

**MINUTES**  
**ECCO Annual Meeting**  
**October 11, 2018 @ 5:30 PM**

**Held at New Hope Methodist Church**  
**45<sup>th</sup> & Orchard Streets – Good Shepherd Hall**

**5:30 – Dinner**

- Pizza/dinner provided by ECCO
- Beverages provided by Tom Madsen & Madsen's Bowling & Billiards

**6:00 – Call to Order – Annual Meeting of ECCO Members – President Paul Johnson**

- Last year's Annual Meeting Minutes – approved
- Introduction of current ECCO Board Members

Name	Term Expires	Name	Term Expires
Robert Bienhoff	2018	Mary Belka	2020
Aaron Bowen	2018	Cec Brady	2020
Rebecca Carr	2018	Tom Madsen	2020
John Hitt	2018	Roy Maurer	2020
Sally Ruggia-Haden	2018	Patti Pierson	2020
Pat Schock	2018	Danielle Shea	2020
Paul Johnson	2019		
Richard Voeltz	2019		

- Introduction of:  
City Council representative from NE Lincoln – Cyndi Lamm  
Clinton Neighborhood Organization – Robert & Gloria Eddins

**President's Report – P. Johnson**

- Thanks to:
  - ✓ Neighborhood volunteers who have helped w/projects throughout the year
  - ✓ Newsletter – need more volunteers – indicate on sheet if you want to help – Newsletter Committee Chair Sally Ruggia-Haden is retiring as Chair
  - ✓ Cec Brady – 33<sup>rd</sup> & Cornhusker project representative
  - ✓ Mary Belka – Parking project
  - ✓ Board Members for their time/service to the neighborhood
- Overview of past year's projects & issues
  - ✓ Spring Neighborhood Clean-up – Patti Pierson, coordinator
    - 940 lbs. metal recycled
    - 190 lbs. Goodwill Challenge items collected
  - ✓ 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade – P. Johnson, coordinator
    - Newspaper & TV coverage
  - ✓ FarmHouse Fraternity – building project completed – open house held
  - ✓ Problem properties resolutions
    - Renovation of Dudley Street property by Bob & Vicki Rokeby completed
    - New neighbors Eric Hunt & Britany Porter built new home @ 1107 North 37<sup>th</sup> Street – replaced former burned home/empty lot
  - ✓ ECCO now on Facebook
  - ✓ East Campus Homecoming Concert – Rebecca Carr
  - ✓ LED Streetlights replacement project – need to adjust lights
  - ✓ ALLO Fiber construction completed – ready for home installation
  - ✓ MoPac Trail vegetation trimming & removable – completed 1-2 months ago to improve visibility and security on trail
  - ✓ Neighborhood break-ins & burglaries – per LPD, most on 33<sup>rd</sup> & 48<sup>th</sup> Streets, from unlocked cars & garages
  - ✓ Neighborhood rental properties – Making certain of compliance w/ordinance allowing max of 3 unrelated persons in 1 R2 property [most single-family dwellings fall into this category]. Contact ECCO via e-mail, if you have any concerns/questions

**Lincoln Police Department Monthly NE Team Report – Captain Martin Fehringer – see copy of printed, detailed report for more information**

- Monthly update of Part 1 crimes – 9 (about average) – all were thefts from motor vehicles or other misdemeanor thefts
- High interest in Permit Parking program as it progresses – to understand any impact on public service officer during dayshift, and officers after 4 PM.

**Treasurer's Report – Roy Maurer – See report provided**

- Annual Budget
  - ✓ Includes Re-tree program in 2019 – Richard Sutton provided update of program, along w/comments from Roy Maurer
    - There are currently no available trees

- There is money in the budget to purchase another batch of trees. Past grant is very strict – for “street” trees only – in public right-of-way – and only specific species allowed. Some money remains for applicable situations. Do not want to use this approach in the future, due to complexity. Requires that we fund it in different ways.
  - We were a little out of sync – not as many species choices were available – people want a wider selection, so need to be sure to choose early. Please sign up if you are interested in a tree, so we can get you the tree you want.
  - Our ECCO membership dues play a very large part in paying for trees – also important to support our few fund-raising events (ECCO Garden Show in June); and purchase note cards – all proceeds go to help with projects like these.
- Annual Dues – currently \$25 – need to continue to expand membership and generate donations, in order to provide trees for Re-tree project, and other good works (Fourth of July Parade, etc.)
- Motion by Lynne Schroeder to approve Treasurer’s report; second by Lisa Sutton – Motion passed unanimously

