

Benton Park West Neighborhood Association Membership Meeting

Five Star Senior Center, 2832 Arsenal

Thursday, July 16, 2015

Attendance: 33

Board

- President – Linda Hennigh, Present
 - Vice President – Becky Martinez, Absent
 - Secretary – Scott McIntosh, Present
 - Treasurer – Frank Becker, Present
 - Member At-Large – Dan Geary, Present
 - Member At-Large – Roz Ball, Present
1. Call to order – 7:04 pm
 2. Review and approve May and June meeting minutes – Dan Geary moves, Libby Martin seconds, passes
 3. Review of June Board meeting minutes
 4. Review and approve May and June Treasurer’s Report – Dan Geary moves, Stephanie McKinney seconds, passes
 5. Review 2015 Budget
 6. Guest Speaker: Deputy Fire Chief Mike Arras
 - a. Bond regarding fire department
 - i. Fleet is over 14 years old, which is beyond the national standard
 - ii. Staff and specialized vehicles would also be replaced;
 1. Current staff vehicles are over 155,000 miles
 2. 12 ladder trucks and 6 hook & ladder trucks
 - iii. Repair shop is Metro Bus Garage and they are dropping their contract with the fire department – must get a new place
 - iv. Newest firehouse was built in 1973, most built before 1929. 70% need new roofs or are too small for modern fire trucks
 - v. Side Note (question by Linda): Why fire trucks are sent for 911 calls. Answer: because there are more fire trucks than ambulances, so faster response rate.
 - b. On August 4 ballot
 7. Visitors and New Members
 - a. Emily Timmerman, 3300 block of Nebraska
 - b. Marlowe Dugger, 2700 block of Arsenal, 2 years in the neighborhood, first time to NA meeting
 8. District 3 Community Outreach Officer: Pat Clancy, 314-444-2564, pmclancy@slmpd.org
 - a. Crime Report
 - i. Crime is still trending up
 - ii. Burglaries: Made arrests on burglary where the man damaged the house camera
 - iii. Call right away if there is crime you know to be happening
 - iv. Graffiti – CSB will have Operation Brightside remove from private residences
 1. If tuck pointing is bad, Operation Brightside won’t remove it
 2. If owner doesn’t get the graffiti removed, they may be fined for illegal signage

9. Neighborhood Stabilization Officer – Dena Hibbard, 314-657-1359, hibbardd@stlouis-mo.gov
 - a. Nuisance Property
 - i. You must call 911 to get a property on the nuisance property list
 - ii. Each call to 911 counts to get it on the list
 - iii. Always give the street address of the problem property, NOT your own
 - b. 2800 block of Iowa
 - i. Problem property, vacant parking lot where multiple calls for service have happened
 - ii. Property owners are responding to the nuisance property letters
 - iii. Will sit down to review the situation with the owners to get the issues resolved
 - c. Tenth Life Cat Rescue
 - i. Don't have a commercial dumpster and are using the City dumpster
 - ii. Will turn into the Trash Task Force for investigation and possible warning
10. 9th Ward Alderman – Ken Ortmann
 - a. Five Star Senior Center's Cool Down
 - i. Wed, August 12 at 10 am
 - ii. Fundraiser to give fans or AC to seniors who need it
 - b. City Services
 - i. Any problems with these services, let Ken know
 - ii. Dumpsters without bottoms or lids, let Ken or NSO know
 - iii. Forestry – grass not getting mowed; notify Ken and let him know if it's vacant
 - c. Bond Issue
 - i. Tuesday, August 4 ballot
 - ii. Real estate taxes will pay for the bond
 - iii. Biggest issue (Ken's opinion) is the fire department's needs
 - d. Beer and Pretzel Fundraiser (Ken)
 - i. Friday, August 14
 - ii. Gus' Pretzels
11. St. Louis Library: Tonya Joy, Barr Branch
 - a. Over-Due Forgiveness Event – drop off canned food item to get
 - b. 150th anniversary of library system, Ted Drewes' orange freeze is in honor of the libraries and is available until Sept 30; zero proceeds go to the libraries
 - c. Sept 5-October 18 is the author Maurice (Where the Wild Things Are) exhibit at the Central Library, Carnaghi Room
12. Cherokee Station Business Association Liaison, Anne McCullough
 - a. New Businesses
 - i. Guardian Angel Settlement House's Angel Boutique, Cherokee will open in July
 - ii. Bridge Bread on Cherokee is opening July 17
 - iii. Flowers & Weeks is holding an opening party July 17
 - iv. Johnnie Walkers San Loo, 3211 Cherokee,
 1. Open for business
 2. Back patio is open
 3. Red Guitar Bakery is making pizzas a few nights a week for the bar
13. Upcoming Events
 - a. Fair St. Louis results
 - i. Thanks to volunteers for working the beer booth

- ii. These fundraisers support BPWNA initiatives such as Five Star's Cool Down, Easter Eggstravaganza (youth events), beautification (corner pots), gardens (Jefferson @ Arsenal), newsletter, website, etc.
 - b. National Night Out
 - i. Tues, August 4
 - ii. Blocks need to register by July 22 to get your street closed
 - iii. Neighbor event to take back the night and fight crime
 - c. Cherokee Neighborhoods Happy Hour
 - i. Thurs, July 23 @ 6-8 pm
 - ii. Iowa Buffet, 2727 Iowa
 - iii. Wear your BPW t-shirt
 - d. Gravois Park Clean Up
 - i. Sat, August 1 @ 9 am
 - ii. Park, 3200 Potomac
 - iii. Pull weeds, mulch, and pick up litter
 - e. 10 Minute Litter Challenge
 - i. Take 10 minutes a day to pick up litter on your block
 - ii. If your neighbors are doing your block, pick an adjacent block
 - iii. Will keep neighborhood looking nice and brings up property value
- 14. Prizes
 - a. Attendance Prizes
 - i. Sunflower Wreath: Emily Timmerman
 - ii. Porch candleholder: Stephanie McKinney
 - iii. Argentine Wine: Scott McIntosh
 - b. 50/50: \$25 won by Paul Jolly
- 15. Adjournment – Chris Schmidt moves, Stephanie McKinney seconds, passes at 8:15 pm