



## LAFAYETTE SQUARE RESTORATION COMMITTEE

December 10, 2019 SqWires Annex

CALL TO ORDER 7:05pm

Matt Negri

- **Welcome New Residents:** Kelly on Missouri (into Dahms old home); Jerry & Dules (sp?) on Park Ave
- Motion made and approval of November 2019 minutes

### ALDERMAN REPORTS

6<sup>th</sup> Ward

Christine Ingrassia (Not present)

7<sup>th</sup> Ward

Jack Coatar (Not present)

### POLICE REPORT

3rd District

Officer Sherdon Douglas

For November there were 11 crimes...

- 8 larcenies (5 are stealing from vehicles, 3 others were package theft, potted plant);
- 2 vehicle thefts (11/16 @ 8:30 @ Missouri & Park, not recovered) and 11/18 @ 1100 block of S 18<sup>th</sup>
- 1 robbery on 11/27 @6am @1900 block of Hickory.
  - Victim #1 was robbed by Suspect #1 while Suspect 2 & 3 stood by. Did not see a gun, but suspect 1 said he had one. Victim 1 handed over his keys but suspects couldn't drive stick.
  - 1300 block of S 18<sup>th</sup> St. Victim #2 was warming his vehicle and grabbed the suspects who were in his car. Suspect told Victim #2 to stop or he'd shoot. Victim told Suspect that he'd go get *HIS* gun. Suspects ran off. Police were able to get surveillance and the suspects have been arrested.

### GUEST SPEAKER

Artist Concept

Kathryn Ferrell

- Trying to get an artist group together....end of January or beginning of February on a Tuesday.
- Want to find people that are interested in creating an artist group. No agenda yet—will be creating a mission among those who become founding members.
- [Kathryn.ferrell@icloud.com](mailto:Kathryn.ferrell@icloud.com)

### NEW AND ONGOING BUSINESS

House Tour Update

Suzanne Sessions/Pat Jones

- 1600+ tourgoers; no complaints about lines 😊
- Clark: ~\$43,000 with 8K expenses → Net: \$35K! (\$10K above budget)
- **WE DO NOT HAVE A CHAIR FOR THE NEXT HOUSE TOUR.** A lot of people will stay on the committee, but there is no head organizer.
- The LSRC has budgeted for an admin assistant that can help with some of those duties.

Strategic Plan Update

Linda Weiner

- 120 people showed up to the Strategic Plan meeting! Will be posting online and available for comments

- Will be exploring options for funding to implement and bringing it to the neighborhood to consider. (Taking time on this.)
- Looking at other ideas that don't cost any money, such as changing name of LSRC, implementing ways to manage volunteerism, etc.
- Will be wrapping up in March 2020

### **2020 Budget**

**Clark Affholder/Sherri Mistretta**

- If you're in charge of any budget lines, let Clark know ASAP
- Questions: What is the kiosk for the plaza? Answer: It's an information center intended to tell the history of the neighborhood
- Will vote to finalize the 2020 budget in January

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### **Treasurer's Report**

**Clark Affholder**

- (Above report on budget)
- [treasurer@lafayettesquare.org](mailto:treasurer@lafayettesquare.org)

#### **Development**

**Suzanne Sessions**

- It's quiet on development this month. Waiting to see things start digging! There are final approvals for LaSalle and Hickory developments.
- Bordeaux is now 95% leased.
- A few smaller residential developments, but nothing major happening.
- The Opus Group Jefferson 1000---there is a PDF online about what it will look like at the corner of Jefferson/Choteau. This is an early concept design that hasn't gone through final approvals yet. Daytime workforce of ~700 people.

#### **Beautification**

**Linda Weiner**

- Starting to get bids from landscapers for redesign of Plaza area to replace native grasses and update the look. Will move forward with that in the spring.