#### **Election of Board Members – 6 open positions, including those of 4 non-renewing members**

- 4 non-renewing members
  - ✓ Aaron Bowen
  - ✓ Rebecca Carr
  - ✓ John Hitt
  - ✓ Pat Schock
- Slate
  - ✓ Robert Bienhoff                      current member – new term
  - ✓ Sally Ruggia-Haden                  current member – new term
  - ✓ Eric Hunt                                new nomination  
1107 N 37<sup>th</sup>
  - ✓ Teri Ourada-Hubka                  new nomination  
1111 N 38<sup>th</sup>
  - ✓ Doug Gibbs                            new – nomination from the floor
- Motion made & seconded to elect Slate to new 3-year terms – Motion passed unanimously

#### **Old Business – none**

#### **New Business**

- Cyndi Lamm to speak November 8 @ 7:30 PM at New Hope Methodist Church

#### **Business Meeting Adjourned**

#### **Presentation / Q&A Session**

##### **Micki Esposito – Lincoln Public Works & Utilities**

- Crosswalks – Holdrege – changes planned for 2019
  - ✓ Engineering report – 33<sup>rd</sup> to 48<sup>th</sup>
  - ✓ Remove crossing @ 41<sup>st</sup>
  - ✓ Add 2 new crossings @ 40<sup>th</sup> and 42<sup>nd</sup>
  - ✓ 1 year to monitor current Pedestrian X-ings – may add/replace another, depending upon results
  - ✓ RRFP – yellow flashing lights
  - ✓ Sidewalk/ramp access improvements
  - ✓ *Question* – Two years ago, re-striping Holdrege from 48<sup>th</sup> to 40<sup>th</sup> (where west-bound lanes narrow to one) – why not just have two lanes from 48<sup>th</sup> to 33<sup>rd</sup>, with a turn lane – creates too much congestion @ 40<sup>th</sup>, with entrance to UNL, w/current design.  
*Answer* – Biggest issue is 40<sup>th</sup> & 41<sup>st</sup>, as regards crossing. There are some “unknowns” in determining whether or not a turn lane is needed (only turns toward south in that stretch). Also, timing for striping east of 40<sup>th</sup> needs to be considered.
  - ✓ *Question* – UNL has now blocked exit @ 40<sup>th</sup> (entrance still operable).  
*Answer* – City was unaware – will include in study.
  - ✓ *Question* – What about UNL access onto 48<sup>th</sup>, 4 blocks north of Holdrege?  
*Answer* – 2012 Access Management plan showed this, including in plans for East Campus “loop” – nothing came of it. Would be an interruption of traffic flow on 48<sup>th</sup> – unlikely to be approved – may be considered, but has not been submitted at this point, to her knowledge.
  - ✓ *Question* – Drivers do not stop for current X-ings – definitely do not stop at unmarked X-ing areas. Recent rear-end collision @ Idylwild – driver who had stopped for pedestrian was struck. Some even try to go around stopped vehicles, and “race” @ 40<sup>th</sup> lane merge area, further endangering pedestrians. Suggestion has been made in the past to consider slowing Holdrege to 25MPH from 48<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> (where it slows to 25MPH). Clinton School between 27<sup>th</sup> & 33<sup>rd</sup>; UNL from 33<sup>rd</sup> to 48<sup>th</sup>. This has been done on 48<sup>th</sup> – a more major arterial than Holdrege – in Uni Place (Wesleyan) and Union College areas – would City consider 25MPH here?  
*Answer* – This is an arterial speed zone that would require scientific study – would have to be studied and supported. This can’t be arbitrarily changed, without taking State & Federal laws into consideration. It also may not produce the desired outcome, if a study were to be undertaken.

