

Benton Park West Neighborhood Association Membership Meeting

July 20, 2017

Five Star Senior Center, 2832 Arsenal
Called to order by Scott McIntosh at 7:07 pm
Attendance: 40

- 1) **Board Members**
 - a) **President** – Scott McIntosh: Present
 - b) **Vice President** - Alison Hillman: Present
 - c) **Secretary** – Liz Gerard: Present
 - d) **Treasurer** – John Simons: Present

 - e) **Member at-Large** – Jason Hillman: Present
 - f) **Member at-Large** – Eddie Schmid: Present

 - g) **Community Garden** – Linda Hennigh: Present
 - h) **Facilities** – Bill Byrd: Present
 - i) **Membership** – Charlene Young: Absent
 - j) **Communications** – Scott McIntosh: Present
 - k) **Dog Park** – Jeni Poole: Present
 - l) **Beautification** – Stephanie McKinney: Absent
 - m) **Youth Outreach** – Darren Young: Present
 - n) **Cherokee Street Liaison** – Anne McCullough/Jason Deem: Absent

- 2) **Review of June board meeting minutes.** June neighborhood meeting minutes will be shared on a later date

- 3) **Review and accept June Treasurer’s report and 2017 budget:** Libby Martin moves to accept, Eddie Schmid seconds. Passes

- 4) **Vector Communications – North/South MetroLink Expansion**
 - a) www.northsidesouthsidedtl.com
 - b) Reviewed 2017 Northside-Southside study and provided a map of the proposed route
 - c) The new line would operate on street level and utilize an open station plan without barriers. This would be similar to most modern rail projects
 - d) Stations along Jefferson Avenue would hopefully encourage investment and vitality in their neighborhoods. The nearest proposed stations are Sidney, Arsenal and Cherokee
 - e) The \$700 million expansion would be partially supported by Proposition 1, which recently passed. The government may offer a 100% match
 - f) Benton Park West residents expressed concerns about security, traffic and park-and-ride options

- 5) **Monthly Discussion Topic: What does neighborhood safety mean to you?**
 - a) “Neighbors knowing neighbors”
 - b) “I want to feel safe walking home at night”

- c) Greater community involvement, especially among minorities. The neighborhood association is not representative of the population it serves
- d) No racial profiling
- e) Police responsiveness
- f) Proper screening of tenants and fewer problem properties
- g) Beautification

6) Upcoming Events and Committee Reports

- a) Fair St. Louis revenue will be announced in August
- b) 16 residents attended the Cardinals game
- c) Court watch – Donnie Holmes

7) 9th Ward Alderman Dan Guenther (314) 304-6797 guentherd@stlouis-mo.gov

- a) Dan voted against raising the trash fee due to inefficiencies and poor department management
- b) Dan voted against raising the sales tax to increase police salaries. This will be on November's ballot
- c) Missouri highway patrol will be policing highways in the City of St. Louis to free officers for neighborhood matters
- d) The 3200 block of Oregon is getting LED lights
- e) Dan is trying to officially designate a section of Cherokee Street as St. Louis' "Hispanic District"

8) Community Outreach Officer Pat Clancy (314) 444-2564 pmclancy@slmpd.org

- a) 7 robberies have been reported since June 1. Majority occurred after 8:00 pm
- b) 6 assaults were reported in June. Half were domestic
- c) Carjackings increased city-wide in June. Lots of suspects appear to be juveniles. SLMPD is unsure if carjackings are related

9) Neighborhood Stabilization Officer Barb Potts pottsb@stlouis-mo.gov

- a) Problems at 2747 Utah are being addressed. The property is owner-occupied
- b) The City is addressing problem properties on the 3200 block of California

10) **Adjournment:** Alison Hillman moves to adjourn, Jason Hillman seconds. Meeting adjourns at 8:45 pm