

## Benton Park West Neighborhood Association Membership Meeting

Five Star Senior Center, 2832 Arsenal

Thursday, February 15, 2018

Attendance: 41

### Board

- President – Scott McIntosh, Present
  - Vice President – Alison Hillman, Absent
  - Secretary – Ashtyn Baldas, Present
  - Treasurer – John Simons, Present
  - Member At-Large – Tim Turner, Present
  - Member At-Large – Jason Hillman, Present
1. Call to order – 7:06 pm
  2. Review and approve **January** meeting minutes –
    - a. Jason Hillman moves,
    - b. Tim Turner seconds, passes
  3. Review of **February** Board meeting minutes
  4. Review and approve February Treasurer’s Report and 2018 draft budget – Ashtyn Baldas moves, Stephanie McKinney seconds, passes
  5. Visitors and New Members
    - a. New Members:
      - i. Joe and Kenzie moved in 3600 block of Nebraska
  6. Guest Speaker: **Phillip Grippi**, Building Inspector II, Department of Public Safety, City of St. Louis
    - a. Was a Union Carpenter for a while. He’s been a lot of commercial and residential construction. Moved over to our ward a few months ago.
    - b. He’s here for everyone. He wants people to know that he isn’t a bad guy; he’s here to help us all.
    - c. His job is to make sure the houses are safe.
    - d. Buildings, trash, prostitutes, crime, downed trees – you can call the CSB.
      - i. You can make multiple complaints and things will happen.
    - e. Best way to contact him is by email.
    - f. Occupancy permits
      - i. He is able to look into occupancy permits. Occupancy inspections are valid for 12 months.
      - ii. He will go through history to verify things add up, but needs us to work with him too. In order for him to do anything he needs a CSB complaint filed.
      - iii. He will send out a survey to see if people are in the home – these are time sensitive. If he doesn’t hear from them for 30 days, then he has to condemn the house.
  7. Upcoming Events and Committee reports:
    - a. Students Today Leaders Forever volunteers; Sunday, February 18 @ 10 am – 12 pm
      - i. Over 100 HS students and chaperones in our neighborhood.
        1. 65 are going to the Salvation Army in the afternoon.
        2. 40 HS students are coming to Love Bank Park.
          - a. Some of the groups will clean up litter.

- b. Others might be passing out flyers for meetings and upcoming events.
    - ii. All are welcome to help.
  - b. Proposed programs for 2018
    - i. Neon Yellow signs on tables help people understand how to get involved in the different committees. You can get involved as little or as much as you like.
  - c. BPW Committee and Volunteers
  - d. Cardinals Game
    - i. Sunday April 8, 2018 Cardinals Game
      - 1. \$15/ticket.
        - a. Get a hot dog and soda
        - b. 16 and over get a Cardinals half zip pullover
        - c. Money needs to be turned in by the next neighborhood meeting.
          - i. Can give any form of payment.
          - ii. Can send money to PO Box 18671
- e. Easter Eggstravaganza – Volunteers Needed
  - i. March 31<sup>st</sup> at Gravois Park from 10 AM – 12 PM
  - ii. Need people who are willing to take over many different roles, including but not limited to:
    - 1. Craft Table
    - 2. Prize Booth
    - 3. Easter Egg hunt
  - iii. Any amount of time donated helps and will be greatly appreciated.
  - iv. Egg Stuffing Party
    - 1. March 28<sup>th</sup>
  - v. Feel free to Contact Darren Youn if interested
- f. Camera Survey + Neighborhood Cameras
  - i. Surveys are on the table
    - 1. Please give the kind of camera you have and why you have them and location of where they are on your home.
  - ii. If you do have a camera already and do not mind turning your video over if a crime happens near your home to the police, please let Chris Schmidt know so that she can add your name to the Camera List.
- g. Court Watch
  - i. N/A
- h. Panera Fundraiser
  - i. March 22, 2018 from 4-8 pm in Soulard, S. 7<sup>th</sup> St
    - 1. MUST show the flyer or a digital copy of the flyer, BPW will receive 20% of the sales will be donated to the BPWNA
    - 2. You are also able to order online during that time frame by typing in the word “FUND” and we will still get credit.
    - 3. Save the date, invite your neighbors, have everyone come.
    - 4. Save the graphic from BPW’s facebook page to your own personal FB page.
- i. Give St. Louis Day
  - 1. In May, we have been accepted to participate in this.
  - 2. MORE details to come next month!