- ✓ *Question – Comment* – distracted driving is also a concern.
- ✓ *Question* – Where could we see the study on line – when was the most recent study done? Whom would we talk to, to find out how to go about getting a study done? Is it on InterLinc?  
*Answer* – The study is likely not on line, as it was done prior to studies being put on line – likely not on InterLinc; however, it is a public document and she is happy to share/update it. You likely need to request it – your City Council representative (Cyndi Lamm) can also help.
- ✓ *Question* – What components would be included?  
*Answer* – Intersections/corridor-based study (not point-by-point) – for instance: # of cars, buses, pedestrians, bicycles, speed information, etc.
- ✓ *Question* – Richard Sutton – Traffic engineers need to realize – the emphasis is not just on moving autos. He pointed out that when he lived in Clinton neighborhood, the report said – in writing – “School children need to learn how to ‘shoot the gaps’ between vehicles.”  
*Answer* – Micki [horrified to hear this example] said this is no longer true – pedestrians and bicycles are all now considered, in moving people around neighborhoods – not just autos. Accommodating *all* users = “transportation”.
- ✓ *Question – Comment* – It is important to note and take into consideration w/any study, that we will likely have more traffic due to 33<sup>rd</sup> & Cornhusker project, until it is complete; then we need to see what the long-term impact might be as well.
- **“Green Light Lincoln”**
  - ✓ Normal/Antelope; Downtown; Highway 2; 84<sup>th</sup> Street; Cornhusker Highway; etc.
- **Cardboard recycling** has now doubled
- **Smartphone applications** for getting/giving information
  - ✓ Waze – construction delays, etc.
  - ✓ UPLNK – snow removal, potholes, streetlights, etc. Tracks your location – you can send a photo, check status of issues, etc. Also on City website.
    - Sidewalks, other issues, may take time – issues can be re-opened
  - ✓ *Question – Comment* – Response very good from the City.
  - ✓ *Question* – Right turn on red – is it true that “if a light is on a pole” you cannot turn?  
*Answer* – There is no “pole” component to her knowledge; OK to turn, unless a specific sign indicates it is prohibited
  - ✓ *Question* – Does Public Works coordinate w/City Campus to maximize street cleaning?  
*Answer* – Great idea! She will take it back to her group for consideration
  - ✓ *Question* – 37<sup>th</sup> & Apple to Holdrege – could there be temporary “no parking” signs, in order to have streets properly cleaned? Because they are so parked in Monday – Friday, our streets don’t get properly cleaned.
  - ✓ *Answer* – Again, she will bring to her group. [Note: Permit Parking solution may resolve this.]

#### Wayne Mixdorf – City of Lincoln Legal Department – Permit Parking project

- Outgrowth of 10 years’ work by ECCO, working with Chris Jackson @ UNL; City; Mayor’s Office; and LPD. Chris suggested we try to implement a pilot program – discovered it is not possible without an ordinance in place. Past two years, working through Cyndi Lamm to develop an ordinance, in order to move forward.
- Myriad issues discussed over the years
- Mixdorf provided “Potential Residential Parking Permit Program” document for review
  - ✓ Study of Madison, WI (similar college town); Ann Arbor, MD, and other venues with commonalities to Lincoln
  - ✓ Community has to ask for the program, once established – formal application process will be created
  - ✓ District has to have defined boundaries in the community; blocks must be contiguous
  - ✓ Permits – system would likely be mostly digital – have to identify registered permit holders for Parking enforcement
  - ✓ Breaking down components – it’s new here
    - Pilot
    - Survey [much of this has already been done – some formally by UNL] – perception vs. reality of “problem”
    - Correct signage
    - Students/educators/faculty currently parking in residential areas
    - Council vote – would need community support to get the ordinance passed
    - Every district wanting this, would have to go separately through the City Council, once the ordinance is passed
    - There are many who are watching – ECCO has the opportunity to be the first to go through the process
  - ✓ M. Belka provided an update of all that has transpired the past 10 years in working on this issue
    - 800 parking spaces go empty every day @ East Campus – UNL is very much in favor of limiting parking around East Campus residential area.
    - 95%+ of UNL students have at least one car on campus – some have two.
    - Suggestion made to increase fees to include parking; this would be up to UNL, and would require Regents to vote on such a proposal. Also, proposal provided to UNL over years, to increase fees to include free parking for faculty
    - Inconsistent parking “solutions” throughout the neighborhood
    - Don’t want to simply push issue to other areas, including Clinton neighborhood (NET Parking especially an issue for them)
  - ✓ *Question* – Does the permit do away with “no parking” areas on those streets w/parking only on one side?  
*Answer* – This would likely not be changed – those streets that don’t allow parking on one side, would likely remain the same. The program would not change existing laws/rules, except the area in question – changing current parking to the

