



LAFAYETTE SQUARE RESTORATION COMMITTEE

January 8, 2019 Squires Annex

CALL TO ORDER 7pm

Emily O'Brien

- **Welcome New Residents:** Elise & Matt Hoffman, Marlane and Chris Budde, Beth Duncan
- **Review and approve December 2018 minutes**

ALDERMAN REPORTS

6th Ward

Christine Ingrassia

- Passed the Choteau Corridor Redevelopment. Agreement will be drafted shortly and move forward with construction and getting developers! Upcoming—going over the SUD (tax district) and historic code (1/15 committee hearing)

7th Ward

Jack Coatar

- Jack is on the HUD and Public Safety Committee and will be voting in favor of those (re: Choteau Corridor)
- Congrats on the house tour success!
- Almost done with legislative session—done February 1 and out until after April elections
- Introducing legislation to put to voters a “tweak” to allow for more competition for Internet Services Providers.
- Bill passed in December to support expansion of America (convention) Center; will not happen until the county passes their own legislation
- Question re: mowing the park→Jack says this was an issue all over the city parks. There were equipment issues and manpower issues. Jack thinks equipment issues have been worked out, and seasonal hiring needs to happen earlier; communicating with Parks Dept to stress this.

POLICE REPORT

3rd District

Officer Sherdon Douglas

- Officer Douglas not able to be present, and the draft report is not available. People can contact John Weston (Safety Committee) for the report. John’s contact information will be available after the meeting.

NEW AND ON-GOING BUSINESS

Strategic Plan

Rachel Witt

- The committee has been meeting for 9 months to work on the RFQ (Request for Qualifications). We have involvement from the LSRC, Arts Council, and Conservancy. The RFQ will go out in the next week, and the committee will receive applications by February 19. The committee will narrow it down to the top 3 by March 8, and each organization’s board will be able to review them.
- The strategic plan will address structure, long-term goals, and funding.

2019 Budget

Clark Affholder

- Clark is working on some updates so that we can more clearly see where exactly the money is going. The handouts show comparisons of the 2017 and 2018 budgets.
- Highlights: Increasing expected revenue for both spring and holiday house tours. Made a larger expectation for technology/website updates.
- Only line item that is still in flux: LSBA Security Patrol, which is now set at 15K. This is the amount projected that the LSBA will earn from events (e.g. Cocktails on the Plaza) The LSBA is now a committee of the LSRC; they originally requested \$10-15K over what we have budgeted. We do not have the information needed to present a larger estimate to the membership. We may come back to the membership at a later date to increase this amount.
- The largest expenditures are Capital Improvements; see handout for the breakdown.
- The current budget does not account for expenditure of reserve funds; we're looking at operating at a deficit. We have \$130K in reserve so we will be comfortable. However, we cannot always rely on House Tour funds to
- Follow-Up Questions for the Board
 - What are the Rutger Improvements? Jefferson and Rutger is the only entrance that doesn't have a fence or urn to represent the neighborhood. It will remain an open street but will have a metal fence and some beautification.
- Motion to Approve the Budget—**Budget Passes**

Poster Sale

Matt Negri

- Sunday, January 27, at the Park House
- The LSRC is digitizing the all of the house tour posters, and we have a surplus of the hard copies that we would love to unload

Recognition committee proposal

Mike Jones

- In the past there were recognition awards for volunteers: newcomer awards, Ruth Kamphoeffner, etc.
- We need new volunteers, but we also need to recognize those experienced volunteers to show that we appreciate what they do.
- A committee is forming to reinstate these awards—Mike Jones, Dixie Gillaspie, Christina Ryan, Katie Noonan—and we are looking for energy and ideas from additional neighbors.

Murder Mystery

Christina Ryan

- Murder at the Stratford Castle. February 23 from 7-10:30pm
- Tickets \$50pp for LSRC Members in advance sales 1/12-1/16→look for teasers in the next week!; \$60pp afterward

SAFETY REPORTS

Safety

John Weston

- Not in attendance.