3. Looking at having a fundraising idea of having banners on light poles letting people know they are in Benton Park West.
  - j. Fair St. Louis
    - i. On the Arch Grounds
    - ii. July 4, 6, 7
      1. First choice is July 7 to work the beer booths
      2. Second choice is July 6
    - iii. Last year this was our biggest fundraiser. We appreciate everyone coming out and supporting us.
  - k. Business Sponsorship
    - i. Food sampling from the area
    - ii. Attendance prize donations from shops in the area
    - iii. Donations from employers etc to help cover the costs are also appreciated. There is a sponsorship form that is on our website and provided to business associations on Cherokee Street.
    - iv. First donation came in tonight from Sara Vermillion from Clinique.
  - l. Block Links
    - i. Bill Byrd has passed out the newsletter packet for block link leaders
    - ii. If certain streets do not have a block link and someone is interested to help, please let Bill Byrd or Chris Schmidt know.
8. 9<sup>th</sup> Ward Alderman – Dan Guenther
- a. Getting together with a Developer to put a bid in on 10 LRA properties
    - i. NextEra STL
    - ii. Ben Myers is the developer
    - iii. Feb. 28 is the hearing
    - iv. A lot of houses on Utah
      1. 2704 and 2716 are salvageable
      2. The others which are leaners will probably not be saved
  - b. Tree Planting
    - i. Forestry has not provided a schedule for
    - ii. Emerald Ash board is going through the city treating the trees that can hopefully be saved, but are on full on removal after they have saved the trees they can.
      1. They will be 100% on board with this.
      2. Won't be able to get street trees on the block until the Fall 2018.
      3. Reach out to Dan or Stephanie McKinney for this push in the Fall of 2018 if you want a street tree.
  - c. Upcoming Events
    - i. New Police chief and Public Safety Director – Looking at possibly March 29 to have a 9<sup>th</sup> ward “Meet the Chief” event from 6:30 pm at 3311 Pennsylvania (Last Days Apostolic Church).
    - ii. Board Bill
      1. Last week that they can present new board bills to get them through committee.
      2. Air Port Privatization – Passed out resolution #220. The board of alderman will have more oversight in this whole process. A lot more transparency on how the process works; the mayor's office is letting them know they are at the beginning of a 2 to 3 year study. The proposal will eventually study whether a privatization will be a good

thing or a bad thing. This is not going to be something that is rushed through. If you are against this, please feel free to call the Mayor and everyone else you can, let these individuals know. Make your voice heard.

3. Board Bill 241 and 242 were introduced last week
4. Nuisance and Problem Property owners will give the office who help resolve these places do more to make sure that the corporations are held accountable for the delinquency.
5. Horse drawn carriages being banned is dead in committee.
6. May 11<sup>th</sup>, Angel Boutique, is having a spring into angels boutique spring into fashion show.
  - a. Looking for people to help them with changing over from winter line to spring line.
  - b. Looking for people to help be models.
7. Whiskey Ring
  - a. Hearing coming up. They're having a hearing for a summer patio/garden.
8. Cherokee Station Business Meeting
  - a. Indihop is now June 2, 2018
9. District 3 Community Outreach Officer: Pat Clancy, 314-444-2564, pmclancy@slmpd.org
  - a. Crime Report
    - i. Violent Crimes and Robberies were the main crimes last year.
      1. Robberies are down 33% from last year
      2. Assaults are down
    - ii. Theft / Larceny
      1. Have 13 so far this year.
        - a. 4 of 13 are motor vehicle parts
        - b. 8 car thefts
          - i. Possibly attributed to warming cars up without people being in it
      2. REMEMBER TO NOT LEAVE ITEMS IN THE CAR IN VISIBLE SIGHT.
    - iii. 31 crimes so far this year. However our more serious crimes are down from last year.
    - iv. Burglaries
      1. One was a former tenant
      2. The other was a domestic incident
    - v. Central Patrol Community Outreach meeting
      1. Thursday, March 8, @ 7 PM
      2. Five Star Senior Center
      3. Chief Haden will have a meeting at
10. Neighborhood Stabilization Officer – Barb Potts, 314-397-1091
  - a. Crime that has victims that prosecute have gone down.
    - i. A lot of violent crime is happening that is going unreported
    - ii. Primarily juvenile crime
      1. Not putting them in the system is doing them even more of a disservice and the people around them a disservice too. This puts others in harms way.

2. Juveniles are wielding guns, beating people up, and getting away with it. Because they aren't reprimanded for their actions, they're continuing to do it.
  3. A DJO named Juan Rios has taken some of the worst offending kids and turned them around – he can't help these kids without having them in the system.
  4. If you know anybody who has suffered or been a victim of these crimes, PLEASE talk to Barb or the police, and ask these individuals them to help and report the crimes so that people are no longer hurt or potentially hurt.
- b. Conservation Permits
    1. STL Permits – So far everyone who has given her addresses to check out, each one has had valid occupancy permits.
    2. Unless you let someone know, such as Dan or Barb, they don't know to look the properties up.
    3. If the utility is in the name of the owner that could potentially be a way to get past a conservation inspection. Both Ameren and Spire report if there has been a change in names when they occur.
  - c. Spring Cleaning – Saturday April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2018 is the alley clean up. Barb is going to try to get the dumpster from Brightside.
    - a. We will need pickup trucks to help move bulk material out.
  - d. Shot Spotter
    1. It is VERY important that if you hear shots fired, CALL IT IN.
    2. We do have shot spotter in BPW.
  - e. Call the NSO and Alderman every time you call about a nuisance property
11. Cherokee Station Business Association Liaison, Anne McCullough
- a. New Businesses
    - i. N/A
12. Upcoming Events
- a. N/A
13. Prizes
- a. Attendance Prizes
    - i. Barb Potts – Moisturizer
    - ii. Mascara
    - iii. Cleaners
    - iv. Mini Photos March 10 or 11<sup>th</sup>
      1. Bill Byrd
  - b. 50/50: \$40 won by Marie Castillo
14. Adjournment – Jason Hilman moves, Alison Hilman seconds, passes at 8:08 pm