there was a something in the past Read on the neighborhood association, referencing activists actually protesting a neighborhood in another community because of an association to a racist name. And I would not be surprised if we get some demonstrations in our neighborhood if we show that we are unwilling to consider this and to potentially change our name because of the association that has been made. And Lawrence between Charles cotesworth Pinckney and the neighborhood in the school like this is an association that we're not going to be able to get away from by saying, Oh, well, it might not have been him because we have made it about him. Whether that was the original intention or not. So I just I don't think the activists and Lawrence are going to buy that. And I also kind of question why we are spending so much time and energy trying to essentially give a pass to the fact that we've associated our neighborhood with this racist person for so long.

Kendall Simmons 1:12:00

Because, excuse me, I know somebody else was going to speak, but it's like, the reason is because we only have so much time, so much effort, so much money. There's only so much we can do. And we have to make to me wise decision about this. If this neighborhood wasn't even named for Charles cotesworth Pinckney it does seem kind of odd to not correct people about that as opposed to just, oh, we'll just change the name and stuff. And those the the issue, the neighborhood thing, school thing that you were referring to, if you look it up, it's it's apples and oranges or maybe oranges and tangerines, but it's a very, very different story and I can see why people are protesting. God I would be, but it's not the same thing. And again, it comes back to perspective. And sure, people are getting worked up about this now activists but I had a great idea. How about asking? You know if we're worried about this because of racism n the black community- well, why don't we ask them?

## Christina Linville 1:13:18

It's black activists that I'm referring to who are talking about this. So it is on their mind, and it does seem to be something at least in my circles that is bothering people. So but obviously, people in our neighborhood need to be asked about it too. And I always assumed that that would be part of the process is talking to the rest of the neighborhood, maybe sending out surveys or whatever, but I can tell you that the activists in my life who are people of color and who are black, are concerned about it.

## Bart Littlejohn 1:13:45

Um, yeah, I would like to go ahead and pop in. And, yeah, the whole point of this was just to have a discussion. This will not be the end point of this whole thing. We will we're going to go ahead and use a deliberative process to go ahead and make sure that every voice is heard. And so we're going to act after this meeting, we'll make more outreach to go ahead and include people in a greater discussion as well. So this is just the start of it, this won't be the end of it at this point. So basically, what we're just deciding is we're just trying to get information, you know, exchange viewpoints, and decide if we want to go ahead and progress from here. So just to go ahead and pipe in.

# Nick Kuzmyak 1:14:30

Thanks Bart, that's basically what I was going to indicate as well. So this is really just the start of it. We are just discussing if it's something that we need to further discuss, and I'm really glad to get all the perspectives of everybody on on every side of the issue. Really. I was hoping to chime in on the issue of perspective of what's important of things that we can do. I think there's a there's kind of a confusion over what we have power over as a neighborhood and what is maybe more of a municipal or national issue or state issue. I get that there are more important things that we could be doing with our As a city or as a state as a country, to improve the lives of black people in the community, however, this is something that we truly do have power over. And I'm going to push back on saying it's expensive. Bart, I think you've reached out to the city? And it's really kind of a prerogative, we can do it however, as long as we get some input, right? It sounds like it's a fairly low cost process. Now, I know changing stationery for the school is a little bit different. But sounds like the school board's already kind of charging forward.

So it's not really our I mean, it'd be nice to be involved. But that's not really our zone anymore. So at this point, we really just have power maybe over initiating a change in the neighborhood name. And I agree with both Christina and Monica here, and that it is, it's not so much that, that it was named over somebody who may be the right Pinckney or the wrong Pinckney. It's that sometime in the 1920s, it sounds like, the-I guess the "wrong Pinckney" was associated with the school. And, you know, having that history plastered over the walls of a place where impressionable kids are, it seems like that's maybe more of an issue than who it was named for in the first place. It's like, and this is a very extreme hypothetical example, like say, say a town in Italy was named for, you know, Gianni Mussolini, a wonderful Shoemaker from the town of Padua or something. And then sometime in the 1960s, they renamed it for Benito Mussolini. But they never really make it super clear, like, well, now it's Mussolini who we don't really like very much, even though originally it was this really nice guy who was just a shoemaker. It doesn't really matter, the associations been made. And it's gonna be really hard to break that association because this guy's more famous and more bad. So yeah, I can agree that it doesn't really matter who is originally named after perhaps it's a matter of who the association is drawn to now. And perception is everything. The fact that this is in the LJ World, and it's on people's radar means it's now our problem, basically. So it's something that is good that we're discussing. So we're not caught with our, you know, not ready to attack it, basically. So back on the prospective issue in terms of things that we could be doing to help this out. As somebody who has been involved in Walk Pinckney quite a bit, and in outreach and in the Pinckney Working Group, there have been so many chances where we've really desperately tried to reach out to everybody in the neighborhood to get some kind of information, some kind of buy in participation, tell you what you want. Tell me what you need, tell me what is necessary in our neighborhood. And I gotta be honest, it's been really frustrating to be so involved in the neighborhood and hearing nothing but crickets. Until now, like, oh, all of a sudden it's an issue. So I would say if there are truly things that we as neighbors could be doing better, I would love to hear that if you could get your friends Kendall to tell us maybe directly? Send us an email, come to a meeting, tell us what are the things that we're totally missing? Because I'm sure there are, I have a different lived experience than other people here. And I understand that I could totally be missing the mark on what we're trying to do to help improve the neighborhood. So it would be great to get those perspectives. And you know, if they disagree with changing the neighborhood name, that's fine too. You know, so be it, but I uncomfortable with the open ended assertion that we're not doing the right things, when we don't even know what the right things are because those people have been brought into our attention. So, you know, rant over, but I just feel a little bit like, ehh you know, all of a sudden things are an issue when before we haven't gotten any buy in, or participation or, or, you know, suggestions or anything. So anyway, sorry for kind of going off a little bit. But I was just kind of mulling over the past few days here.

# Eleanor Gardner 1:18:26

I want to jump in really quick here and acknowledge Monica's time and let her know that if she has something else that she needs to leave for that she's more than welcome to do that, but I just wanted to acknowledge your time and thank you for coming and providing the historical information that you did.

