



## LAFAYETTE SQUARE RESTORATION COMMITTEE

October 8, 2019 SqWires Annex

CALL TO ORDER 7:03pm

Emily O'Brien

- **Welcome New Residents:** Mary Thomas on Mississippi moved here a couple weeks ago.
- Motion made and approval of September 2019 minutes

### ALDERMAN REPORTS

7<sup>th</sup> Ward

Jack Coatar

- Aldermen back in session. Topic is generally around violent crime from the summer in other parts of the city. Last week the Board of Alderman, the Mayor, and other leaders agreed to set aside \$5 million (excess funds from capital fund from the city) to work to curb violence—get people on the ground in neighborhoods to interrupt and stop violent crime...people that are so involved that they know who is up to what. Probably neighborhoods north city and south city. Run most likely through the health department with a non-profit organization.
- Recently voted in favor to put to the voters on lifting resident requirements for police.
- More locally, met with Principal Marino at LPA to talk about traffic calming at the corner of Lafayette & Mississippi. In upcoming fiscal year, money will be devoted to that.
- Still have \$100K capital for cameras on exterior of the neighborhood. Been on hold from police department as they worked on tech efforts. Want to make sure we don't duplicate efforts from the \$5 million, which allocates for cameras around the city. Jack wants a plan by the end of the year to pin down locations.
- Question: What about the airport? Answer: On Friday, group decided to move forward with RFQ (request for qualifications) from interested companies. Jack thinks this is going to be a slow process and is skeptical that there will be a deal worth doing but is curious to see proposed plans.
- Question: Metrolink security and deals with the county? Answer: Jack doesn't know exactly what's going on other than the county is withholding funds. County does provide more officers than the city. County is putting forth a recommendation regarding secure and fair enforcement....the cost of retrofitting stations with turnstiles is enormous.

6<sup>th</sup> Ward

Christine Ingrassia (Not present)

### POLICE REPORT

3rd District

Officer Sherdon Douglas

- For the month of September there were 11 crimes:
- 7 larcenies (stealing)—1 items from a porch, 5 from vehicles (license plates, coins, clothing, tire), 1 attempted stealing from a vehicle
- 4 vehicle thefts and 2 were recovered.
  - 9/6 @ 1:30am stolen motorcycle
  - 9/13 Lasalle stolen motorcycle
  - 9/24 Mississippi vehicle that was recovered, victim said he had lost a fob key
  - 9/10 Waverly Place vehicle stolen and someone called in a suspicious auto, when police arrived and looked at footage and arrest was made.

- Regarding the car chase, they were dealing with a stolen vehicle, including a police car; west on Choteau and south on 14<sup>th</sup> and then to Park where the police stopped the chase because of safety reasons; later that day they recovered a vehicle and arrested the person driving the vehicle.
- Public Affairs Officer put out an email regarding abandoned vehicles; he wants to collect info on make, model, color, license plate, etc. → Email info to Officer Douglas who will forward on.
- Question: What happened on Carroll and (1400 block) Dolman? Answer: There was a suspicious person trying to break into a home. Officers didn't initially find anyone, then returned and arrested someone. Homeowner was home when man got in; neighbors assisted and held the suspect.

#### **GUEST SPEAKER**

**Barr Branch Library**

**(Not present)**

**Halloween Race**

**Susan Sauer**

- Sunday 10/20 is the Go! Halloween Race (10K and Half Marathon); half marathon goes through the neighborhood, around mile 7-8. Time frame is 7:30-9:30am.
- Will come in Truman Parkway, go down Park Ave and around the Park and back out to Truman Parkway. Runners will be running in the eastbound lanes, and traffic will be in the westbound lanes. Runners will hug the inside lane around Lafayette Park.
- Please come out and cheer! 😊

**House Tour Committee**

**Pat Jones**

- Sunday December 8...almost have a full line-up of houses.
- Will be looking for volunteers in another month or so.
- Looking for a new chair! Please attend a meeting to learn more. Next meeting is 10/16.

**Strategic Plan**

**Linda Weiner**

- Moving along on the strategic plan!
- Sunday November 17 3-5pm @ Jefferson Room in Vin De Set building will have community meeting. How do you envision Lafayette Square in the next 5 years? Re: safety, diversity, wish list, how to fund the wish list.

#### **NEW AND ONGOING BUSINESS**

**Upcoming Elections**

**LSRC Membership**

- Motion made and seconded to approve board as presented. Motion passed. New board elected.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Treasurer**

**Clark Affholder**

- Reports were circulated and emailed.
- Pretty much on budget across the board. Starting to spend money...big checks being cut for capital improvements.
- Please let Clark know if your committee has a budget and wants it changed! Will present 2020 budget at next meeting.
- [treasurer@lafayettesquare.org](mailto:treasurer@lafayettesquare.org)

**Development**

**Phil Lamczyk/Suzanne Sessions**

- 4-family on Carroll and Dolman has been sold! 😊 Developer will come to next meeting
- LaSalle and Missouri—on hold.

