



Lafayette Square Neighborhood Association (LSRC)  
Board of Directors Meeting  
February 1, 2022

The Board met via Zoom with the following members present: Tom Murphy, Jamie Shahmirzadi, Megan Biegacki, Marsha Delcour, Christina Ryan, George Boulware, Matt Negri, Kelly Schlueter, Sarah Hurst, Jill Peckinpaugh, Tim Strickfaden, Brooke Gocken, Abbey Schlueter, Steve Wilde

### **Meeting Minutes:**

The meeting was called to order and last month's minutes were unanimously approved at 7:08 PM.  
Motion by Christina, 2nd by Kelly.

### **Ongoing Business:**

**Accounting Services-** The Board is in need of an accountant as we have outgrown our current bookkeeper. By hiring an accountant, it will free up the Treasurer from doing this and she can focus on larger tasks. We are in the process of getting a few quotes and any leads are appreciated.

**Pocket Park Subcommittee Update-** There has been great progress in gathering proposed ideas from neighbors and hearing what they envision this space to be. The plan is to contact ~3 architects to draw up RFP's and decide from there.

**LS Email Addresses-** It has been decided every Chair will have a LafayetteSquare.org email and the email addresses will be listed on our website making it easier for residents to locate the appropriate Board members. Members at Large will have a group email.

### **New Business:**

**New Park Ave Businesses-** An email was sent to membership explaining the business model of the new storefront, Onyx Dagger, for any questions/feedback. We received overwhelming positive neighborhood feedback via social media, email, and their open house. The LSNA Board was in favor and a Letter of Support was provided. It came to our attention that a small group of neighbors took issue with the word "tattoo" on the business's signage and told the owner she needed to change it. The owner felt pressured because she wants to be in good standing with the neighborhood so she changed it to "design". There is nothing in the historic code addressing signage and businesses do not need LSNA or the Preservation Board approval. The Board discussed the importance of:

- differentiating between one's personal opinion as a private citizen verses representing the Board
- committee Chairs making sure that their subcommittee members do not represent their chairpersons, the LSNA Board, or the LSNA as a whole without permission of the Chair or Board
- all Board members having an understanding of the historic code

- knowing what we want as a neighborhood and liaising with the owners (of the building that have business renters) and recruit
- remembering that we are not an enforcement agency and ultimately have no control over what businesses enter the neighborhood (However, we can express concern at city hearings and deny letters of support)

Savvy Bridal has been a beautiful addition to our neighborhood.

### **Committee Updates:**

**Membership Update-** Every membership is set up for auto-renewal and members will receive notification emails before renewal. New incentives to join/renew are currently in progress and will be posted to our website once approved.

**Treasurer Update-** It was a quiet January. Kelly is making QR code (see below)

**Business Affairs Update-** We are now managing Park House rentals. A QR code is being placed on the Park House window so the community can submit their requested dates. Eventually there will be a Google form where people can submit multiple dates, have a check in/check out list, etc. The Marquis is going out soon stating LSNA name change that has been approved by Membership and was strongly recommended in the 5 Year Strategic Plan two years ago.

**Safety Update-** Steve has a steering wheel clubs that will be raffled off at March's neighborhood meeting. LS stickers to be given away at Membership's event tent. Continued efforts figuring out the camera system.

**Capital Improvement Update-** Tom is working with Ian & Frank on the possibility to add more electricity to the Fountain Plaza area. We need more electricity if we want larger scale events held there.

**Communications Update-** The plan is to add more merchandise to our website but inventory tracking is an issue.

**Development Update-** Quiet January

**Fundraising Update-** Fundraising has never had a budget in the past. The working budget for 2022 is \$20,000 with a goal of raising \$72,500. Fundraising will need several volunteers to help with event committees. A calendar of events for 2022 has been established with new fundraising efforts.

### **Upcoming Meetings:**

The next General Membership Meeting, February 8, will be held via Zoom due to the rise in Covid cases. Everyone will be notified at this meeting that we will be switching the meetings to the 2nd Wednesdays of each month. Hope to have our March meetings in-person.

Kelly called for the meeting to be adjourned. All agreed and the meeting ended at 9:05 pm.