Problem Properties

Ron Taylor

- David Curry, Don Owens, and Ron Taylor have been holding down this committee; 6 new people will be serving! Dale Spence, David Brax, Philip Penrose, Jackie Walker, Pat Faust, Kyle Keenan.
- The problem with most of these is that the real estate taxes are paid.
- Property: 1615-27 Carroll (the one that had the fire a year ago)
 - Things have been sliding; illegal entry, 6 new violations reported since December.
 - Had a teleconference with the daughter (who lives in Georgia) of the deceased owner months back; planning another call on February 19 (3rd Tuesday). Seems she doesn't realize the expense of the project. Alderman Coatar will attend the meeting.
- Property: 1730 Nicholson
 - 10 violations...been going on for several years; been vacant; in December, the back wall fell out. Someone made a market rate offer, and it was turned down.
 - The building has been condemned.
- Property: 1000 Mississippi (Planters House Building—they don't own it)
 - Front 3rd floor window is out, and another window hanging out with broken shards.
 - The Planters House Manager said that they have asked the owner to repair it, and nothing has been done....they are hearing critters.
 - Notified NSO and Citizen Service Bureau...by January 24?
- Property: 2348 Hickory
 - Went to LRA on 12/28; they had a nice offer on the building. LRA will meet on 1/30.
- Property: 1009 Dolman
 - Demoed back building but didn't clean it up.
 - NSO has a call into the contractor to finish up what they started.
- Question: Would taxes being overdue 1 year help on the Dolman property? They are more than 1 year overdue.
- Article in paper stated after 3 years of overdue taxes, city can sell the building...?

Block Captains/Alleys

Glenn Eckert

- Not in attendance.
- Linda Weiner: Spring Alley Beautification Competition

COMMITTEE REPORTS

LSBA

Bethany Budde (not present)—Matt Brazelton

- Sunday, January 27: Souper Sunday—bring a bowl and a spoon and \$10 and sample soups from many of the businesses.
- Plaza lights all upgraded to LED.

Capital Improvements

Mary Visintainer

- The black fence along Truman extends all the way! (And ugly boulders removed!)

Membership

Christina Ryan

- 182 general/household memberships
- Membership cards are always available for anyone who would like one.
- Tax letters are ready to go out to those who are members at the Preservationist + levels. If you are here tonight, you can save us a stamp. 😊
- If you're wondering anything about anything in the neighborhood, and don't know who to contact, email your membership secretary and they'll put you in touch.
- If you are not getting emails, let Christina know.
- See Christina if you would like to be interviewed for the Marquis as a Veteran LSRC Member/Resident and a Newish Member/Resident.
- **Question:** Is it possible to set up automatic renewal?

Beautification

Linda Weiner

- Be on the lookout for beautification volunteer opportunities in the next few months as spring arrives! 😊

Development

Phil Lamczyk/Suzanne Sessions

- Most issues are in the 7th Ward with people building things on their property without a permit. The historic code is very clear about what we can and can't do. i.e. metal/glass storm doors are prohibited in the code.

Community Affairs

Dixie Gillaspie

- There are many intersections across committees, and community affairs is the intersection of all of them, especially communications.
- Thursday 1/31 @ 7pm, location TBD, to start a committee to support community affairs efforts.
- Email DixieGillaspie@gmail.com if you have suggestions or want to participate.
- The Barr Branch library is looking at setting up an "experience room" with a focus on gaming development and 3D interactive technology. There is a meeting on the 17th that Dixie will attend. Let her know if you have feedback.

NEIGHBORHOOD ORGANIZATIONAL REPORTS

Lafayette Park Conservancy

Lafayette Square Arts Council

- From Jennifer Weston: The deadline for the Marquis is January 18.

ADJOURN: 7:54 pm

AFTER-MEETING SOCIAL: Thank you, Sqwires!

- ❖ Next LSRC Board Meeting is Tuesday, February 5th at the Park House, 7pm
- ❖ Next LSRC General Meeting is Tuesday, February 12th at Sqwires Annex, 7pm