



LAFAYETTE SQUARE RESTORATION COMMITTEE

April 9, 2019 SqWires Annex

CALL TO ORDER 7:02pm

Matt Negri

- **Welcome New Residents:** None...welcome to all the old residents. 😊
- **Review and approve:** March 2019 minutes

ALDERMAN REPORTS

6th Ward

Christine Ingrassia

- Christine could not make it.

7th Ward

Jack Coatar

- Concerns about LaClede Gas, metering, moving valves as related to the historic code. Laclede has assured that there has been lots of discussion and Preservation Board has assured there will be no meters on the front of houses; there *may* need to be a valve in front here and there.
- Last time there was a question about the number of police officers; 128 officers below authorized force. This is an improvement over 18 months ago, when there was a 300 officer deficit. Department has hired two new recruiters.
- Still out of session. New 19-20 session will start on 4/16. First order of business is the budget; needs to pass by end of June...which means it's time for new capital investment.
- Working on the camera program; trying to lock down a meeting with the RTCC (Real Time Crime Center). There is already money set aside for this project from last fiscal year.
- Zoning changes related to Amendment 2 (legalization of medical marijuana). Plan is to keep the light industrial growing places in industrial areas. Dispensaries would fall under pharmacies. (The zoning is also heavily regulated by the state.) It's also a heavily regulated since Missouri is the 38th state to legalize. As a local municipality, we can tax.
- The city still needs people to mow the parks this summer! Last summer the grass in Lafayette Park (among other places) grew VERY tall due to an equipment shortage. The equipment issue is fixed, but the Parks Department desperately needs employees. Jack thinks the pay starts at \$10.10/hr and goes up with experience.
- Question about house on Carroll St; there was a permit for some electrical work...how long is a building permit good for? Generally if there is no work happening after a couple months, the permit is defunct, and the owner needs to re-apply.
- Question about update on the Choteau re-development? Groundbreaking is April 18. Bill O'Dell is present and can answer questions after the meeting.
- Question about Air B&B regulation progress? Christine has been working hard on this. The planning/zoning staff had to pause on this to work on the marijuana zoning changes. What the Air B&B regulation will look like is still up in the air; there is disagreement, and the committee is researching what other cities have done that is successful/not successful.

- Question about Caterpillar truck that has been parked for a while? That belongs to the Forestry Dept. Concrete needs to be removed near the Kern Pavilion—Parks Dept needs to handle that. Jack will follow up.

POLICE REPORT

3rd District

Officer Sherdon Douglas

- Crime rate for March was only 3; 2 robberies: theft from a backyard and a stolen license plate and 1 auto theft: vehicle stolen from in front of residence, and the vehicle was recovered.
- Safety Assembly last Friday at LPA; today was Read with a Cop, and Lunch with a Cop is planned. Officeres will also attend their Field Day in the park.
- Park Smart cards and business cards are available.

*****Tom Murphy:** Safety committee invites people to share information and participate in a locally organized list of residences with cameras to facilitate sharing footage with the police department.

ONGOING BUSINESS

House Tour Update

Pat Jones

- House Tour 50th Anniversary Tour! June 1 & 2
- All houses and gardens confirmed. Poster is almost done (Sharon & Dick Stockmann).
- Phil will be posting on Nextdoor regarding volunteer sign-up.

GUEST SPEAKER

Tour Map

Dick Stockmann

- Dick & Sharon are members of the National Trust. Recently received a membership drive notice that had a sticker saying, "I saved a place for you." Seemed like a good slogan for the 50th anniversary house tour! Theme: We saved a place for you; this year's poster is less "pretty" and more sending a message that pays homage to the neighborhood's history and the hard work of individuals to rescue so many structures.
- Dick has developed a map that color codes the buildings of the neighborhood according to whether they were saved or became new construction lots. Dick would like to feature the map in a brochure/booklet accompanied by a write-up he has written about LafSq's history.
- **Asking for \$2,000 to have a printer (Studio 2108) do the technical work and layout work and make the map camera-ready. Can then make brochures, a booklet, etc.**
- Comment from Pat Jones: At the last House Tour Meeting, the committee agreed to put \$1K from the house tour budget expenses toward this project.
- Question about whether the project was bid out: no...Dick went to a vendor that is a resident of the neighborhood and who we know will be invested in the project.
 - Glenn: Shoutout to Wayne White who gives many hours of free labor to various neighborhood projects.
- ***Motion made and Approved to put 2K toward the map project.***

