

Benton Park West Neighborhood Association Membership Meeting

Five Star Senior Center, 2832 Arsenal

Thursday, March 15, 2018

Attendance: 31

Board

- President – Scott McIntosh, Present
 - Vice President – Alison Hillman, Absent
 - Secretary – Ashtyn Baldas, Present
 - Treasurer – John Simons, Present
 - Member At-Large – Tim Thomas, Present
 - Member At-Large – Jason Hillman, Present
1. Call to order – 7:05 pm
 2. Review and approve **February** meeting minutes –
 - a. Mike Schmidt moves,
 - b. Amy Simon seconds, passes
 3. Review of **February** Board meeting minutes
 4. Review and approve March's Treasurer's Report and proposed 2018 budget –
 - a. Mike Schmidt moves,
 - b. Jenny Poole seconds, passes
 5. Review and approve proposed 2018 budget –
 - a. Jason Hillman moves,
 - b. Eddie Schmid seconds, passes
 6. Visitors and New Members
 - a. Guests/New Member:
 - i. Will Smith, Program Director for Mission Gate Ministries
 - ii. Lindsey Forsyth lives on Wyoming
 - iii. Courtney member of Benton Park
 - iv. Maria from Urban Mission Center Temple House
 7. Guest Speaker: **Jane Darst**, JD, 3PI Grand Program Coordinator, RE: Shot Spotter
 - a. With the St. Louis Police Department – Police Prosecuting Partnership
 - i. Goal of this grant is to help reduce gun violence by identifying and holding active shooters accountable
 1. Provides funding for victim and witness advocates to help them get involved.
 - a. This includes helping with safety resources.
 - ii. One of the tools used is NIBIN: National Integrated Ballistics Information Network
 - iii. Shot Spotter is one of the best tools for identifying incidents in which there has been gunfire and no one has been called
 1. Please call the police however when gun shots go off (911).
 2. If you see something, say something. The #1 reason people can't be prosecuted is if victims and witnesses don't come forward.
 3. It is a gunfire detection acoustic system – capability from differentiating it from other loud noises. It can tell you the different types of guns involved and calibers involved.

4. When people call the police about gun fire, officers will go out and scout for gun casings.
 5. BPW almost the entire neighborhood is covered by shot spotter.
 6. The shot spotter can get within 9 ft of any direction.
- b. **Elaine Brune**, from Metro Trans Umbrella Groups
 - i. Gifted a house in the BPW
 - ii. Using it for office HQ and support
 1. Supports trans, genderqueer, androgynous, and intersex
 2. Homeless outreach
 - iii. Follow on FB to see how we can help them.
 - iv. Volunteers are welcome for certain events.
 - v. Transgender memorial garden is in Forest Park – the only one in the nation.
8. Upcoming Events and Committee reports:
 - a. BPW Committee and Volunteers
 - b. Panera Fundraiser
 - i. Thursday, March 22, 2018 from 4-8 pm in Soulard, S. 7th 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.
 - c. Litter Clean Up + Social Hour
 - i. Sat. March 17 @ 9 – 10 AM, Five Star Senior Center
 1. Clean up and then go to a local Cherokee business
 2. Great way to commune and help clean up the neighborhood
 3. Large trash bags have been donated, but please bring a pair of gloves unless you have a grabber.
 - d. Doggy Easter Egg Hunt
 - i. Saturday, March 31 @ 12 – 3 PM
 - ii. Teaming up with Maxstar Rescue
 - iii. \$10 for the egg hunt
 - iv. Open for anyone
 - e. SLACO Conference
 - i. 22nd Annual Regional Neighborhood Conference April 14
 - ii. St. Louis Community College on Oakland
 - iii. There are several groups of information in their sessions. Examples include:
 1. Future transportation
 2. Health & Safety
 3. Youth
 - iv. Costs \$45 at the door. \$35 on Eventbrite
 1. Provides breakfast and lunch.
 - f. 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 today.
 - d. Meet at Trumans and take the shuttle.
 - g. Easter Eggstravaganza – Volunteers Needed
 - i. March 31st 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. Face painting
 - 3. Prize Booth
 - 4. Easter Egg hunt
 - iii. Any amount of time donated helps and will be greatly appreciated.
 - iv. PLEASE consider coming out to the event. Get to know your neighbors, get to know everyone.
 - v. Feel free to Contact Darren Young if interested
 - h. Camera Survey + Neighborhood Cameras
 - i. Surveys are on the website.
 - 1. We want to give collateral to neighbors to figure out which camera is the best and why you love it.
 - 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.
 - i. NSO switch
 - i. City made a decision to switch around the neighborhood stabilization officer.
 - ii. Over 300 calls were made to the Mayor’s office and Dottie McDowell.
 - iii. We would like to send some letters to the Mayor, Dottie, and others asking them to bring the neighborhood into the situation and in the know before making decisions for our neighborhood before given a voice.
 - 1. Please consider signing these letters.
 - j. Court Watch
 - i. N/A
9. 9th Ward Alderman – Dan Guenther
 - a. 2017/2018 session on break for Alderman
 - b. April 16 is the next session – where any board bill hasn’t made through committee and try to pass it
 - i. Bill for getting rid of horse drawn carriages downtown – state leg stopped municipalities from banning horse drawn carriages due to farm bill
 - ii. Marrighana bill died
 - iii. Civilian oversight and use of force – police involved shooting would be looked into by circuit attorney’s office instead of police department died due to the police union not being happy about not having control of situations
 - c. Passed three other bills however for building division
 - i. Helps give insight on how to handle negligent landlords
 - d. Is able to catch up on emails now because they’re out of session
 - e. New businesses: 2308 ½ Cherokee – Creaky Crow is a taxidermy shop
 - f. 9th Ward Safety meeting:
 - i. March 29th from 6:30 – 8:30
 - ii. 3311 Pennsylvania – Last Days Apostolic Church
 - iii. Hot dogs and chips being served

