

Benton Park West Neighborhood Association

Neighborhood Meeting Minutes

Thursday, September 19th, 2019

Submitted by: John Simons

Call to order - 7:00 pm

Attendance - **34** - Roll Call

- President - Scott McIntosh - Absent
- Vice President (Interim) - Alison Hillman - Absent
- Secretary - John Simons - **Present**
- Treasurer - Linda Hennigh - Absent
- Member At-Large - Ashtyn Baldas - Absent
- Member At-Large - Tim Thomas - **Present**
- Beautification - Stephanie McKinney - **Present**
- 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
- Quality of Life and Safety - **Vacant**
- Youth Outreach - Darren Young - Absent
- Cherokee Street Liaison - **Vacant**

Agenda

Bill Byrd hosting

Notes

1. Introductions of board members
2. Review August Meeting Minutes
 - a. Pam Welsh moves, Chris Schmidt seconds, passes
3. Review August Treasurer's Report
 - a. Tim Thomas moves, Chris Schmidt seconds, passes
4. New Member and Visitor Introductions

- a. Renewals
 - i. Stephanie and Graham
 - b. Visitors
 - i. Salvation Army Temple House
 - 1. Jervais
 - 2. Miosha
 - 3. Gabriel
 - 4. Heather
 - 5. Joanna
 - 6. Brandi
 - ii. New Residents: Deliala & Gillian 3300 Oregon
5. Elections
- a. All positions are open
 - i. President
 - ii. Vice President
 - iii. Secretary
 - iv. Treasurer
 - v. Member-At-Large
 - b. Nominations are due within 10 days submit to president@bentonparkwest.org
6. Litter Pick up
- a. Saturday 9-10am
 - b. Planter Utah and Gravois
7. Announcements
- a. St Louis Regional Night out
 - b. Howl-O-Ween
 - c. Trunk or Treat
 - d. Neighborhood Cameras
8. Dan Guenther - 9th Ward Alderperson
- a. Board of Alderman is back in session
 - b. City has proposal to lift residency requirement
 - i. Failed
 - ii. Will likely come back to a vote next year
 - c. City will be hosting a job fair for the numerous open positions that the city has
 - i. Flyers available dates are slated for 9/24 and 9/25 both in North and South City
 - ii. Forestry and Parks have ~100 positions alone
 - d. Climate Action Day resolution
 - i. New building standards for energy efficiency
 - 1. Benchmarking for buildings over 50,000 sqft
 - e. Violence reduction
 - i. Police are scarce everywhere
 - ii. Cure Violence program designed by former director of WHO

1. 70% reduction in Chicago
 2. \$1.5Million has been allocated for 5 neighborhoods
 3. Gravois Park is a neighborhood in discussion for this program
 4. cureviolence.org
- f. 9th Ward democrat flyer and elections
 - i. Shout out to Brian Walsh and Sara Johnson
 - g. Venice Cafe art street festival 2-9
 - h. Antique Row Cat and Cake Walk 11-4
9. Barb Potts - Neighborhood Stabilization Officer (NSO)
- a. Currently training new NSOs
 - i. Will be doing street lights in the coming weeks
 - b. Flea market 10/6
 - c. Jack Khoudian is in Alaska
 - d. 3rd District Christmas party 12/12 7 pm
 - e. Job Fairs
 - i. NGA is hiring 2 job fairs are coming up
 - ii. Good pay and benefits
 - iii. People are getting jobs it's worth going
10. Neighborhood organizations discussion
- a. Bill recommends shopping locally on Cherokee standards
 - b. Cherokee Street USA is new facebook page
 - c. 9/27 Spaghetti dinner at Five Star
 - d. 9/28 Salvation Army Yard Sale
 - e. 9/20 Parking Day
 - i. Streets around the city will have converted parking spaces
 - ii. Cherokee will have multiple spaces to create small parks
 - f. STL TreeLC
 - i. Common Sound festival in Marquette Park
 - ii. 9/28 plant a tree event by forest relief
 - iii. Forest relief tree keepers Training
 1. Planning for winter pruning of street trees
 - g. Walk run in TGP 11/6
 - h. Peter and Paul Garfield commons
 - i. Clowder House
 - i. Trivia night 11/16
 - j. Southside Early Childcare
 - i. Diaper Drive 9/28
 - ii. Bring a Pack of Diapers to Trueman's and get discount beer
 - k. Community Outreach
 - i. Turkey drive and outreach
 - ii. Baskets can be sponsored for families for \$4
 - iii. Call Rosie at 314-583-7461
 - l. Kingdom House Book Sale

- i. Booksale 9/25-27 9-6
- ii. Books are focused on characters of color
- iii. 11th and Park

11. Attendance Prizes

- a. Botanical Garden Tickets - Tim Thomas
- b. Lighthouse Coasters - Guest Brandi
- c. Walk with your Neighbor Hat - Erin Godwin
- d. Lemonade and Lavender Spirits - Gloria Graves
- e. Tickets for Eckert's Farm - Grant Halloway
- f. Yellow Tail Cabernet Sauvignon - Grant Halloway
- g. Botanical Gardens Tickets - Seth Euken

12. 50/50 - Bill Byrd

- a. \$22 total
- b. \$11 for the winner
- c. Bill Byrd won

13. Meeting Adjourned - 8:02 PM

- a. Chris Schmidt moves, Stephanie McKinney seconds, passes