Diversity Sculptures

David Emring

- David has a background in building, art, and also has worked at Wells Fargo for 15 years.
- Wells Fargo supports Brightside St Louis and encourages employees to spend time doing community service. Brightside is what inspired David's project.
- On Jefferson between Choteau and 40, Wells Fargo/Brightside has been maintaining the landscaped strip between the lanes; a LOT of weeding. ☺
- Proposal is to build an artistic structure/sculpture in this strip. (Progression of powder-coated aluminum pipe, maintenance-free, colors representing various groups in our city.) "Together We Are Strong." The project will be landscaped.
- The project has been approved by the city. The regional Arts Council has to approve it. They want—and David is asking for—the local community to support the project via comments, petition, etc.
- David has already contacted various unions (including Sheet Metal Union, Welders Union, etc.); the unions are willing to collaborate and donate the project to the city.

SAFETY REPORTS

Block Captains/Safety

Glenn Eckert

- Now offering clubs for just \$5!!!
- Glenn has directories available.
- New block captain on Rutger—Mary Kay Jung.
- Working with Jack to schedule meeting with RTCC.

Problem Properties

Kyle

- Hearing at end of March on two properties (2018 Lafayette, 1713 Carroll St) that had multiple violations. Neither owner appeared. There was not much on the docket so multiple issues were presented, letter from the committee was shared, and neighbors of the problem properties were able to have their say. → Next hearing is May 9 @10am Courtroom 1 at 1520 Market St (Judge Joan Miller). so judge can make a decision about what the city can actually do and give owners multiple opportunities to follow through.
- Successes: House on Nicholson with falling-in back wall has been rebuilt; house on Hickory has been sold.
- Question about the other properties and what can be addressed: Kyle says that there are about 12 properties total; the two above are the ones with active violations from the city.
- Question about building at corner of Lafayette and 18th, 4-family being converted to 2-family has vinyl windows going in.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

LSBA

Bethany Budde

- No updates

Capital Improvements

Linda Pallman

- Just placed an order for all new street signs within the square, as well as new poles. Hoping to have it done before house tour, but depends on shipping times.

Development**Phil Lamczyk/Suzanne Sessions**

- Meeting is 3rd Tuesday of the month at the Park House.
- Reviewing a new resident's proposed plan, as well as Stray Rescue Building plan for restaurant/bar.
- Apartment complex proposed for Missouri and LaSalle.
- No update on Scientology building.

Membership**Christina Ryan**

- Moms in the Square is organizing a low-key egg hunt and family picnic in the park/playground Sunday April 14 @ 4pm.

Beautification**Linda Weiner**

- Linda not able to attend.
- Linda has been organizing groups of volunteers to weed and plant.

Community Affairs**Dixie Gillaspie**

- Dixie not able to attend.

NEIGHBORHOOD ORGANIZATIONAL REPORTS**Lafayette Park Conservancy**

- FYI The concrete at the back of the Kern is what is left of an old shuffleboard court.
- **Trees:** A large number of trees have been cut down; Alderman Coatar has donated 10 trees; the conservancy has also planted an additional 10 high-canopy trees.
- **Restrooms:** Last year, we had permission from the city to open the restrooms, and the neighborhood had to organize open/closing. The city says a staff person has been designated to do this starting April 1.
- **Flags:** In the past, the Conservancy used to buy the American flag and St Louis flag and raise the flags. The city decided that they would buy the flags themselves. They did it for a while, and then they stopped. Working with the city to follow through on this by the house tour. There are branches from an oak tree getting in the way of the park.

Lafayette Square Arts Council

- Planning concerts/movies. First concert will be Saturday June 1.

Other: Two Donations Approved**Matt Negri**

- \$500 to South City YMCA for swim lessons for kids from Clinton Peabody. (Did last year as well)
- \$750 to the Old North House Tour, a neighborhood that is like LafSq 50 years ago; the donation includes advertising for our house tour.

ADJOURN: 8:12pm**AFTER-MEETING SOCIAL: Thank you, Sqwires!****❖ Next LSRC Board Meeting is Tuesday, May 7 at the Park House, 7pm**

❖ Next LSRC General Meeting is Tuesday, May 14 at Sqwires Annex, 7pm