residential Permit approach. This would be determined ultimately, by Traffic Engineering. Would work with W. Mixdorf, once we start down this path.

- ✓ *Question* – Comment – There is no room for fire trucks, ambulances, traffic, when parking is allowed on both sides – this was changed in some areas – remains tight in others, where the parking has not been resolved vis-à-vis parking on both sides of the street. The same rules apply as regards 67% of property owners having to support any change [like on Apple Street, several years back.]
- ✓ *Question* – Aren't we in essence, setting up two classes of people? Students/others who have a right to use public streets vs. Residents? Is this a constitutional issue?  
*Answer* – An argument to this effect has been made in the past, and the precedent has gone to the U. S. Supreme Court, coming down on the side of Government being able to treat people differently – unless they are in a “protected” class, and being discriminated against strictly due to that classification (for instance, age, gender, race, etc.). This would not be a problem, as this issue has already been made and resolved, at the highest level.
- ✓ *Question* – What is the timeline, if all goes well?  
*Answer* – If we start now, at “ground zero”, the goal is to have this in place by next school year – August 2019. Having the neighborhood very much in favor of this, would expedite.
- ✓ *Question* – What is the estimated cost of permits?  
*Answer* – No specifics at this point – but Mixdorf's research/experience is that usually the residents receive “x” number of permits at a modest fee. There may be more of a charge for “visitor” permits. Contractors may be covered with an annual fee, if regularly in the neighborhood. Businesses located in the neighborhood would also be eligible, if applicable in the boundary area.
- ✓ *Question* – Is this our only option?  
*Answer* – No – could be something different – in the very beginning stages, until research is completed. Known components also include signage, fraternity parking [fortunately, AGR and FH have recently increased to current code of .75 x number of residents], etc.
- Wayne's question – are we moving in the right direction? Do you think there is a “parking problem”? Show of hands was overwhelmingly “yes”. A legitimate problem exists – primarily M-F from 7:30 – 4:30 PM. Zone can meet the necessary criteria. For instance, Tampa, FL has a bar/restaurant district where the parking issue is from 5:00 PM – 2:00 AM. Program can be tailored to the specific situation.
  - ✓ *Question* – Comment – Evening UNL classes can also be an issue.
- Wayne's comment – Fraternities may have different time tables, for instance in the evening or on weekends, for certain events.
  - ✓ *Question* – Would increased enforcement help? What is current level of citations?  
*Answer* – 4,000 citations annually on average – one of the most “contested ticket” areas, due to complexity/inconsistency in parking iterations throughout the neighborhood. Best to write citations based on current ordinances; however, the problem exists, regardless of enforcement. Again, need the ordinance changed for proper authority – then proper enforcement. Biggest issues confined to particular districts w/in the neighborhood. Not a great problem south of Orchard/Idylwild, or east of 43<sup>rd</sup>; or west of 30<sup>th</sup>; need to see how far north the issues extend. Some areas where there are many apartments add to the congestion. Technology will also help.
- Wayne's comment – Cyndi Lamm is taking an active interest on the Council – UNL must also be involved [should not be an issue, as they have been in the process all along, are in agreement with it, and had the idea for the pilot approach.]

#### **Next Meeting**

- ECCO Board Meeting – Thursday, November 8 @ 6:30 PM @ New Hope Methodist Church
- Lincoln City Council member for NE Lincoln – Cyndi Lamm to speak @ ECCO General Membership Meeting Thursday, November 8 @ 7:30 PM @ New Hope Methodist Church

Respectfully submitted by M. Belka