

Minutes of the LSRC Board Meeting

March 2, 2021

Revised and corrected 3/19/2021

The LSRC Board met at 7 PM via Zoom. These members attended: Tom Murphy, Kim Peterson, Suzanne Sessions, Glenn Eckert, Sheri Mistretta, Brooke Gocken, Clark Affholder, Diana Gray, Matt Negri, Ian McCormack, Kelly Schlueter, Christina Ryan, Ron Gorman

Minutes of the last meeting were approved. Motion by Session, 2nd by Negri.

Capital Improvements: Ian reported on the street sign project. Mary Visintainer and others are counting the numbers of poles needed to complete the project. Planters at the end of McKay will be moved when the building project starts there. Documentation has been sent to the city for our \$19,000 reimbursement. The Rutger project is still live—waiting for warmer weather to proceed. Discussion followed about placing committees for Beautification and Maintenance under jurisdiction of Capital Improvements. CI and Maintenance are tied together, can't have one without the other. There is interest by the Board in having each committee report to a Vice President for budget control and overall monitoring of appropriate activity. Beautification and Community Garden could fall under CI.

A motion passed to move Maintenance, Beautification, and Community Garden to sit under the management of the VP of Capital Improvements. Motion by Peterson, 2nd by Sessions.

Fundraising Committee: Tom said Kelly Schlueter has volunteered to fill the role of Committee Chairman for the fundraising Committee. Thank you Kelly!

Virtual House Tour/Auction: Sheri reviewed tour issues. She talked about need to spend additional money to complete filming. Original video contract signed September 2020 was for the December 2020 House Tour event. End of 2020 required an event pivot for the House Tour to be a Spring event with expanded interviews, homes and include both Holiday and Spring footage. This pivot required additional filming days, an addendum contract which added an overall \$2,450 to the 2021 House Tour approved budget.

A motion passed to accept addendum to the filming contract in the amount of \$2,450; this is in addition to our initial agreement. Motion by Peterson, 2nd by Sessions.

Tom summarized spending to say we are spending around \$25,000 on this filming project. We project it to generate \$40,000.

Suzanne spoke about progress of filming and also about gardens on tour. The live Garden tour is currently planned for one day but may go to two days. Sheri introduced sponsorship categories to show there are various opportunities at different levels. Much discussion followed about sponsorship amounts and value to sponsors.

A motion passed to accept the House Tour Committee's recommendations for sponsorship categories with the exception of changing Garden Tour sponsor category to \$750. Motion by Peterson, 2nd by Ryan.

Ticket prices for virtual tour: Extensive discussion took place about appropriate pricing.

A motion passed to have these prices: \$10 for virtual tour and \$10 for garden tour. Motion by Mistretta, 2nd by Affholder.

Lafayette Park Conservancy: Tom reported on his meeting with Michael Bushar, new President of the LPC. They plan to collaborate closely on efforts such as a volunteer database, coordinating events in the park and nearby, fundraising, increasing use of the Park, and Safety around the Park (traffic.)

Substation lease: A Motion passed to enter into a lease for the substation property on Park Ave at the same price as in the past. Motion by Schlueter, 2nd by Eckert.

Lift for Life donation: brief discussion of this request for the Academy took place.

A motion passed to donate \$250.00 to the Lift for Life academy. Motion by Peterson, 2nd by Eckert.

Bylaws revision: Kim summarized ideas from the bylaws review committee. Send further ideas to her. The committee recommends our final draft be given to an attorney. We need to complete these bylaws by end of summer.

Farmers' Market in the Square: The originator of the Tower Grove farmers' market wants to hold a farmers' market in Lafayette Square. The general idea was greeted with enthusiasm with the main concern being how this affects businesses along Park Ave. We will suggest he contact these businesses to involve them in any planning process.

Neighborhood directory: Kim reviewed basic facts of the neighborhood directory. Discussion centered on accuracy of data, usefulness to the neighborhood, and how it is distributed. She recommend that in this COVID year perhaps no change is warranted even though eventually this directory will not be viable.

A Motion passed (7 to 4) to continue the directory in 2021 and to allocate \$400 to pay someone to distribute it. Motion by Peterson, 2nd by Sessions.

Committee updates:

Membership: Christina has been updating our website which includes membership area and making a place for meeting minutes.

Treasurer's report: Sheri said she had sent out the report

Safety: Glenn reported on giving handouts to block captains. The substation is much nicer after the work of the Murphys. Security camera has been reset. Kim said we added 11 block captains in recent weeks.

Development: Suzanne said city departments are slow to respond. Issues are awnings on Sqwires and McAvoy property.

Pocket Park Acquisition: Tom reviewed the idea of taking ownership of the mini park since Chris Goodson will give it to us. The legal cost to acquire it is about \$5,000 and insurance is around \$400 annually. Ongoing maintenance would be ours. We need a plan for the use of this parcel for now and future. There was discussion of using donated money for its improvement.

Meeting adjourned at 9 p.m.

Kim Peterson
LSRC Board Secretary