Well, I'm more than happy to assist in any way I can. And good luck with this. You have my contact info and I can engage other historians if you decide to do further investigation.

Bart Littlejohn 1:19:10

Thank you, Monica. Thank you.

Kendall Simmons 1:19:12

Thanks.

Pat Miller 1:19:14

Yeah. If- has anybody raised their hand? I don't see the raised hand button on here. I'm not very good at this. So if nobody else is...

Eleanor Gardner 1:19:22

You're good, Pat, there aren't any other raised hands.

Pat Miller 1:19:26

So, you know, I, I think this is a very serious, interesting, knotty issue to try to get our heads around. And, and I think that there are several paths we could take. And, and I know we're talking about engaging in a very thoughtful process moving forward, as we were throwing ideas around within. Like prior to this meeting. I raised the One possibility so so one is to do nothing, just decide to do nothing at all. One is to decide that we should rename the neighborhood and I think the school is on a separate track. And I think a third one is to explore, to verify that the initial name was not really associated with this gentleman who is not as not the person we would really want to be associated with. But to think of all that has happened that is good, since this neighborhood became Pinckney Neighborhood, and to rededicate it with this name for a good purpose and make that a very public, purposeful statement and to find to find the good and to purposefully associated with this name moving forward. And I think there's there's the possibility of doing that. So as we move forward, I think we should keep in mind that there may be several ways that we can address this and make sure that the name certainly is not associated with someone that we disapprove of. Now if this were- an example is, like, if a school's named Robert E. Lee, you really can't get around it by just saying it's Lee school. There are probably other Lee schools out there that aren't associated with Robert E. Lee, but it's not Robert E. Lee. Pinckney is more ambiguous, and I think there's at least the possibility of deciding what we want it to mean and and associating that with it moving forward. So that's all I had to say.

### Bart Littlejohn 1:22:05

Thank you, Pat, for outlining those options. Like it's like you said it was something that you discussed beforehand. And I, and also I just want to reiterate that, you know, we will be bringing this to a larger discussion. I know that Gary had sent in the editorial earlier, I believe, later last week. So this has been pretty quickly moving. So we definitely want to make sure that even those of us who don't have access to internet can- can uh properly provide input. Oh, okay. That can properly provide input as well. So. And, yeah, I definitely want this to be a deliberative discussion. And that, you know, to have that everyone's voice heard on this because this will affect the entire neighborhood. And, and I definitely want us to at least have a, you know, an opportunity for everyone to to speak. So.

Steve Braswell 1:23:16

Hello, this is Steve.

Bart Littlejohn 1:23:19

Hello, Steve.

Steve Braswell 1:23:20

Hi. Um, yeah, I got a couple comments. And part of it goes back to what Nick was saying. I mean, a lot of the statues and the names that are coming up today. Yeah, a lot of that was directed or erected during the Jim Crow days is just one way to reinforce that. To me, part of it goes back to what is that person remembered for? You know, when we talk about Jefferson Davis or John C. Calhoun. I mean, these were these were the people running the Confederacy. And to me, there's no doubt that these these people took up arms to protect their institution of slavery. What is say, say Pinckney is named for the person we're talking about, say that's absolutely correct. What is he known for? He's known for signing the Declaration of Independence. Now, nobody, nobody leads a blameless life. So if we're going to start going down the path, anybody associated with slavery, we're going to get rid of their name. Well, essentially, that's going to come down to every white person before- well not every white person butevery white person of some kind of a economic level had slaves. And I yes, it was awful. But there is more that that person that person has not remembered for that. The John C. Calhoun, Jefferson Davis, those people are remembered for, actively taking up arms, separate from our country, the support for slavery. This guy is remembered as a revolutionary war hero and signing the Declaration of Independence. Yeah, he owned slaves. He may have been really bad one- bad slave owner. Lots of people owned slaves. Now there's a I know there's a group that will say, no white man has ever done anything good. Well, you know, that's another point of view. So my point: what is the person remembered for? This this person Pinckney is not remembered for confederacy, he's not remembered for owning slaves. He's remembered for being helping institute our country. He may have done bad things. Everybody's done bad things. And I'm not saying that relieves them of any blame. I don't know that it rises to the level that that a change is required.

#### Eleanor Gardner 1:25:55

I would just like to say that he IS known for, you know, his pushing for slavery being a fundamental economic driver for the economy of South Carolina and the United States at large. I feel that while yes, he did have these important historic connections to the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution, the Constitutional Convention and things, he IS still fundamentally associated with being pro-slavery. And that is a substantial problem that I think it would be remiss for us to just ignore that.

### Kendall Simmons 1:26:39

Yeah, but I think one of the things you have to remember and this is again, why I love having Monica Davis doing this work is that he wasn't saying, Oh, we got to keep slaves to keep us rich. He was putting this in, because he saw that there was an economic driver, not only White supremacy driver but but a, an economic driver. And he put things into the constitution that actually worked to get rid of slavery. It wasn't just a one sided thing. I think you have to read the whole stuff. And Monica may be able to point out some of the things. But um, so it wasn't a black and white issue, even when it came down to that. And, you know, if you're a slave owner, and you're really nice to 'em and things like that, it's still slavery, it still sucks. But it's a big difference from beating them all the time and smashing them and killing them and separating them and stuff. Slavery in itself, hey, look, we have slavery in our own country today. And depends on who you are, what you are, and who you're talking to. The people just think people suck, you know, certain types of people. And I, you know, it's it's, we again, we can't cherry pick we've got to focus on the bigger picture and he was not known for slavery stuff particularly. He was known for more than that. I mean, again I use Thomas Jefferson as example- a, wow, the difference between them was amazing. You look but the good stuff Thomas Jefferson did but then you got to look at the bad stuff and it is bad. So let's tear down the Jefferson Memorial. Let's get rid of the Declaration of Independence. Okay. I mean, there is a-there is a line here at some point. That you know, just because this person knows somebody for this, because they write about it someplace doesn't mean that's all that person's known for. And I've just we gotta, like I keep beating the dead horse of perspective, but we got to do it.

## Eleanor Gardner 1:29:08

I would like to acknowledge that both Christina and Tara have their hands raised. So I'd like to let Christina respond and then Tara.

