

Benton Park West Neighborhood Association Membership Meeting

Five Star Senior Center, 2832 Arsenal

Thursday, January 15, 2015

Attendance: 37

Board

- President – Linda Hennigh, Present
- Vice President – Becky Martinez, Present
- Secretary – Scott McIntosh, Present
- Treasurer – Frank Becker, Present
- Member At-Large – Roz Ball, Present
- Member At-Large – Gwen Stapels-Beys, Absent

1. Call to order - 7:02 pm
2. Visitors and New Members
 - a. Darren Young, Salvation Army
 - b. Elysia Webber, Salvation Army
 - c. Laura Grainger, Salvation Army
 - d. Kierra Jackson, Salvation Army
 - e. Pastor Ketsia Diaz, Salvation Army
3. Review and approve November meeting minutes –Mandy Mankin moves, Shelley Henderson seconds, passes
4. Review of December and January Board meeting
5. Review and approve November and December Treasurer's Report – Pam Welsh moves, Shelly Viera seconds, passes
6. Guest Speaker: Jared Opsal, Public Awareness Specialist, National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse (NCADA)
 - a. Nonprofit that serves greater St. Louis
 - b. Performs lots of in school programs to help prevent abuse and enable them on how to respond
 - c. Numbers of heroine abuse has increased 3-4 times than 10 years ago
 - d. 2007 was the first year of dramatic increase; 2200 people have died from heroine abuse in the past 7 years
 - e. 4:5 heroin users started with prescription drugs before moving to heroine
 - f. Heroine as a pill is called a "button" on the street; no longer a needle drug
 - g. 63118 is one of the hot spots for heroine; 17-25 years predominantly
7. Guest Speaker: Amber McCall, Community Relations Manager, EAGLE College Preparatory Schools
 - a. Coming to the Fox Park neighborhood
 - b. Free public charter school
 - c. Currently have a school in Tower Grove South
 - d. Will open a school at 2617 Shenandoah
 - e. Set all students on a path for college starting at kindergarten
 - f. Have 2 full-time teachers in each classroom
 - g. 1:7 ratio in all classrooms
 - h. Character formation is value set of their school; understanding students identity and how that affects their performance and place in the community

- i. Partner with Compass Educational Programs for after school – Christian based programming
 - j. Enrollment opened in January for Fall 2015; pulling lottery on Feb 19
- 8. Police Captain Warnke
 - a. Lots of major crime last night (Wed); double homicide on Osage, domestic murder on Chouteau & Tucker, robbery murder at Hampton Inn at 44/Hampton, domestic murder on Tennessee in Carondolet, 2900 block of Victor arrested another individual doing residential burglary
 - b. 40% fewer arrests in last half of 2014; largely due to police handling protesters
 - c. Police arresting at least one suspect daily for car theft; most arrested had prior records of thefts
 - d. Pat Clancy is the new Community Outreach Officer; replaces Joe Calabro
- 9. District 3 Community Outreach Officer: Pat Clancy
 - a. Started in October
 - b. Looking forward to attending as many meeting as possible
 - c. Please don't hesitate to contact if you have any issues
- 10. 9th Ward Alderman – Ken Ortmann
 - a. Guns & Hoses will be January 30
 - i. Ken has \$35 tickets
 - ii. Call his home at 314-776-0161
 - b. Development Projects
 - i. 3100 block of Iowa projects will happen
 - ii. Texas property goes to E&A to get approved
 - iii. DeSales/Tom Pickle is working on cutting down trees on 3 lots for new homes on Ohio
 - c. 50/50 sidewalk plan
 - i. List cut off, working now to get those completed this spring
 - ii. Must sign and send back your contract when it comes or it won't happen
 - d. With recent crime increase, be vigilant
 - i. If you see something, call it in
 - ii. If you are getting held up, give them what they want to avoid being hurt
- 11. Neighborhood Stabilization Officer – Barb Potts
 - a. Absent – has a back problem; taking it easy
- 12. Barr Library – Tonnya Joy
 - a. Telescopes available with valid library card
 - i. Branches are hosting 'Star Parties' to
 - ii. Feb 5 from 6-8 pm
- 13. Cherokee Station Business Association Liaison, Anne McCullough
 - a. New Italian beef sandwich shop will open on 2619 ½ Cherokee Street
 - b. Angel Boutique will open thrift store at 2706 Cherokee (former Globe Drugs)
 - i. Offices on 2nd floor
 - c. New Mexican restaurant at 2818 Cherokee
 - d. Cinco de Mayo
 - i. Sat, May 2
 - ii. Can volunteer or participate in the parade
 - iii. Can run a booth
 - e. IndiHop
 - i. May 30

- ii. Volunteer to pour beer inside business on Cherokee Street
 - f. Cherokee Street Development League
 - i. New nonprofit that will support art programs and run Cinco de Mayo
 - g. Benton Park sandwich shop (American) first block across Jefferson
 - h. Old Rent-A-Center space will be 4 store fronts; one will be a craft beer takeout business
 - i. Blue Pearl at Pennsylvania is still moving forward; no set date
 - j. Red Guitar Bakery is still moving forward; no set date
 - k. Artists Art Theatre
 - i. Event space available June or July
 - ii. Space between Whiskey Ring and I-Scream Cakes
- 14. Upcoming Events
 - a. Mardi Gras
 - i. Sat, Feb 14 (Valentine's Day)
 - ii. Please sign up to volunteer
 - iii. Volunteer form is on www.bentonparkwest.org under the Events page
 - iv. No shuttle service currently; if someone has a chauffeurs license, please let us know
 - b. Dog Park Opening
 - i. April 11 is the opening
 - ii. \$35 annual membership fee
 - iii. Applications are available on the website and at the NA meeting at the membership table
 - c. Suggestions for 2015
 - i. Please email or call Linda with your ideas
- 15. Prizes
 - a. Attendance Prizes: winners Tonnya Joy and Diane Hurwitz
 - b. 50/50: \$23 won by Frank Becker
- 16. Adjournment – Pam Welsh moves, Stephanie McKinney seconds, passes at 8:28 pm