

## Benton Park West Neighborhood Association Membership Meeting

Five Star Senior Center, 2832 Arsenal

Thursday, May 21, 2015

Attendance: 30

### Board

- President – Linda Hennigh, Present
  - Vice President – Becky Martinez, Absent
  - Secretary – Scott McIntosh, Present
  - Treasurer – Frank Becker, Absent
  - Member At-Large – Dan Geary, Present
  - Member At-Large – Vacant
1. Call to order – 7:02 pm
  2. Review and approve April meeting minutes – Jerry Monti moves, Eddie Schmidt seconds, passes
  3. Review of May Board meeting minutes
  4. Review and approve April Treasurer's Report – Chris Schmidt moves, Dan Geary seconds, passes
  5. Review 2015 Budget
  6. Guest Speaker: SLACO, Nancy Thompson
    - a. St. Louis Association of Community Organizations (SLACO)
    - b. Founded in 1978 in response to a neighborhoods desire to handle vacant lots
    - c. Currently 2 prongs
      - i. coalition of neighborhood associations to share ideas and resources
      - ii. coalition to take action
    - d. 23 member neighborhood associations
    - e. All metro neighborhoods may join
    - f. Previously have been involved in creating new housing
      - i. Past partner has been Vatterott
      - ii. Gate District is a neighborhood of past projects
      - iii. Often lower income properties
    - g. Offices in West End neighborhood off Hamilton @ Plymouth
    - h. Have an active younger board
    - i. Issue Selection Meeting was today to determine which issue SLACO can push forward and make a difference in the next 3 years
    - j. SLACO Annual Conference
      - i. Typically in the fall
      - ii. November 14 @ Harris-Stowe University
      - iii. Designed for neighborhood associations and residents to learn
  7. Visitors and New Members
    - a. Rob, Utah St
    - b. Thomas Everson, The Little Dipper sandwich shop
    - c. Michael Paradise, 2600 block of Wyoming
    - d. Larry and Carol Boyer, 3200 block of Iowa
    - e. Joel Prior, 3200 block of Ohio
  8. District 3 Community Outreach Officer: Pat Clancy, 314-444-2564, pmclancy@slmpd.org
    - a. Crime Report
      - i. Burglaries are down 40% compared to last year

- b. Multiple offenders aren't getting prosecuted because individuals won't testify or lack of sufficient evidence; police focusing on these criminals along with the Circuit Attorney's Office to get these folks off the street
  - c. 911 vs. Non-Emergency #, when in doubt, call 911
  - d. Benton Park Substation
    - i. Station is open; may do a ceremonial opening during the summer
    - ii. A couple of new items added; mini-fridge, dry ease board
  - e. Quarterly Central Patrol Community Meeting: June 11, 6:30 pm, Five Star Senior Center
9. Neighborhood Stabilization Officer – Dena Hibbard
- a. If you see illegal dumping, gather info on the suspect for the police such as their car license plates, a physical description of the suspect, which residents they live in on your alley, etc.
  - b. Call in fireworks; they're illegal and can cause fires
10. 9<sup>th</sup> Ward Alderman – Ken Ortmann
- a. Spring Wing Fling
    - i. Tues, May 26 @ 5:30-8 pm, Five Star Senior Center
    - ii. Sample chicken wings, beer, and soda
  - b. Friday, May 22 is the Memorial Police Breakfast
  - c. Roosevelt Community Council
    - i. Fundraiser Sunday from noon-7 pm at Riley's Pub on Arsenal
    - ii. Funds go to the football breakfast
  - d. 50/50 sidewalk projects are starting
  - e. Benton Park Concert Series starts Sat, May 30 @ 4-9 pm
  - f. California Donuts fundraiser Sat, May 23 @ 1-3 pm, 2924 S. Jefferson
  - g. Citizens Oversight Board
    - i. Police Association wasn't included in this bill
    - ii. Still has to be voted on by the Board of Alderman in 2016
    - iii. Alderman Antonio French proposed a resolution for a temporary board to be established by alderman until the official board is created; now at Rules & Regulations to review for legality
11. St. Louis Library
- a. N/A
12. Cherokee Station Business Association Liaison, Anne McCullough
- a. N/A
13. Upcoming Events
- a. Cinco de Mayo
    - i. Dunking booth was a success - \$360 split by 4 neighborhoods
  - b. Community Garden (Jefferson and Arsenal)
    - i. Several plots still available
    - ii. Applications available on the back of the garden sign
  - c. Cherokee Neighborhoods Happy Hour
    - i. Thurs, May 28 @ 6-8 pm
    - ii. Yaquis, 2728 Cherokee Street @ Iowa Ave, Gravois Park
    - iii. Wear your BPW t-shirt
  - d. IndiHop
    - i. Sat, May 30 from 1-7 pm on Cherokee and Manchester/The Grove
    - ii. Help pour beer in businesses along Cherokee
    - iii. Portion of the proceeds and tips go to BPWNA

- iv. If you want to volunteer, please contact Linda Hennigh
  - e. Fair St. Louis
    - i. Thurs, July 2 (evening only) and Fri, July 3 (all day)
    - ii. Sell beer, soda and water
    - iii. Fundraiser for BPWNA
    - iv. Sign up online – bentonparkwest.org, Nextdoor, Facebook
  - f. 10 Minute Litter Challenge
    - i. Take 10 minutes a day to pick up litter on your block
    - ii. If your neighbors are doing your block, pick an adjacent block
    - iii. Will keep neighborhood looking nice and brings up property value
  - g. Mayor Slay will be the featured guest in June!
- 14. Prizes
  - a. Attendance Prizes
    - i. Set of mixing bowls: Scott McIntosh
    - ii. Bottle of Wine w/Caddie: Rev Paula Cooper
    - iii. Hanging Basket stand: Libby Martin
  - b. 50/50: \$23 won by Quinn Kenney
- 15. Adjournment – Diane Hurwitz moves, Chris Schmidt seconds, passes at 8:33 pm