## Christina Linville 1:29:19

So the first thing that I want to point out regarding what people are remembered for is that that changes when new information comes to light. So you think about Harvey Weinstein, if he had died 20 years ago, all people would remember is that he made some cool movies, but because of the things that have come to light in the past five years, now you hear that name and you associate it with very different things. And so I think that when new information is presented, whether it was news to you or

not, it does change what that person is remembered for. And now that this is a very public discussion in the Lawrence community, the name Charles cotesworth Pinckney is going to carry those associations whether people have them previous to this or not. The other thing that I want to say is that whether Charles companies measure to enforce The Fugitive Slave Act was based on the economy or not, the fact is still that he was prioritizing money over black bodies. And nothing that is going on in the United States today compares to chattel slavery like that comparison is honestly kind of offensive, but I think that if we are going to excuse him because his concern was the American economy and, and give a pass to what he was doing with The Fugitive Slave Act because of that, I think that that is just us giving excuses to people who like I said, prioritize money over the bodies in the lives of the black people in our country who were enslaved. That's all I got.

Eleanor Gardner 1:30:59

Ok. And Tara, if you would like to speak,

Tara Wagner 1:31:04

Yeah, actually, I think Christina has said it really well. But I would just like to, yeah, to point out that anybody who was a co sponsor of The Fugitive Slave Act, right there just, I think says it all. And I would also like to point out that I mean, Pinckney was historically a black neighborhood, and to have this neighborhood named after a racist like that, I just think it's inappropriate.

Bart Littlejohn 1:31:31

Um, I would also- and like to- pipe in a little bit. I know that there are differing viewpoints on this discussion, but I'm of the mind that, you know, Lawrence is built on exceptionalism. It was built on people coming here, who thought that the prevailing thought of slavery was wrong. They wanted to come somewhere where they were accepted for that notion that everyone in this town could be free. Now, I know that they weren't. But at least that was the thought when they came here. And I know that, you know, points have been made that, you know, he was just, Pinckney was a man of his time. But, you know, there were also abolitionists in his time - people who inherently thought that that was wrong, and stood up for that. So, I would say that I would rather this neighborhood be named after somebody exceptional than somebody who just followed along with everybody. Thank you.

Eleanor Gardner 1:33:09

Are there any additional voices that would like to speak?

Pat Miller 1:33:21

I just think that we've heard enough today that we know this is something that we need to move forward with on a very, in a very thoughtful manner. I think it would help us to make- to do some additional research and to develop a thoughtful process about how to move forward. It's very important that we honor the right things. And that we value all of all of the members of our community. And I guess I would like to make a proposal that we we initiate a process, perhaps develop a team, to be in charge of the process, to do some additional research, to think about ways of engaging the community and of having this thoughtful, very serious conversation about how we want to move forward. So that's my motion. My motion is that we start a process and assign a team to further consider the history, the options, who we need to talk to, and that that team brings Back to the neighborhood association meeting, a proposed plan.

Bart Littlejohn 1:35:09

Is there a second out there?

Christina Linville 1:35:14

Second.

Bart Littlejohn 1:35:18

Is there any discussion regarding this motion?

Kendall Simmons 1:35:22

I think it's an excellent idea, Pat. And I want to apologize to anybody I may have offended with my comments. I didn't mean to be offensive. It's just, you know, I'm me. I got a big mouth.

Bart Littlejohn 1:35:42

Uh, yeah, it's not necessary Kendall. We're all having discussion. So I mean, and differing viewpoints are part of that, and I apologize that I intruded upon this discussion. Um, but I felt I - and and that was not me speaking as the President, I don't I don't want anyone to think that I'm giving any sort of impartial favor. That was just me speaking as me. And I should have noted that before. I apologize. So.

Tara Wagner 1:36:13

No need.

Kate Kuzmyak 1:36:14

I don't think you need to apologize, Bart. We're happy to hear your point of view.

Kendall Simmons 1:36:19

Yes. Yes.

Christina Linville 1:36:20

You're, you're part of the neighborhood too. Like this is the place where you also have to live and spend your time so I value your voice as an individual separate from your presidency. And I think that that was, I- thank you for sharing how you felt about it.

Steve Braswell 1:36:39

Well we got a motion and a second?

Bart Littlejohn 1:36:43

Yeah. So um. All those in favor say aye. Aye. Any opposed? Okay, motion is passed.

Pat Miller 1:36:55

So I believe under the bylaws, the Executive Committee has the ability to put together a team so you can take volunteers for that or you can reach out to people. I think that's the prerogative of the executive committee, the board.

Kendall Simmons 1:37:20

I'd like to volunteer not because of my opinion, but because I was a librarian for 22 years. That might be helpful.

Bart Littlejohn 1:37:30

Thank you, Kendall. Yeah, we would appreciate all the help we can get. Would anybody else while we're on the topic of it like to volunteer?

Eleanor Gardner 1:37:43

I'm happy to volunteer and I'd also like to take the time to think through, perhaps, like a survey that could be distributed across the neighborhood in paper form perhaps so that we are reaching those who may not have internet access. That may be potentially one way to get a little bit more input from all of our community members.

Pat Miller 1:38:16

So my proposal was to put together a committee to come up with a plan. Not not to start that process, but I think we need a plan first. And that things like survey will come out of that plan.

Eleanor Gardner 1:38:30

Gotcha. Okay.

Kate Kuzmyak 1:38:32

I think-

Bart Littlejohn 1:38:33

Yeah, I'm sorry.

Kate Kuzmyak 1:38:35

Oh, I'm sorry. I think Madden del had raised their hand?

Pat Miller 1:38:41

Maybe? Mary Tim. Yeah, Marianne Tyndall did- she

Kate Kuzmyak 1:38:45

Okay, thank you.

Nick Kuzmyak 1:38:52

Marianne, you there?

Pat Miller 1:38:55

She's frozen. She did raise her hand, but she's frozen right now on the screen.

Kate Kuzmyak 1:39:04

Okay, maybe we'll have to reach out to her.

Bart Littlejohn 1:39:11

Okay. Um, but uh. Eleanor, could you, I guess, email would - or email or social media would probably be... I mean, it's so it's the, the, it's under the discretion of the executive board to go ahead and get these volunteers? Was that right, Pat, I'm sorry?

