

Benton Park West Neighborhood Association Membership Meeting

January 19, 2017
Five Star Senior Center, 2832 Arsenal
Called to order by Scott McIntosh at 7:04 pm

- 1) **Board Members**
 - a) **President** - Scott McIntosh: Present
 - b) **Vice President** - Alison Hillman: Present
 - c) **Secretary** - Liz Gerard: Present
 - d) **Treasurer** - Frank Becker: Present
 - e) **Member At-Large** - Jason Hillman: Present
 - f) **Member At-Large** - Eddie Schmid: Present
 - g) **Membership** - Karen Becker: Present
 - h) **Communications** - Scott McIntosh: Present
 - i) **Facilities** – Bill Byrd: Present
 - j) **Dog Park** – Jeni Poole: Present
 - k) **Safety** – Dan Geary: Present

- 2) **Mayoral candidate Alderwoman Lyda Krewson**
 - a) Lyda opened the meeting with a brief presentation about her campaign platform, prioritizing the need for improved neighborhood safety and more law enforcement
 - b) Spoke of recent City accomplishments, including the retention of the NGA and Northside redevelopment
 - c) Q&A session followed. Lyda answered questions about equality and claimed to support a Metrolink expansion

- 3) **Review of December 12, 2016 and January 9, 2017 board meeting minutes:** Jan moves to accept, ChrisSchmidt seconds. Passes.

- 4) **Review of December Treasurer’s report:** DanGeary moves to accept, Chris Schmidt seconds. Passes.

- 5) **Review of proposed 2017 budget**

- 6) **Presentation by 9th Ward Alderman Candidate Dan Guenther**
 - a) Dan spoke for 10 minutes about his aldermanic campaign.
 - b) Neighborhood engagement, TIF reform and transparency about City finances were key issues
 - c) Explained why residents feel disenfranchised and the need to increase neighborhood engagement

- 7) **Visitors and New Members**
 - a) Renewal for Shirley Wallace and Bill Byrd

- 8) **Community Outreach Officer Pat Clancy (314-444-2564 pmclancy@slmpd.org):** Discussion about crime trends in the neighborhood

- a) In 2016, overall crime in Benton Park West dropped by 22%
- b) Significantly fewer burglaries and vehicle thefts were reported
- c) The City's homicide rate was the same as 2015
- d) Several concerns raised about vehicle thefts in concentrated areas

9) Neighborhood Stabilization Officer Barb Potts: pottsb@stlouis-mo.gov

- a) Spoke about ways to prevent vehicle thefts. Do not leave valuables in cars. It's not necessary to "warm up" your engine
- b) Abandoned vehicles have a negative impact on neighborhood appearance and morale

10) Barb filling in for Alderman Ken Ortmann

- a) Construction of real time cameras will begin February 1st
- b) The 9th ward has one of the highest rates of new construction and development in the City
- c) Comments raised concerns about the need for smaller developers with social and financial roots in the neighborhood

11) Cherokee Station Business Association Liaison: Absent

- a) Cherokee Street Community Improvement District (CID) was approved

12) Tonya Joy – Library Lady

- a) The library's server was hacked for ransom today (January 19). The FBI is involved in an investigation
- b) No evidence that personal information has been compromised
- c) All library locations are still open
- d) February is Black History Month. Event on February 12th at 2:00 pm

13) Upcoming events and committee reports

- a) Proposed 2017 calendar is reviewed and included in packet
- b) Community survey is wrapping up. Paper copies are distributed
- c) Several court cases coming up

14) Adjournment: Stephanie McKinney moves to adjourn, Dan Geary seconds. Meeting adjourns at 8:27 pm