

Benton Park West Neighborhood Association – Board Meeting

Tuesday, July 10, 2018

Call to order – 6:34 pm

1. Roll Call

- a. President, Scott McIntosh, **Present**
- b. Vice Present, Alison Hillman, **Present**
- c. Secretary, Ashtyn Baldas, **Present**
- d. Treasurer, John Simons, **Present**
- e. Member At-Large, Jason Hillman, **Present**
- f. Member At-Large, Tim Thomas, Absent
- g. Block Link, Chris Schmidt, **Present**
- h. Communications, Scott McIntosh
- i. Membership – Charlene Young, **Present**
- j. Beautification, Stephanie McKinney, **Present**
- k. Community Garden, Linda Hennigh, **Present**
- l. Dog Park, Jeni Poole, **Present**
- m. Facilities, Bill Byrd, **Present**
- n. Fundraising, Vacant
- o. Housing Committee, Scott McIntosh
- p. Quality of Life and Safety, Vacant
- q. Youth Outreach, Darren Young, Absent
- r. Cherokee Street Liaison

2. Guest

- a. Kate Ewing, RE: 2758 Wyoming (former Energy Care)
 - i. Yoga Studio letter of support (Brick City Yoga)
 - I. Commercial space will be the yoga studio
 - a. Hearing for the yoga studio July 26, 2018 for conditional use permit
 - b. Children’s yoga, trauma, prenatal yoga, etc.
 - i. Teachers representative of the neighborhood
 - c. Wants to keep yoga affordable
 - i. \$10 classes
 - ii. Wants to eventually have a way in which people can sponsor others who can’t afford classes
 - iii. 1 class a week that benefits a local charity
 - d. On street parking and bike racks
 - II. Residential space (2 rental units)
 - i. Has experience with land lording. She owns properties over St. Louis
 1. Shortest term renter was 4 years; longest term is going on 8 years
 - ii. 2 bedrooms, 2 baths with around 2,000 sq ft.
 - III. Goal to have everything done is by September at the latest
 - b. Bill Byrd moves to write a letter of support for Brick City Yoga, Alison Hillman seconds, passes

3. Review and acceptance of June Board Meeting Minutes as sent in the email –

- a. Bill Byrd moves,

- b. Jason Hillman seconds,
 - c. passes
- 4. Review Junes Treasurer's Report and 2018 Budget
 - a. N/A
- 5. Standing Committees
 - a. Block Link
 - i. N/A
 - b. Communications
 - i. Click links are lower than before
 - c. Membership
 - i. N/A
- 6. Special Committees
 - a. Beautification
 - b. Community Garden
 - i. Turned in 5-year garden lease with cashier's check for \$5.00 for Arsenal/Jefferson Community Vegetable garden.
 - c. Dog Park
 - i. Current membership 23 ppl and 29 dogs
 - ii. Yappy hour raised - \$56 in donations
 - iii. Received renewal for 3 dogs and another member added a 2nd dog.
 - d. Facilities
 - i. Paper was purchased
 - e. Fundraising
 - f. Housing
 - g. Quality of Life and Safety
 - h. Youth Outreach
 - i. Back to School Welcome Event at Fanning Middle School
 - I. Tuesday, August 14
- 7. Discussion Items
 - a. Insight Title
 - i. Want to host another realtor, lender, title company open house on Cherokee Street to promote the neighborhood
 - I. Kathy Barnes is willing to put up some \$ to help make this happen
 - ii. Lack of follow through in the past, a lot of the work would fall on board members rather than the realtors
 - iii. Put this initiative on hold; we are happy to help advertise but can't expend the man power at the moment to run this ourselves.
 - b. Gateway Greening Land Trust
 - i. City is not taking outside bids on any neighborhood gardens until after August. They'll sell it to the current non-profit holder for side lot prices.
 - I. Gateway Greening Land and Trust pays the closing costs
 - II. A representative would have to join the council under the garden trust
 - III. When a lease is about to expire the city will give a 60 to 90 day notice, however, the notice is being sent to the person who signed the lease which doesn't guarantee it gets into the right hands
 - IV. Tell Gateway Greening we're interested for the Neighborhood Garden, but not the Vegetable Garden

- ii. Alison Hillman makes a motion to reach out to Gateway Greening to say were interested and schedule a meeting to discuss and also tell members at the next membership meeting, July 18, 2018 about the two options and what we'll explore, Ashtyn Baldas seconds.
 - c. Neighborhoods united for change
 - i. Excellent tour; similar issues, strengths and struggles shared
 - d. Recap: Fair Saint Louis
 - i. Made over \$1000 in tips
 - e. Last Days Apostolic Church Back to School
 - i. Want to have 300 school bags loaded with supplies
 - ii. August 4, 2018 (11:00 – 3:00)
 - iii. Needs volunteers starting at 8 AM
 - f. Litter Clean Up + Social Hour, Sat July 21 @ 9 – 10 AM
 - i. John will lead it this month
 - g. Jefferson/Gravois Plan Adoption, July 30, 6 – 8 PM
 - i. Artist Arts on Cherokee
 - ii. Chris Schmidt, Stephanie McKinney, and Bill Byrd are going on behalf of the BPWNA
 - h. Court Watch
 - i. Forrest is going to sign up
 - i. P&G Volunteers
 - i. Fri, August 24 @ 9 AM to 2:30 PM, 15 – 20 ppl
 - ii. Have this group help paint sign and pass out save the dates for upcoming events
- 8. Review (Current Month) Neighborhood Association Meeting Agenda
 - a. Going to talk about Gateway Green Trust
- 9. Open Forum
- 10. Adjournment - Alison Hillman moves, Chis Schmit seconds, passes at 8:14 pm