Pat Miller 1:39:34

You could appoint anybody on the committee. So, so I think like, like I said, my, my proposal was that you put together a committee to come up with the plan for deciding how to move forward and whether that's going to be through surveys or something like that. That would be part of the plan.

Bart Littlejohn 1:39:54

Okay.

Pat Miller 1:39:56

And then, and then we can approve the plan and then implement it, but I think having a having a structured process will really help us do this the right way, rather than scattering to the winds and start doing things.

Bart Littlejohn 1:40:09

Right. I would like to be part of that committee as well. So.

Kendall Simmons 1:40:13

Cool. Cool.

Pat Miller 1:40:15

I would like to, but I'm a little over committed at the time. So yes, I look forward to helping you down the road.

Eleanor Gardner 1:40:27

So okay, so, Bart, just to clarify what you would like for me to do. I can send out an e-blast and post on all of our social media outlets that we are putting together this committee and that we're looking for volunteers?

Bart Littlejohn 1:40:46

Yes, Yes, I would. I would like to go ahead and open it up to everyone that would want to be a part of it.

Eleanor Gardner 1:40:52

Okay.

Pat Miller 1:40:53

Yeah, I would suggest that you, you clarify that this is a committee to put together the plan and that we will need- probably need more volunteers down the road to implement the plan.

Eleanor Gardner 1:41:04

Okay.

Bart Littlejohn 1:41:08

All right.

Tara Wagner 1:41:09

I would like to go ahead and volunteer myself as well.

Bart Littlejohn 1:41:14

I'm sorry, who who was that?

Tara Wagner 1:41:16 Oh, uh, Tara. Bart Littlejohn 1:41:17 Okay. All right. If there are no further volunteers at this moment, but we'll go ahead and move on to other topics. But if you do immediately afterwards or feel like you want to volunteer, just go ahead and send a message to Eleanor and, or the Pinckney Gmail, and we'll go ahead and put you on there. So. Eleanor Gardner 1:41:56 And just so that I have the list that is established right now: Tara, Kendall, Bart, and myself? Did I miss anybody else? Kate Kuzmyak 1:42:12 I have Marianne Dell down as well. Eleanor Gardner 1:42:15 Okay. Pat Miller 1:42:16 And Kendall. Kate Kuzmyak 1:42:18 And Kendall. Yeah, oh I think Yeah. She's on the list. Bart Littlejohn 1:42:21 Marianne wanted to be a part of the list as well- or part of the committee?

Pat Miller 1:42:24

Kendall, yes.

Bart Littlejohn 1:42:26

Okay.

Kate Kuzmyak 1:42:26

I think Marianne had raised their hand and then her screen froze up. So we're at least gonna reach out to her.

Kendall Simmons 1:42:32

Okay. And I think Christina, didn't she just send a message saying she was interested?

Eleanor Gardner 1:42:39

Yes. She said she's ten- tentatively interested, but needs to see what else because she's also involved with the library thing.

Bart Littlejohn 1:42:47

Okay. Okay, um, but all right, what we'll do is I'm trying to get back to- there we are. I believe the next thing that we were going to talk about- or they just got moved around was the communication audit. And I would like to say I would like to formally welcome Eleanor to Pinckney as our communications coordinator. She has done an amazing job. And we're lucky to have her. And she's done a whole bunch of work so far. And I think she's going to give us some information on our how our outreach is. So just an audit of our communications to the neighborhood.

Eleanor Gardner 1:43:39

All right, let me share the next screen here if I can get it to operate correctly. There we go. And so one of the first assignments that I was given after taking the position of coordinator was to do a bit of an audit just to sort of see how we're doing in terms of landscape of communication, mostly online. And so I looked at the social media channels that we use, and we have two Facebook groups, or -er one is a Facebook page, and then when is a group, and then we have Instagram, and we had Twitter. And we also had a YouTube channel. And so you can see from the table that I created there, the numbers of followers and the level of engagement that we were seeing, on average per post, given how low the engagement was on Twitter and the extremely low number of followers, we have decided to go ahead

and cut the Twitter account just so that it's a little bit more of a focused effort. Facebook seems to be the main platform that people use. And especially we've found that families use Facebook and so that along with Instagram, which those two things are tied together, because Facebook owns Instagram, that's going to be where we put a lot of our effort in communications, as well as obviously the mailed communications that are not online because that's still a very, very important aspect. And we will be utilizing our YouTube channel more right now we only have one follower on YouTube, but maybe after today's meeting, we'll see some more followers. We're going to be posting these zoom meetings to our YouTube channel so that it makes it a little bit more accessible to our community for those who may not be able to attend the the 10am meetings on Saturdays and we're also now posting to next door which some of you may be familiar with is a neighborhood focused social networking platform. And I have been posting within just like the Pinckney part of it there. I see someone is in the chat. Oh Okay.

So I made some sug- suggestions, many of those have already been implemented such as tying Facebook and Instagram together, signing up for Hootsuite so that we can have the same information being distributed across all of the platforms. And, and we may at a later point, potentially be starting to discuss centralizing our branding sort of what what elements we want to use that immediately identify the neighborhood and obviously, the discussion about what ultimately we may decide regarding the name would would come into that. That's sort of the the position that we're in right now. And I'm happy to answer any questions if people have any questions or are curious about some of the things that I've done sort of behind the scenes to clean things up a little bit and make them a little bit more efficient.

#### Steve Braswell 1:47:19

Hello, this is Steve. Okay, this is coming from someone who successfully has still been able to not open a Facebook account. I don't social media, I guess I'm not very sociable. A big concern I have. So you're talking about this platform, this and that concern I have, are we going to have discussions going 100 different ways. I mean, we-back when it was just email it would even happen. There would be an email and this person goes off and now there's a discussion going that way. And now I got a big concern of all of these platforms. I mean, I think it's great. I got nothing against 21st century but I just a big concern I have is: are we gonna get so scattered, that there's gonna be a bunch of people talking here and a bunch of people talking here and Oh, we got this idea. How do you- How are you gonna keep it all together?