- Hickory Reserve—waiting for plans to be presented to Development and Cultural Resources.
- Dolman (1100 and 1000 Blocks)—individual townhouses being planned.
- Bordeaux Apartments (Mop Factory)—owner will put up 1 or 2 units on the Holiday Tour. Apartments are pretty much complete, and lobby and other common areas still need a lot of work.
- Choteau Development—tentative viewing of potential apartment at Jefferson and Choteau (commercial on 1<sup>st</sup> floor, offices on 2<sup>nd</sup> floor). Things are moving though!
- Question: There's trash/tree limbs in the street...who's responsible? People cleaning up the lots?  
Response: We think there are problems with traffic flow on Missouri and McKay that are yet to be dealt with. It will be worked on! Response from neighbor: city came to pick up the trash...it was illegally dumped.
- Comment: Missouri/Hickory there is a school bus always honking near Rutger because they can't get down the street.
- Question: Is there an ordinance requiring people to mow their strip between the sidewalk and the street. Response: Call Citizen Service Bureau....sometimes you'll get a result. It helps to be very specific about the complaint.
- Question: What is the timeline for 2300 LaSalle to be completed? Answer: We don't know...they've passed all the requirements they need. There is a hold-up somewhere in permitting, but it's passed the city and Development. Everything was a go, and they're having problems with utilities/details. There is no problem with the design. The area is filled with numerous problems dating before Praxair.
- Question: How many units is 2300 LaSalle? Answer: 34 units. Question: When is the second building in the Choteau Development? Answer: The 2300 LaSalle is the only one that has been completely approved. Everything beyond that—i.e. Hickory Reserve—needs approval by the Development Committee and city committees. Should see progress in the next year.

#### **Beautification**

**Linda Weiner**

- We need help with the Lafayette Median to water (we have access to the hydrant).
- 10/16 Enterprise volunteers (25) to plant 1000 tulip bulbs and a LOT of perennials and natives. Others are welcome. Neighbors will be supervising (Dahms, and Mike Jones)—thank you!

#### **Community Affairs**

**Dixie Gillaspie**

- John Dedeke got the Marquis to the press! Next deadline is November 1.
- Please share ideas with Dixie regarding new projects.

#### **Capital Improvements**

**Mary Visintainer (not present)**

- New street signs look great!

#### **Membership**

**Christina Ryan**

- Members should be receiving minutes and renewal reminders. If you are not, please email Christina [membership@lafayettesquare.org](mailto:membership@lafayettesquare.org)
- Halloween Party on 10/31: Scott and Suzi Jones have graciously funded and organized this event for many years. They will continue to fund the event, and Stephen and Christina Ryan have volunteered to organize it. In need of volunteers for decorating and bringing candy for the giant assembly line.

**LSBA**

**Bethany Budde**

- Tricks and Treats on Park 10/26 11-1, participating businesses will be handing out candy, games & crafts in the Fountain Plaza.
- Tree Lighting Ceremony 12/1 5-7 in Fountain Plaza. Crafts, Santa, cocoa, movie, etc. Would like volunteers to help.

### **SAFETY REPORTS**

#### **Problem Properties**

**Kyle Keenan**

- The Carroll/Doman property sold! Developer is promising 4 high-end units.
- 1713 Carroll with active violations...owner that doesn't live there has a warrant out.
- Upcoming hearing on 10/24 1812 Lafayette...almost been a year of hearings. The daughter of the owner has an attorney and is listed on the hearing. (One of the broken down cars is gone.)
- 1427 Missouri abandoned scaffolding being addressed.
- Discussing "neighborhood sweeps" when notes could be taken on every broken window, broken-down cars on property (not on streets), overgrown lawns, etc.
- LRA Property on Hickory....trying to get an update.
- It's hard to look up information...if you know an owner's name, then you have to know their DOB!
- 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**

- Tom Murphy—Request for volunteers to help maintain the substation and ask for donations.
- Dave Visintainer—Officer Douglas gave the crime report.
- Steve Wilde—Jack shows interest in cameras again so we hope to get that discussion going again.
- Clubs available for \$10 and directories available.
- FYI, there is technology in which thieves use a signal booster to use YOUR fob to unlock and steal your car. Neighbor Suggestion: Buy an RFID box for \$20 on amazon to keep your key fobs in.

### **NEIGHBORHOOD ORGANIZATIONAL REPORTS**

#### **Lafayette Park Conservancy**

**Ward Buckner**

- Sunday 10/13 @ 10 The Mourning Society of St Louis will give a presentation on how the Victorians celebrated death in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Come in Victorian dress. 😊
- The tree that had a significant crack had a huge limb that cracked off before it could be repaired.

#### **Lafayette Square Arts Council**

**Sue Lindhardt**

- Off-season...would like to offer help with Halloween Party. Please consider volunteering!

#### **The New President, Matt Negri, Speaks 😊**

Thank you so much to Emily! This will be a great year...we need everyone's open and honest feedback on the strategic plan. Excited to work with the new board!

**ADJOURN: 8:14pm      AFTER-MEETING SOCIAL: Thank you, Sqwires! (Happy 18<sup>th</sup> anniversary!)**

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