

The Lafayette Square Restoration Committee membership meeting was held at Squires on March 12, 2019.

President Emily O-Brien called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM.

Minutes of the February meeting were approved.

New residents were welcomed and included Jeremy and Amanda on Hickory, Shaun Tooley and John Marshall on Mississippi and Marsha Delcour on 18th St.

Police Officer Sherdon Douglas talked about crimes in the past month that include two robberies and a theft. She reviewed serious robberies in February, the one on Park Avenue near Square One Brewery and the robbery of three juveniles held up by gunpoint in the park. Juvenile offenders have identified but their outcome is unknown. A resident mentioned we should keep guns out of our cars.

The Chouteau Project naming contest is complete, and the winners were announced by Bill Odell: First place went to Suzanne Sessions for 'Praxaire Parc.' Second place goes to Jackie Gewinner for 'NOLS' (North of Lafayette Square.) Third-place went to Mary Dahms and Sharon Stockmann for 'Park du Lafayette.'

Lift for Life Academy, a charter school, helps inner-city kids and it has a great graduation rate. Their big fundraiser is coming up in April. Jill Peckinpaugh asked for a significant donation and she talked about what the school does for their students.

A motion passed to approve \$500 as a donation to the Lift for Life Academy. Motion by Matt Negri, second by Tom Murphy.

Recycling: Jessica from St. Louis Recycles and Brightside gave a quick lesson about appropriate recycling in our single stream containers. She brought large containers that residents could purchase for a donation of a \$1.00. She said there are six things that always should be recycled: paper, flattened cardboard, plastic bottles and containers and lids regardless of how they are marked, glass regardless of color, food and beverage in metal containers, and cartons from refrigerated foods but not from freezer foods. Never recycle these: plastic bags, Styrofoam, food waste, sharps and needles. Our recycling saves the city \$18 for every recycled ton.

Sixth Ward news: Christina Ingrassia reported on the problem properties meeting for the 6th and 7th Wards attended by several key neighborhood leaders. She talked about the possibility of bringing nuisance lawsuits to address these problems. Matt Negri congratulated Christina on her election in the primary.

Block captains and safety: Glenn Eckert reviewed jobs of the safety committee which includes monitoring crime. Cameras will assist with that and Glenn is working with a group on that effort. Residents can get a discount on the Ring camera system as long as the camera is shipped to ZIP Code 63104. The discount is \$40 off the regular price. The code is CPP - 63104 - Lafayette.

Crime report of resident. Wayne White talked about how the Ring system took a photo of perps who were trespassing on his property at 4:30 AM. And he is using that information for prosecution.

Problem properties: Kyle Keener of our problem properties committee said that housing court will be hearing from the owners of 1713 Carroll and 2018 Lafayette on March 28. Two avenues are possible for the neighborhood to pursue these problem properties: municipal courts where violations are key, and civil court where our neighborhood can file a lawsuit about property affected by the nuisance property.

There were no reports from the LSBA committee, the LPC, or the Arts Council.

Capital improvements: Emily O'Brien said the LSRC Board is pursuing legal representation for several issues including the intersection of Park and Dolman where materials have broken down immediately after installation. Linda Pallmann is heading up the committee, contact her if you have suggestions and ideas for legal representation. Matt Negri talk about the crumbling intersection.

Development: Phil Lamczyk mentioned the former Stray Rescue building at 1463 S. 18th will have plans reviewed at the next meeting for a restaurant/bar. The apartments at Missouri and LaSalle are being reviewed again. There are vacancies on the development committee. Please volunteer! If you are on the development committee you help by reviewing plans for exteriors and you evaluate compliance of those plans according to our historic code which is a city ordinance.

House Tour committee: it has an opening for a volunteer coordinator. Later in the meeting Suzanne Sessions asked members to open their house for the tour. It is the 50th anniversary – contact Suzanne or Pat Jones. It is a lot of fun and it doesn't hurt!

Membership committee: Christina Ryan welcomes new members!

Beautification: Linda Weiner said spring is coming. She is sponsoring an alley cleanup on April 2nd and high school students will be there to help any resident who wants help. Linda needs supervisors to help with this task. Take photos of your ugly alley and send to Linda; sign up your alley so that it can be improved. A prize for most improved alley is a barbecue event.

Community affairs: Dixie Gillaspie reminded everyone that the "Lafayette Square community" is the Facebook name for this neighborhood's official FB page and access is limited to those who have businesses in or who live in the Square. She mentioned that the Go St. Louis race will be held on Sunday, April 7 from 7 am to 12:30 and there will be street closures. A map is available.

Emily mentioned two upcoming meetings: Tuesday, April 2 is the board meeting. Tuesday, April 9 is the membership meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 7:58 PM.

Kim Peterson
Secretary pro tem