# Eleanor Gardner 1:48:10

That's a great question. And I think that the fact that our Facebook account and Instagram account are tied together helps to sort of make sure that those are being what's the word I'm looking for curated in a way that we can access those conversations. With losing Twitter, that helps because Twitter's very much not associated under the Facebook heading and so it's it's helping us to have a little bit more focus within there and then I'm just doing my best to make sure that I am monitoring next door and any like private messages that come in. I'm also monitoring the Pinckney Gmail. So it is sort of a Balancing Act with several different plates that are all spinning. But I think at the moment that we're doing an okay job. And of course, if there are things that you're aware of that we are missing, then please, please,

please bring it to our attention. Because it's really important that we be conscientious about making sure we're inclusive of all of the voices in our neighborhood, and how they may be communicating with us.

Steve Braswell 1:49:25

Is there any way to say this is our primary platform, pick a primary platform you send to Facebook and whatever else you said was Instagram, can we say here's our primary platform?

Eleanor Gardner 1:49:42

I mean, I don't necessarily want to be one who says like yes or no to that particular question, just because I worry that if

Steve Braswell 1:49:55

Well the question's to everybody here.

Pat Miller 1:49:57

Yeah, ideally our website would be like, you would have everything on it and then it's pushed out to other media. So although it's not really placed for discussions, it should be a central location where all of the base information is.

Steve Braswell 1:50:00

Well, I may have to suck it up and sign up for Facebook. I guess. I've just always looked at it as Mark Zuckerberg's rich enough. He doesn't need to mine my data, but everybody else is. Again, maybe it doesn't make much difference.

Bart Littlejohn 1:50:32

Steve, I would think that the the Facebook group for Pinckney is pretty much the de facto point of, you know, contacts for the neighborhood where you know, a lot of people get their information about the neighborhood. So.

Steve Braswell 1:50:47

okay.

Bart Littlejohn 1:50:49

I noticed I noticed when we, when we put a lot of information out there, we definitely get a lot of responses. So if there was one mode of transp- or one mode of communication, I would think that That is primarily it besides our email blast.

Steve Braswell 1:51:03

How did you refer to it? The Facebook what Pinckney group?

Bart Littlejohn 1:51:07

Yes, yeah. It's the Pinckney group.

Yeah. Yeah. It's the nic- Pinckney Neighborhood Facebook group. So if you look that up online, you should be able to find it.

Pat Miller 1:51:17

I think it's Pinckney Neighborhood Association-

Eleanor Gardner 1:51:19

Yeah.

Steve Braswell 1:51:19

Thank you

Eleanor Gardner 1:51:20

Yeah, it's Pinckney Neighborhood Association.

Bart Littlejohn 1:51:21

Oh, sorry! Sorry.

Eleanor Gardner 1:51:21

And it's a public group.

Bart Littlejohn 1:51:22

Yeah. Great.

Steve Braswell 1:51:26

Thank you.

Eleanor Gardner 1:51:33

Any other questions or thoughts? I just will note when one thing that I found some software that is able to transcribe our zoom conversations so that we can distribute both a transcription of our conversation today, as well as that video so that others can can be informed about what we are discussed.

Kate Kuzmyak 1:52:03

Yeah, I think this is really excellent, Eleanor, thank you for doing this.

Eleanor Gardner 1:52:07

Yeah.

Bart Littlejohn 1:52:10

Uh definitely, I would second that Eleanor. Great work so far. It's I, I it's a definitely a little bit. I definitely have a little bit of interest in the game, so to speak, because we've been doing a little bit of heavy lifting. So you're, you're doing a great service for us.

Pat Miller 1:52:29

Absolutely amazing. Thank you.

Eleanor Gardner 1:52:32

Happy to do it.

# Bart Littlejohn 1:52:35

Okay, just to go ahead and move on a little bit. Uh, I want to I there's two more things I would probably like us to try to discuss in about our time left. First one is trying to decide which one should go first. It's going to be about our LAN update because I think Nick had some information. And then also Pat had an update from the hospital. Pat, was yours it sounded like it might be a little bit lengthy. Was that correct?

Pat Miller 1:53:04

I don't think I have to say very much, but. Okay, so you don't want to you're gonna save Eleanor's discussion about upcoming events. So you just want updates right now?

Bart Littlejohn 1:53:13

Yeah, yeah, I just want updates right now.

Pat Miller 1:53:15

Well, I just I just wanted so for LMH I don't know if anybody's paying attention to the papers or not. I'm, I'm a fairly new board member over at the hospital. And the hospital has been engaged in renegotiating the contract they have with an entity that provides both hospitalists which are the doctors who actually work in the hospital. And so I think, long time ago, whoever your primary care doctor would come and visit you in the hospital, and they split their time now they have hospitalists who are dedicated to be in the hospital. Little and and also the emergency room. So there's currently a contract with a group. The acronym is Lima warrants, emergency medicine associates, something like that. It's been in place for 25 years and the administration of hospital thought it was time to look into that. And it was up for renewal. And so they decided to also take other proposals, and had announced earlier this week that they were going to go that they were planning to contract with a different entity that that stops Hospital in Kansas City and other places. And to say it drew a little bit of attention, but to completely understate what happened. There was a huge negative response to not continuing the contract with Lima which is the current group. I saw the metrics that the hospital used to make the decision and I understand why they made the decision. But given the public concern, the hospital is now rethinking. So they're in a process where they are pausing where they are, they're going to go back and reevaluate things. I think they're going to talk again with Lima and others and a decision on what to do in the future we'll be coming. In the short time I've been on the hospital board, I have been so impressed with their professionalism and their commitment to public service and their huge commitment to keeping this a community hospital and not letting it be taken over by some other entity. I think that in the past that had been a concern. I think I fortunately there was some discussion that paper that was fairly cruel to individual managers and an assumption that That the hospital was basically for sale. And those are both, you know, I was disappointed with the disparaging personal attacks. But it's completely false that the hospital is setting itself up to be bought out, it is truly and will continue to be a community hospital. And this issue about

the contract for this group of doctors, I think, will be resolved in a manner that is much more understandable and appropriate. So I just wanted to kind of let you know that if you're you hear what's going on, you know, they're, they're in a process of rethinking that decision, and I have confidence that it will, there'll be a good decision, not everybody may like it, but I think the process will will be thoughtful and appropriate. So

### Steve Braswell 1:56:54

this is Steve. I don't know how many articles have been in the paper. The first article, I read This, the two words that jumped out to me were hedge fund and hedge fund. That is their whole purpose is they take over organizations, they try to figure out how to maximize profits. And I get a big concern their hedge funds that you behind all these \$5,000 helicopter rides. And so I am Yeah, I got a big concern that that this is going to be an operation. The organization behind it is their stated purpose, their legal purpose while I'm about that, but their whole point is to maximize profits. Hey, you guys haven't responded very well. I think we can make more money. I got a big concern about hedge fund is like there is a point where I'm coming from.