- iv. Judge Jimmy Edwards, Chief John Haden, Captain Dace, and Captain Perry Johnson will be present
 - g. Stop Sign Bill
 - i. @ Iowa and Juniata
 - ii. Residents of Booth Manor are scared to cross the street there to get to the bus stop
 - iii. Stop sign will be going in a couple of weeks
 - iv. Making this handicap accessible
 - h. Parks Department starting to plan for 2019
 - i. 1.2 million dollars through metro park tax
 - ii. ½ north of Delmar, ½ south of Delmar
 - iii. Has to be used in one of the 109 city parks
 - iv. Looking for suggestions on how to use this money.
 - 1. One of the suggestions made is to take one of the tennis courts and making it into a Pickle Ball court.
 - i. Thank you for everyone making phone calls to help save Barb.
 - j. English Cave in Benton Park
 - i. March 18 from 4 – 7 BYOB at the community garden
 - ii. There are postcards addressed to the mayor's office in petition to save the garden
 - iii. Let gardeners know that leases were up on lots before selling them
 - k. Young Life
 - i. Fought for funding for the city – Prop F safety money
 - ii. Got a small bit of funding for having a program in our neighborhood to help address youths
 - l. NextEra STL
 - i. Put in an offer on over 14 properties in BPW
 - ii. 2700 block of Utah will be made better
- 10. District 3 Community Outreach Officer: Pat Clancy, 314-444-2564, pmclancy@slmpd.org
 - a. Crime Report
 - 1. 2 incidents of rape
 - a. Uber driver who ran into a couple of guys he knew in the military
 - b. Female met up with an acquaintance
 - 2. Spike in robberies
 - a. 5 in the past 4 weeks
 - i. 1 arrest
 - ii. Group of juveniles
 - b. Three of these cases haven't been caught
 - 3. Assaults
 - a. Assault 3rd degree
 - b. Assault 1st shooting – 3 victims involved, no suspects
 - c. Domestic incident
 - ii. Up 10% compared to where we were last year at this time
 - iii. 5 larcenies and thefts
 - 1. 2 from vehicles
- 11. Neighborhood Stabilization Officer – Barb Potts, 314-397-1091
 - a. Cleaning Blitz

- i. April 21st
 - ii. Has tools, bags, and roll out dumpster
 - 1. Dumpster is to be used only for bulk
 - iii. Need pickup trucks and people who will help move stuff out of alleys
- 12. Cherokee Station Business Association Liaison, Anne McCullough
 - a. New Businesses
 - i. Camp , 3405 Jefferson
 - ii. Parm, new food place
 - iii. Brenden Vaugh, 2604 Cherokee St
 - iv. Golden Gems, 3156 Cherokee
 - v. Indihop June 2nd
 - vi. Cinco de Mayo is on May 5th
- 13. Upcoming Events
 - a. N/A
- 14. Prizes
 - a. Attendance Prizes
 - i. Smoked Bacon: Dan Guenther
 - ii. Door stop alarm: Lindsey
 - iii. BPW tote bag that zips: Forrest Carithers
 - b. 50/50: \$23 won by Kat
- 15. Adjournment – Alison Hillman moves, Stephanie McKinney seconds, passes at 8:06 pm