

## Benton Park West Board Meeting

February 8, 2022

7pm

### *Members present:*

Erin Godwin, President

Brennan England, Vice President

Linda Hennigh, Treasurer

ChrisSchmidt, Secretary

Marit Lau, Member at Large

Kathryn Turbin, Member at Large

Gwynne Jackson, Membership Chair

Sarah Pearl, Dog Park Chair

### *Guest:*

Tom Pini

The meeting was called to order at 7:13.

We started by reviewing the 2022 **yearly budget**. Erin pointed out that we are optimistic about fundraising, particularly from memberships. The budget includes \$500 for general donations, and \$2000 for general memberships since we're revamping the membership levels and system. Brennan will help establish the needs for hybrid meetings. Garden memberships are zeroed out for this year since it's a source of uncertainty this year. We are hopeful the dog park will be increasing membership with the decline of Covid. There are a lot of options for things to give away with memberships. Event sponsorships are scheduled for \$1000 overall. These include for the dog park, movie nights, the Egg Hunt, Hallowee. T-shirts could bring in \$250. There is \$450 budgeted for communications, mostly for printing. Meeting packets, membership forms and other regular printing will be done for free at the public library. Signage is \$445 because the dog park sign needs to be replaced and we also need signs for the Gravois Garden and monthly clean up signs. Website maintenance for our domain and Wix account are \$456. Google workspace is under \$20/ month and replaces our

Dropbox account. Sarah believes she can stretch \$250 for dog park event costs. \$650 for the Easter Eggstravaganza includes money to hire a Spanish interpreter as well as candy, eggs etc. There is \$100 dedicated to National Night Out and \$150 for St. Francis Cabrini events. Trunk or Treat and Movie Nights have no money dedicated since we have supplies from last year and will not be hosting Trunk or Treat this year, in favor of other events in the neighborhood. \$50 will go for a traveling Trophy for the Yard Decorating Contest.

As far as income is concerned, Fair St Louis is not a sure thing yet this year. We do have hopes to sell T-Shirts and additional membership items to increase memberships. We plan to donate money to community organizations and 5 Star, as well as SLACO membership and possibly the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce or the International Institute.

Facilities expenses include insurance, capital improvements at the dog park (tree and hedge trimming) and gardens. Miscellaneous items, the Post Office Box annual fee and credit card fees finish it out. Total Facilities expenses total \$2830. Even with the optimistic fundraising we will be about \$1700 in the hole.

We discussed having a table at Cinco de Mayo, which would cost \$150 for the booth plus evergreen expenses. We can use it for memberships, Dog Park memberships, and a survey about what people want from the neighborhood association. Tom Pini is available as a DJ if we're interested and allowed to include music from our table. This addition would put us at about \$1900 in the hole, which would have to come from the Money Market account. The board voted and approved the 2022 budget.

Erin explained the Monday.com app, which is a place where reminders for things to do for the neighborhood can be found. There is no new membership or Dog Park information. The Easter Eggstravaganza planning has been begun by Kristen Petty of Gravois Park. Marit made a motion to adjourn. Chris Schmidt seconded. Passed. We adjourned at 8:27pm.