

## Benton Park West Neighborhood Association Membership Meeting

Five Star Senior Center, 2832 Arsenal

Thursday, February 18, 2016

Attendance: 37

### Board

- President – Linda Hennigh, Present
- Vice President – Scott McIntosh, Present
- Secretary, Libby Martin, Absent
- Treasurer – Frank Becker, Present
- Member At-Large – Dan Geary, Present
- Member At-Large – Marlowe Dugger, Absent

1. Call to order – 7:03 pm
2. Review and approve meeting minutes – moves, Dan Geary, passes
3. Review of Board meeting minutes
4. Review and approve Treasurer's Report – Dan Geary moves, Chris Schmidt seconds, passes
5. Review 2016 Budget and approval – Pam Welsh moves, Connie Petty seconds, passes
6. Visitors and New Members
  - a. Renewals
    - i. Gravois Park Block Link Neighborhood Association
    - ii. Chris Schmidt
  - b. Darren Young, Urban Mission Center, lives in the neighborhood for 4 years
  - c. Gigi?
7. District 3 Community Outreach Officer: Pat Clancy, 314-444-2564, pmclancy@slmpd.org
  - a. Larcenies – up to 19 incidents (mostly license plate thefts)
  - b. Tagging/Graffiti is up all over the City; many of the taggers are from out of town
  - c. Packages stolen off porches, send any surveillance footage if you have it
8. Neighborhood Stabilization Officer – Barb Potts or Dena Hibbard, 314-657-1359, hibbardd@stlouis-mo.gov
  - a. Back in the 9<sup>th</sup> Ward
  - b. Has been checking alleys
  - c. Thank You for support after loss of Randy (boyfriend)
9. 9<sup>th</sup> Ward Alderman – Ken Ortmann
  - a. Street Trees and 50/50 Sidewalk Plan
    - i. Capitol meeting coming up to set aside dollars for this
    - ii. If you're interested, please get on the lists now
    - iii. Sidewalks, you need to sign the letter and send it back
  - b. Earnings Tax
    - i. April 5 vote
    - ii. Very important; 60% of earnings tax are from people who don't live within the city
    - iii. Tax pays for City services (police, fire, etc) and parks (forestry, etc)
  - c. Grant for Cameras
    - i. Relocate Street Department camera monitoring to the Police Dept's Central Headquarters

- ii. 20% matching funds from the City; \$250 by Police for 2 years; Downtown Partnership is paying the same and another \$10 from another group
    - d. Board Bill 296
      - i. Urban Farming Bill
      - ii. Increasing the allotment of chickens and other farm animals on lots
      - iii. In the Public Safety Division; not Public Health
      - iv. If there's a public meeting, there will be 24 hour notice
      - v. If someone has roosters, they are illegal
        - 1. Contact CSBA
        - 2. Notify Alderman
    - e. RFP on LRA Properties
      - i. RFP on Jefferson/Arsenal (current Community Garden)
        - 1. No movement
        - 2. BPW Housing Corp would vet any proposals
        - 3. Would like to see more residents attend the meetings
      - ii. Several projects are nearing completion on Arsenal, Ohio, and Texas
    - f. Bond Issue
      - i. Exhibit A
      - ii. \$25 million dollar
      - iii. Most of what was on the last bond issue
      - iv. Very needed items for the City; police, fire, and building division
10. St. Louis Library: Tonya Joy, Barr Branch – Absent
11. Cherokee Station Business Association Liaison, Anne McCullough – Absent
  - a. Took a vote to purchase the LRA lot on Cherokee at Nebraska
    - i. Will make a public park
    - ii. Looking at grants
    - iii. Will keep basketball hoops
12. Upcoming Events and Committee Reports
  - a. Gateway Rivers Greening
    - i. Survey about bike and walking trails
    - ii. Can do paper survey or visit their site
    - iii. On bentonparkwest.org under the Blog
  - b. Cherokee Neighborhoods Happy Hour
    - i. Thurs, Feb 25 at STL Taco Truck from 6-8 pm
    - ii. Opportunity build community and get to know residents in surrounding neighborhoods
  - c. Gravois Park – Kaboom Playground
    - i. Grant approved to replace the playground next to the pavilion
    - ii. Don't have a date yet, but will get 6-8 weeks notice
    - iii. Will need 100 volunteers
    - iv. Will be a huge event with lots of press
    - v. Free food, drink, t-shirts, and other fun items
  - d. Dog Park Work Day and Opening
    - i. Work day is Sat, March 19 at 9 am
    - ii. Opening is Sat, April 9 at 10 am
    - iii. Volunteers are welcome!
  - e. Upcoming fundraiser opportunities
    - i. Raise dollars to pay for neighborhood programs, improvements, etc.

- ii. Look for Sign-up Genius to volunteer for these opportunities
        - 1. Cinco de Mayo
        - 2. IndiHop
        - 3. Fair St. Louis
        - 4. Oktoberfest
    - f. Easter Eggstravaganza
      - i. Saturday, March 26 at 10 am in Gravois Park
      - ii. Seeking volunteers
      - iii. Help line up for egg hunt
      - iv. Help kids color eggs, do temp tattoos, give away
    - g. Police Officers of the Month
      - i. Thurs, April 7, doors at 11 am, lunch at 12 noon, The Chase Park Plaza
      - ii. Contact Police Officer to purchase a ticket or pay for an officer to attend
    - h. Rev. Paula Cooper, Curby Church, Utah @ Texas
      - i. Family Movie night at the church
      - ii. Friday, Feb 19 at 7 pm, 2621 Utah
      - iii. Free, family friendly with food and drinks
    - i. Salvation Army
      - i. Fundraiser selling homemade laundry detergent
      - ii. \$3 a bottle
      - iii. Can stop by the Salvation Army to buy
      - iv. Accepting gallon milk jugs to recycle
    - j. March NA Meeting
      - i. Have asked the Mayor to have someone come to the meeting to discuss the Earnings Tax
      - ii. Will ask about California Donuts for update on opening
13. Prizes
- a. Attendance Prizes
    - i. Bag Chair – Shelly Veres
    - ii. Green Towels – Carrie Sleep
    - iii. Solar Lighted Bird Bath – Sara Johnson
  - b. 50/50 - \$24 to Karen Becker
14. Adjournment – Chris Schmidt moves, Stephanie McKinney seconds, passes at 8:08 pm