#### Pat Miller 1:57:46

Yeah, that that was that was expressed a lot and I know more than you do, Steve about what's going on behind the scenes and and I did not have that concern. But I do have a deep concern about the process being one that is beneficial for the entire neighborhood, the entire community. And I'm very pleased that they are pausing and rethinking this process. So

### Steve Braswell 1:58:18

Well I value your judgment very much, Pat, that's just a big, big concern I have is well, yeah, hey, it's just, that's a big concern I have. There's some reason they want to do it. And I don't think it is, because I don't think the welfare that people have Lawrence is the top of their priority list.

# Bart Littlejohn 1:58:47

I would add that if anybody has any questions about this, go ahead and send it to the Pinckney Gmail. We can go ahead or Pat will be able to go ahead and answer it because she's a part of the executive board.

## Pat Miller 1:59:06

I don't there's not a lot more than that. I just think about it. I mean, I think in the paper and express it very clearly that they're gonna go back and reopen this, this whole process. So, you don't, there'll be more to come in the future.

Bart Littlejohn 1:59:23

Okay. All right.

Cool. Um, and I'm sorry, I kind of flipped it a little bit that I think we'll have enough time to get to future events. But I would go ahead and move on with another update the LAN update from Nick. If he has he has information for us that would be great.

Nick Kuzmyak 1:59:44

Honestly, not a lot going on. That hasn't already passed. So there was the League of Women Voters get out the vote parade - that was on Memorial Day. I want to say I posted about that on Facebook. So I think people may have heard about at some point and then pretty much it. I mean, really, the discussion has centered around at this point around, you know, budget is gonna get tighter, for sure. So, you know, I think it was Commissioner Shipley basically kind of rhetorically asked everybody on land, start thinking about things that you could live without, because we're gonna have to start making some cuts Pretty soon, and there's gonna be some tough decisions. So we can think about this ahead of time. It may be a good proactive strategy, trying to think if I missed anything, we have Commissioner Larson on the phone, too. So if there's anything I've totally missed, feel free to chime in here.

Bart Littlejohn 2:00:37

Hi, Nick, did you want to bring up ADUs? I know you mentioned that before?

Nick Kuzmyak 2:00:41

Not much has happened. So I did reach out to Old West Lawrence's Neighborhood Association. All I know at this point is that their board is against them, but people who they've reached out in the neighborhood are either for them or have no opinion. So that's interesting. I got zero feedback as far as I can tell from My Facebook post on on the whole thing. So if we're going to be reaching out to the neighborhood with regards to possible name changes, that'll be a good opportunity. If we could include other survey items, get some more bang for a book might not be a bad idea to try to include that somehow. Because if we do want to make any kind of unified statement, we're gonna have to get more opinions and just the board after hearing from all of us, Lawrence, it's like, no, the board definitely does not speak for the community necessarily. So it'd be good to get that perspective. And that's as far as we've taken it so far.

Bart Littlejohn 2:01:30

Yeah, I would agree. I think we might use that opportunity while we have everybody's attention to go ahead and get a little bit more feedback on other issues as well.

Nick Kuzmyak 2:01:39

Yeah. Like what social media platform Do you prefer the most? What's the way that you? What is your number one way to be contacted? I mean, yeah, there could be a couple things that might be useful to ask. Cool. All right. Do we need to do a quick community garden thing? Yeah, yeah. If you would've been cool. It's still happening. Things have been planted. Almost everything is done. Which is pretty cool. So over the course of last few months, seeds were acquired seeds were started seeds were planted, we got molds, we got compost, I've transformed my personal compost bin over there, we're starting that program. So there is now a neighborhood compost. If you have a whole bunch of greens and browns that you have to get rid of the garden outside of Britain is where you want to go. They there should be a pretty clear sign out there. This is exactly what you can put in cannot put in there. And once we actually get compost, feel free to take some yourself but in the meantime, it's really just a all in no out. So that's kind of fun. I know a lot of us like the idea of composting, the building a compost bin, as I can attest with personal experience. It's harder than it looks. So it's really sometimes it's nice to be able to just dump it somewhere else.

Steve Braswell 2:02:42

Where is the community garden?

Nick Kuzmyak 2:02:46

Do you know where the community health facility is? Douglas County Health Department. It's it's there. It's on the south east corner of their plot. So

Steve Braswell 2:02:54

compost goes so the gardens where the compost goes?

Nick Kuzmyak 2:02:57

Exactly. Yeah, the compost is in a huge bin up against the wall.

Steve Braswell 2:03:00

Thank you.

Nick Kuzmyak 2:03:01

Sure.

Eleanor Gardner 2:03:03

I think I saw Tara with her hand raised?

Ben McKay 2:03:10

Hi, this is Ben. Yeah, I just was asking- or- would like to ask Nick what an ADU is?

