**Benton Park West Neighborhood Association**

Five Star Senior Center, 2832 Arsenal

Thursday, February 20, 2014

Attendance: 30

Board Members

1. President – Linda Hennigh, Present
2. Vice President – Carrie Sleep, Present
3. Secretary – Scott McIntosh, Present
4. Treasurer – Suzanne (Suzy) Hennigh, Present
5. Member At-Large – Becky Martinez, Absent
6. Member At-Large – Whitney Mathis, Present
7. **Call to order:** 7:03 pm
   1. Review and approval of January Meeting Minutes – Pam Welsh moves, Carrie Sleep seconds, passes
   2. Review of February Board Meeting Minutes
   3. Review of January Treasurer’s Report – Frank moves, Diane Hurwitz seconds, passes
   4. Review and approval of 2014 Budget – Bill Byrd moves, Chris Schmidt seconds, passes
8. **New Members and Visitors**
   1. Kierra Jackson, intern at Salvation Army
   2. Frederica James, 20 year resident of BPW (Pennsylvania Ave)
9. **New Business –Fashion Boutique**
   1. Frederica James, Owner
   2. Looking to rent on California @ Utah
   3. Designing items to be in the store, except shoes
   4. Personal shopping and fashion consulting
   5. Opportunity for bra sizing
   6. Wants a more intimate feel, so not wanting to be on Cherokee Street
   7. Currently works in insurance
10. **Events**
    1. Mardi Gras
       1. Sat, March 1
       2. Seeking volunteers; using Sign-Up Genius
       3. 1-4pm and 4-7 pm shifts available
       4. On the west side of the parade route this year!
    2. Five Star Trivia Night
       1. Sat, Feb 22
       2. 6 pm Doors open and silent auction opens
       3. 7 pm trivia begins
       4. $20/person which includes beer, soda, water, and light snacks
       5. For more info, call 314-664-1008
    3. 3rd District Police Partnership Awards Luncheon
       1. Wed, March 12 from 11:30-1:30 pm at Gambrinus Hall, 3650 Wisconsin
       2. Learn why the officers earned the award
       3. $25/person
    4. Dogs ‘n Donuts
       1. Sat, April 12 at Dog Park, Utah and Nebraska
    5. Easter Eggstravaganza
       1. Sat, April 19 in Gravois Park
       2. Volunteers are welcome, contact Pam Welsh
       3. Kids must be accompanied by an adult
11. **9th Ward Alderman, Ken Ortmann**
    1. HUD Housing Study
       1. Color coded with demographic info
       2. Study covers the entire City
       3. Will send to BPWNA to share with residents
    2. New Legislation for Bike Program
       1. Allocated money for signage and paint for bike paths throughout the City
    3. Response to Proposed New Boutique
       1. Opposed because of the landlord
       2. Landlord hasn’t maintained property
       3. Has been a trouble maker – ex: illegally sold couches from sidewalk
       4. Neighbors are also against a business going in
       5. Frederica’s response to Alderman
          1. If landlord has a bad rep, she would like to do something positive with the space
          2. Whatever work needs to be done to the building, she will do – not the landlord
12. **Neighborhood Stabilization Officer (NSO), Barb Potts**
    1. Increased patrol and search warrants
    2. Spring you may seek increase in criminal activity so be vigilant
    3. Alleys have gotten really bad lately – call Citizens’ Service Bureau if necessary to get bulk items removed
    4. If you need a property added to the Nuisance Property List – you must call the police!
       1. If you see drug deals – call it in! Provide as much details as possible
    5. Graffiti is tagging, not gang related. Due to cold/weather, haven’t been able to remove it
    6. Valerie is an aggressive pan-handler
       1. If you see her begging, call it in
       2. She’s 5ft 7in, thin build
       3. Often wears glasses
       4. Calls herself “V”
       5. Is a drug addict and possible mental illness
13. **Captain Gwen Spicer**
    1. Redistricted January 27, Land area shrunk and you gained more officers
    2. May call Hotline to report items
    3. Crime is down by 23% in January compared to January 2013
14. **District 3 Community Outreach Officer, Joe Calabro**
    1. Never let a stranger into your car or home
    2. Practice describing people with details –
       1. At least 8 details
       2. Will aid police find people/suspects
    3. [www.slpd3d.org](http://www.slpd3d.org)
       1. New district maps are on the site
       2. Lots of tips and bio for new Captain
15. **Prizes**
    1. Attendance Prize – BPW and Budweiser t-shirts donated by BPWNA
    2. 50/50 - $12.50 for the winner
16. **Adjournment** – Pam Welsh moves, Carrie Sleep seconds, passes at 8:16 pm