#### **Community Affairs**

**Dixie Gillaspie**

- Have been thinking about our fractured/scattered communication tools—Nextdoor, Facebook, Yahoo group...the latter will not be under the auspices of the LSRC anymore.
- We do have a "Mail Chimp" account. This is a consent-based, opt-in email for newsletter announcements. It would *not* be a tool for discussion or have long threads like on Nextdoor.
- Looking at having an official committee for Marketing and Communication.
- Email: [dixiegillaspie@gmail.com](mailto:dixiegillaspie@gmail.com)

#### **Capital Improvements**

**Mary Visintainer**

- Regarding the kiosk...last year's budget allocated money for a kiosk that would help LSBA to advertise restaurants & businesses. Also, at last summer's house tour, there was a board in the park that described 50 years of the work of the LSRC. At this point we are discussing combining these two projects.
- Committee met recently about how to spend 2020 budget...about \$18K total
  - In the plaza, there is a "realtor's box" that's not aesthetically pleasing. ~\$800 from brick/bench project income to create something more permanent and pretty.
  - Foundations and columns, historic fence corners (half paid last year)

- Additional stop signs/more poles—looking at retrofitting (~\$10K toward that)—may not be doable to replace current poles. Would take at least 3 years to replace all the stop signs through the square.
- Completion of Park House Sign—would explain history, significance, etc. Have been offered money from a resident.
- I44 entrance Schoemehl pot removal...replace with bollards
- Brass signs for various places—Kern, Park House (with rental info)
- Trash cans in park with plaques
- FYI, street signs for remainder of NW quadrant will be the responsibility of developers

**Membership**

**Christina Ryan**

- Always looking for “silver and gold” neighbors to highlight for the Marquis. 😊
- Members should be receiving minutes and renewal reminders. If you are not, please email Christina [membership@lafayettesquare.org](mailto:membership@lafayettesquare.org)

**LSBA**

**Bethany Budde (not present)**

**SAFETY REPORTS**

**Problem Properties**

**Kyle Keenan (not present)**

- Ron Taylor: Property at 2018 Lafayette—there have been recent improvements including partial replacement of fence, new paint, etc.
- Thank you to neighbors who have been contributing details, photographs, etc. to [lsrcproblemproperties@gmail.com](mailto:lsrcproblemproperties@gmail.com).

**Block Captains/Safety/Camera Program**

**Glenn Eckert**

- David Visintainer: Have done an inventory of lights that were out—13 in the park, 8 in alleys, 32 on streets—Parks Department changed lights very quickly; streets department has not followed through yet; Ameren has not done alley lights yet. →CHECK YOUR OWN LIGHTS and report to Citizen Service Bureau for street lights out—or on all the time!—or Ameren for alley lights out.
- Clubs available for \$10.
- Taking donations (cash, refreshments) for the police substation.
- Jack Coatar is finalizing locations for cameras with LPR’s (License Plate Readers) at perimeter of the neighborhood, subsidizing with 7<sup>th</sup> ward funds; should be meeting with Real Time Crime Center....soon.
- Committee is also meeting with a vendor that would help streamline interior cameras.

**NEIGHBORHOOD ORGANIZATIONAL REPORTS**

**Lafayette Park Conservancy**

**Ward Buckner (not present)/Jerry Ferrell**

- George Washington Statue on Park (1 of 5 in the country from an original casting)—it’s historic as well as a piece of art. Every 3 years it needs to be refurbished because it’s bronze, and it’s outdoors (for over 100 years)—about \$2500 to do so. →Discussing fundraising opportunities such as a brunch in the spring.

**Lafayette Square Arts Council**

**Sue Lindhardt (not present).**

**Other News....**

- Stray Rescue Building—have poured new aggregate...there is activity, but nothing announced.
- No news about Park/18<sup>th</sup> restaurant

**ADJOURN: 8:10pm AFTER-MEETING SOCIAL: Thank you, Sqwires!**

- ❖ **Next LSRC Board Meeting is Tuesday, January 7 at the Park House, 7pm**
- ❖ **Next LSRC General Meeting is Tuesday, January 14 at Sqwires Annex, 7pm**