Nick Kuzmyak 2:03:17

Oh, sure. Yeah, good. It's a been a while since we've had a decent number of people in the meeting. So let's bring that back up. So when a d u stands for accessory dwelling unit, that's the really kind of policy wonk term for something that's often called a garage apartment. cottage, no, parish house, granny flat mother last week, it can be either attached or detached. So you have odd news or dad, or anybody says like that, but some people get really walkie and attached say to you is like, if you have an addict that you convert to also have a bathroom in the kitchen. That's an attached accessory dwelling unit. It could be off the back of your house in the basement. It's kind of just, it's almost like turning it into a non divided duplex. What an attached accessory dwelling unit will look like. A detached accessory dwelling unit is more like your typical garage apartment. So it's something usually in your backyard, you can sometimes see them from the street usually not. And it's, you know, it's been traditionally used for a whole bunch of uses. There's a reason it's called granny flat and mother last week, it was often used to house elderly family members who need to downsize and live nearby, instead of maybe putting them in the nursing home and as soon as that they have to be in recent years, they become popular for housing Boomerang kids, which is nice. And then you can also rent them out to people who aren't in your family. So currently, accessory dwelling units are allowed in Lawrence, they say all residential districts, but that's kind of misleading. They're allowed for anywhere where it's a single family plot 7000 square feet lot size and over. So not a whole lot of big need to be honest. There's a couple on the far east side once you get into those kind of dead end streets north of fifth on the The Far Eastern, a lot of those are actually 7000 square foot lots and a lot do have ad use existing. However, what the city is proposing doing is extending that, I guess, right to build one on your property for people who own lots of only 5000 square feet, which is called the RS five zoning district. The vast majority of Pinckney, single family lots are that. So so it could affect us. I should note that ad use are not super cheap to build. So it's not like if this were to be enacted, you see a ton of them popping up. I mean, they're they still run like \$200,000 a pop, just because construction is very expensive right here. So the concern concerns and I guess the kind of quick pros and cons the pros are that if you have elderly family members or young family members who need housing and you want to live near your family, they're really great way to house people in your unit. If you are retired and could use some extra supplemental income, then it's a good way to rent it out. And you don't have to really work very hard for property management because it's right there. They're good way to add density to existing neighborhoods density is good because it makes more efficient use of

existing infrastructure as well as transit. And they, they don't necessarily affect the character of the neighborhood because you don't really see them. And they're about the same skills, everything that's already there. A lot of them already do exist. There's about 15 east of us in our neighborhood, so not exactly where the downsides. People in all of us, Lawrence are particularly wary of students. I guess a lot of them had bad experiences either living in Korea, or back in the 80s and 90s. When students actually lived in all this Lawrence, and they're very nervous that students are going to come back and throw parties in their backyards and just over on street cars. There are some concerns that local stormwater could be effective, I'm sorry, affected. That is a dubious claim. It kind of depends on where you are. If you're in North Lawrence, that may be an actual problem because it doesn't really flow to a river every every job that falls in the forest has to be pumped out. But everywhere else has stormwater pipes and a lot of those resized for past time when neighborhoods were more dense than they are currently. So anyway, a lot of stuff to consider, as far as I can tell. Nobody on the Pinckney Facebook page has any thoughts one way or another. I don't know if liking and post accounts, as far as I know, jury's out. But that that will be delayed until I think city commission will meet back in person I believe. Eric Kirkendall in the Old West Lawrence Neighborhood Association petitioned city commission to have them hold off on that.

Ben McKay 2:07:34

Awesome. Thank you very much.

Nick Kuzmyak 2:07:36

Yes, sure. Um, the only other thing of interest in the garden is that Tina Gustafson, who's been kind of leading the effort is now gone. She has moved to New Mexico. So in her place is the gardening intern or farming intern I forget exactly what her title is. But she's pretty good at gardening. So she is currently leading the efforts to keep it watered and the community informed and keeping all that All the maintenance going on, and it is Laura. Oh, geez. Johnson maybe it's a fairly normal last name. But anyway. Yeah, so currently the big news is that there are more free seedlings. So if you're still looking to plant some garden space like me, there are seedlings of all shapes and sizes and colors over at the community garden. So you'll have to bring your own box or tray to carry them back, but I think they were put out about an hour ago. So if you're looking for something to do today, you can grab some free gardening.

Eleanor Gardner 2:08:30

I think her name is Laura Phillips from what I can see on the association page. And I didn't realize Tina had moved! That's sad. So...

Nick Kuzmyak 2:08:41

Her husband got a professorship at flagship sorry Flagstaff, so Arizona, not New Mexico. So they're gone. But Charlie Bryan has been our kind of strong liaison from there as well. He's He's definitely still around. So we still have a good in at the health department.

Bart Littlejohn 2:08:57

Cool, thank you for all your work with that Nick.

Nick Kuzmyak 2:09:00

No worries, it's fun.

Bart Littlejohn 2:09:01

Yeah, be sure to keep us informed in case anybody wants to volunteer, you know, out there as well.

Nick Kuzmyak 2:09:07

Feel free to pull a couple of weeds every time you stop by - that's what I do.

I do what I can.

Bart Littlejohn 2:09:15

Um, okay, and I think the last thing is future events. Uh, Eleanor, would you like to run down any of our future events? I think I see some of them, but I just wanted to make sure I'm not missing anything.

Eleanor Gardner 2:09:32

Yeah, so um, right now we have a food drive that's going all month long. Both of the bins the collection bins are located in the neighborhood. One is at Clinton park in the shelter pavilion area over there. The bin's moved around a little bit, so just keep your eyes peeled. As of two days ago, it was still there. But it has I think it maybe was like in the way and so it's it's been shifted around underneath the pavilion. Then the other location is the Doubletree hotel lobby. And they've got that positioned like right inside the main doors in the lobby there, right next to a planter. So we've got those going all month long those are going to be donated to Just Food. We do have quite a few people both in Pinckney as well as East Lawrence who have lost their jobs during the pandemic. And so they're relying more heavily on Just Food for sustenance. And so it's important that we make an effort to contribute what we can to make sure that our neighbors who are in need, have access to food. And then the other thing that will be

happening is next Saturday, June 27, starting at 2pm. We are going to be holding a neighborhood celebration, so we're going to do a car parade and I am still trying to gather folks to participate in the parade. So if you have a car and would like to decorate it a little bit in some way and join our parade, we're going to start lining up at 1:30pm down from Pinckney school, I have been contacted by a couple of folks in the PTO and so hopefully we'll have some teachers involved from from Pinckney school. And we're just gonna go through the neighborhood with you know, silly decorations on our cars and and well wishes for everybody and acknowledging that although this is a strange time, with the with the pandemic, we can still show that we miss our community members and want to still have some element of community engagement. Virtually, we'll be doing neighborhood bingo starting on the 27th and running through July 3. So I'm going to put together a little bingo card of things that are very like, specific to our neighborhood. That will just be fun. And then people can either- we'll have some that will be available, like printed out copies that they could pick up, but you could also just do it on your phone. And like as you see things and you check it off, if you get bingo, then you'll post it to our Facebook group or Instagram and then there will be a drawing for some prizes. So just a way to have some fun with it. And then last but not least, if anybody wants to decorate their yard to add to the fun parade aspect, we welcome everyone to decorate their yard as you can.

