

Benton Park West Neighborhood Association

# Board Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, July 9th, 2019

Submitted by: John Simons

Call to order - 6:43 pm

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## Attendance - Roll Call

- President - Scott McIntosh - **Present**
- Vice President (Interim) - Alison Hillman - Absent
- Secretary - John Simons - **Present**
- Treasurer - Linda Hennigh - **Present**
- Member At-Large - Ashtyn Baldas - Absent
- Member At-Large - Tim Thomas - Absent
- Beautification - Stephanie McKinney - Absent
- Block Link - Chris Schmidt - **Present**
- Communications - Scott McIntosh
- Community Garden - Linda Hennigh
- Our Neighborhood Garden - Scott McIntosh
- Dog Park - Jeni Poole - Absent
- Facilities - Bill Byrd - **Present**
- Fundraising - **Vacant**
- Housing Committee - Scott McIntosh
- SLACO Committee - Linda Hennigh
- Membership – Bill Byrd (Rosie Jackson may be interested)
- Quality of Life and Safety - **Vacant**
- Youth Outreach - Darren Young - Absent
- Cherokee Street Liaison - **Vacant**

## Agenda

## Notes

1. Guest: David Eschbach Spirit One Group
  - a. Seeking approval to start an automotive repair at 2661 Arsenal Street
  - b. Business Partners: Mike Durham, David Eschbach
  - c. Seeking to operate in cities and uplift the neighborhoods that they operate in
  - d. Independent auto repair doesn't exist in the manner that it formerly did because of the cost of entry for equipment
  - e. Will not be doing custom work.

- f. Also have a 12,000 sqft facility on Bates for more entailed work
  - g. Vehicles will need to be removed within 72 hours of work completion
    - i. Will not offer proprietary payment plans.
    - ii. Working with certified lenders. Who?
      - 1. NAPA, AutoZone, local parts stores
      - 2. Interested in Red Dough credit union
    - iii. Abandoned sars will be removed to alternate locations
  - h. Exterior plan is to paint and restore.
    - i. Simple signage for state inspection
    - ii. Awning around windows
    - iii. Nighttime covers for bay doors
    - iv. Exterior LED lighting around the building
  - i. Community involvement
    - i. Exterior decoration
    - ii. Back to school drive
    - iii. Local toy drive
    - iv. Spring and Fall maintenance clinics
  - j. Comments and concerns from members of the community.
    - i. Feels that space could be used differently given the high concentration of auto businesses already in the neighborhood
    - ii. What will be done with the exterior of the building
    - iii. What will this do to traffic and parking?
      - 1. All vehicles must be kept on property to maintain garage keepers insurance coverage.
    - iv. Will rarely be parking customer cars outdoors to limit theft and vandalism
    - v. Maximum of 5 technicians/employees
      - 1. 2 technicians, 1 administrator, 1 porter
      - 2. Employees will park to northwest of building on lot
    - vi. A team member of the design for Christian Brothers automotive
    - vii. Absolutely not interested in a used car dealership
    - viii. Neighborhood hiring practices?
      - 1. Would prefer to hire porters from neighborhood
      - 2. Willing to sponsor youth in formal training
  - k. Discussion
    - i. Building changed hands to a new landlord and this business quickly materialized
      - 1. Previously the NA did not want additional car repair locations
    - ii. Neighbors on this block are opposed to having an automotive shop in this location.
      - 1. Would like a coffee shop or a shop like Camp
      - 2. Feel that it is an opportunity loss
2. President's Report
- a. Fair St Louis 3 card readers were provided this year.

- i. Cash sales were \$6,656.25
  - ii. Tips have not yet been tallied
  - iii. Linda purchased refreshments for \$76 requesting reimbursement
3. Review June Board Meeting Minutes
  - a. No Quorum
4. Review of June Association Meeting Minutes
  - a. No Quorum
5. Treasurer's Report
  - a. Please review categories for accuracy
  - b. No Quorum
6. Membership
  - a. Will send out letters for renewal
7. Communications
  - a. Printed Porch Review for mid summer
8. Community Garden
  - a. 5 Capuchin brothers volunteered July 5th
9. Beautification
  - a. Trash pickup this Saturday 7/20 - 9 am
10. Back to School
  - a. Go fund me announcement
11. Meeting Agenda
  - a. Guest Speakers
    - i. Sophie Lipman
    - ii. Monument Lab Collaboration and Kipp Schools
  - b. Prizes are needed for meeting
12. Meeting Adjourned - 8:49 PM
  - a. John Simons Moves, Bill Byrd Seconds, motion passes

## Action Items

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## Next Meeting Agenda Items

- Next Board meeting Tuesday 8/13
- Reports are due 8/11