Pat Miller 2:12:52

You have a parade route. Are you going to post that on...?

Eleanor Gardner 2:12:57

Yes, yeah, I will be posting that. I wanted to run it by the executive committee first before I did that, so, I will send that to you guys later today the idea I had for it,

Pat Miller 2:13:09

Do we need to ask the city for any permission to do this?

Eleanor Gardner 2:13:14

So, I did talk to the municipal and operations department and they said that assuming that it is not a massive number of cars, and that we avoid the main thoroughfares where like the ambulances would be coming through that it is not something that we need to go through the formal like, special permit process, and things for.

Bart Littlejohn 2:13:52

Oh, cool.

Any further questions for Eleanor? And just to also let you know, she will be sending out plenty of communication about this so that everybody knows about it.

Eleanor Gardner 2:14:08

Yeah.

Pat Miller 2:14:13

That's awesome. Thank you, Eleanor.

Eleanor Gardner 2:14:17

Yeah! And, and again, I would like to reiterate that if anybody would like to make sure that they sign up for the car parade if they're interested. Right now, you know, I have Will set up to drive the truck and I'm going to sit in the back with my fliers and...

Pat Miller 2:14:36

Maybe made an event post on Facebook, you might want to make it an event.

Eleanor Gardner 2:14:41

Make it an event. Okay. Yeah, I can do that for sure.

Pat Miller 2:14:45

That that sometimes helps bring the focus and then they can everybody can see exactly who's coming and stuff.

Eleanor Gardner 2:14:51

Yeah, that's a great idea.

Bart Littlejohn 2:14:56

Oh, I'm sure I'll go ahead and see if I can wrangle Curtis so he can make an appearance so.

Eleanor Gardner 2:15:03

Awesome.

Bart Littlejohn 2:15:09

All right. I think that is it. Ah, I would entertain a motion to-

Steve Braswell 2:15:19

I got a quick comment- this is and I'm just this is nothing that you guys aren't aware of this is for Bart and the the executive board. So Christina is probably right. You know, we're going to get into probably some protests, and I wouldn't be surprised if they went to the media wants to interview you know, the neighborhood association. So I'm just throwin that out there. Bart is one of the best people I've ever heard talked just talking off the top of his head. You do, you do an excellent job. I'm just throwin that out there. When I was President, I got interviewed in the paper, and yaknow channel six a couple times. And what a couple times it's just out of the blue just, Hey, can you meet me in five minutes, I want to talk to you. So I'm just throwin that out, you know, and if Pinckney can have some kind of - especially since we're talking about something kind of long range - I'm just throwin that out, you may want to be prepared for some kind of a, you know, statement.

Pat Miller 2:16:11

It's an excellent point. Steve has some talking points about what our process is. And I think that'd be really helpful.

Steve Braswell 2:16:17

And that it's it's a word where it's something we're working on. And it's it is an ongoing thing. Yeah. So I just wanted to, it's like, I wouldn't be surprised if that happens. The media media wants to make contact.

Bart Littlejohn 2:16:34

Yeah, I would agree, Steve. That is a great point. Yeah, we definitely want to enter I'm sorry, we definitely want to emphasize that it's a deliberate process, and we're going to take our time with it to make sure that we get input from everyone.

Lori 2:16:52

May I make a comment?

Bart Littlejohn 2:16:56

Sure, go ahead Lori.

Lori 2:16:58

Just just back to to the parade, and the thought occurred to me, we might want to suggest there might be some groups that would want to do one like, like, we have a neighborhood book club. So maybe some of us would want to do something for the parade or, you know, Girl Scouts or the Boys and Girls Club or I don't know, I just thought it might be something that would draw in people that wouldn't feel like they were doing it alone. They could have a group it would be a fun thing to do as a group might get a lot.

Eleanor Gardner 2:17:24

It's a great idea. Thank you.

Lori 2:17:30

And I'm so impressed with all those ideas you have, Eleanor.

Eleanor Gardner 2:17:33

Oh good!

Bart Littlejohn 2:17:38

Yeah, she's she's been definitely working hard. We've been pleasantly surprised.

Pat Miller 2:17:43

And we still have another week or so of the Animal Safari. I, I kind of -

Eleanor Gardner 2:17:48

Yes, yes.

Pat Miller 2:17:48

fell off here but I need to get my animals back outside.

Eleanor Gardner 2:17:55

Yep. And I know that there was one unfortunate incident of Stay Puft ending up in a in a watery grave. But I think he was rescued and everything ended up being okay. But overall it seems like people are having fun with it and and I've seen a variety of families walking and noting things as they're walking by. So I think people are still having fun with it.

Bart Littlejohn 2:18:24

Yeah, I would agree. I think people are really enjoying it. Thank you for putting that together.

All right. Were there any further questions or comments from anyone?

Pat Miller 2:18:43

If there are none, I would move to adjourn.

Kate Kuzmyak 2:18:47

I would second that.

Bart Littlejohn 2:18:50

Okay, we have a motion to adjourn with a second. Is there any sort of discussion or comment?

Oh, Tara has her hand up. Um, is- did she want to comment?

Tara Wagner 2:19:05

No, I think that must have been a mistake.

Bart Littlejohn 2:19:07

Okay. Okay. Okay. All right. Seeing as that's the case, all those in favor of adjourning say aye. Unknown Speaker 2:19:16 Aye. Bart Littlejohn 2:19:18 Any opposed? Seeing as there none opposed, I motion that- or I move that we're adjourned. Unknown Speaker 2:19:24 All right. Thank you. Thank you. Bart Littlejohn 2:19:27 Thank you all for coming and participating in this discussion. We all really appreciate it. Kate Kuzmyak 2:19:34 Bye, have a good day! Nick Kuzmyak 2:19:34 See you guys next time. Eleanor Gardner 2:19:35 Alright, yep, everyone have a good day! Bart Littlejohn 2:19:44 Thanks for getting this going, Eleanor, I really appreciate it and monitoring the room.

Definitely

Eleanor Gardner 2:19:50

Bart Littlejohn 2:19:50

It saves me a huge step.

Eleanor Gardner 2:19:52

Yeah, no problem. See you later.

Bart Littlejohn 2:19:55

All right. See you later.

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