



Lafayette Square Neighborhood Association (LSNA)
Board of Directors Meeting
January 31st, 2023 (for February)

The Board met in person with the following members present: Christina Ryan, Tatiana Clader, Sarah Hurst, Nicole Ewing, Mark Kapp, Bart Lissner, Chris Waldbuesser, Megan Biegacki, Matt Negri, George Boulware, Bart Lissner, Chris Budde, and joining virtually: Jill Peckinpaugh, Tom Murphy, and Beth Concepcion

Meeting Minutes:

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM. Minutes for January were approved, motion by Matt 2nd by Megan.

Clifton Strengths Coaching Session:

Claire Rippel (neighbor on LaSalle) is a Clifton Strengths coach and teaches Neighborhood Leadership Academy through UMSL.

Group began with identifying and labeling their 5 top strengths. The group noticed that we have many members in the Relationship Building category, and fewer in Executing. The board also has several people with 3-5 of their strengths in the same category, but most of the group has strengths scattered throughout Executing, Influencing, Relationship Building, Strategic Thinking. Claire highlighted that the goal is to narrow in on our strengths and elevate ourselves through them so as to use our top strengths to our benefit. Try not to focus too much on the areas of growth but refine and practice the areas in which we scored highest. Claire suggested that we “sharpen our pencils of strength” but not to let strengths take over. She encouraged the group to look more deeply into their strengths and how to use the strengths to our benefit individually, in addition to as a board.

Ongoing Business:

Update on insurance providers: Since our insurance is up for renewal in February, we did not have enough time to research new providers. A calendar reminder will remind Chris and Matt to look into options next August. Our current provider does have expertise with neighborhood associations and is also the insurer for the LPC. Christina expressed dissatisfaction to our provider with regard to responsiveness, and Mr. Shadley will improve on that.

LSNA Policies and Procedures Subcommittee: Donna working on an organizational chart to serve as the “table of contents” for the Policies and Procedures document. Chris asks that all board members look at org chart (linked in meeting agenda) to ensure that every member is aware of their responsibilities and to whom they report. Electronic voting policy is being drafted, and Mark will send out shortly.

Update on LPC/Park House Relationship: Christina and Matt met with MichaelBusher to begin discussion about LPC taking over Park House. Christina reported that the conversation was informational and productive. The conversation included beginning talks for LPC to begin using the Park House as LSNA has, and to begin sharing the space together over the next year until LPC takes over Park House responsibilities in full, next year. Until then LPC will begin splitting the utilities 50% with LSNA. Christina mentioned that LSNA may start making a small donation to LPC when full takeover takes place.

New Business:

Storage of digitized House Tour Posters (~40GB): We currently have a free Dropbox account and the storage that comes with our Google Suite. Steve Wilde has a personal drive storing the digital files of all House Tour Posters, which needs to be transferred to the board Google drive to house all files. The board decided that it makes more sense to upgrade our Google storage versus Dropbox storage. Tim Strickfaden will look into cost and coordinate on payment and file transfers with Steve W, Christina, and Sarah.

City League Donation - Vote to present to membership

Matt motion to donate \$ 250 to City League, 2nd by Megan. Christina brought the motion to a vote. 10 Yes, 1 no, 1 abstain. No vote from those (3) present virtually.

*Jill reports that we donated \$300 to Lift for Life Academy last year, and then fundraising raised an additional \$600-\$700 organically. We will have a longer, more strategic discussion regarding donations next month.

Committee Updates:

Membership Update- Nothing new to report, but if there are any opportunities to give members early access to ticketing, events, etc., keep this in mind as we have high turnout using member exclusivity.

Treasurer Update- All 1099s are filed! Room Ready claimed we overpaid for the year by \$745.00. New accountant wants the treasurer to report at board meetings every month, but financials aren't ready until the 15th of the month. Sara will share when updates are ready. We must have **bids** if there is a purchase request for over \$1,000. Reimbursements- members of the board, and members of the association can make purchases and be reimbursed by the neighborhood as long as purchase amounts are less than \$1,000. There is now a requisition that needs to be used for all purchases that require reimbursement.

Fundraising Update- Event Calendar update: April 8- Easter Egg Hunt, May 17- Cocktails on Plaza, June 3- Spring Garden and Antique Fair, Sept 10- Summer Run, Oct 6- Masquerade Ball, Dec 2- Light up the Square & Pet Parade, Dec 10 Holiday House Tour. Still looking for a House Tour Chair.

Business Affairs Update- Possibility of renting Park House to House Made Hospitality – a company owned and run by local neighbors, Christina and Daniel Walsh. They are fully licensed and insured, have liquor license, have staff, etc. Chris motion for Christina to reach out to House Made Hospitality and, at her discretion, has approval to move forward with renting the building to them. 2nd by Megan. All in favor.

Safety- Why high cost for Wi-Fi at the Park House? Approx. \$120 and \$89. We have two IP addresses, and each needs its own account. George continuing to follow up through contacts Tom has with PD.

Capital Improvement Update- N/A

Communications Update- N/A

Preservation Update- Developer reached out to Preservation to renovate the building on Jefferson & Chouteau. Updates coming.

Announcements:

Upcoming Meetings:

Christina called for the meeting to be adjourned, 2nd by Megan. All agreed and the meeting ended at 9:17PM.

Feb gen assembly mtg February 8, 2023 @7pm at Sqwires.

Next Board Meeting(s) February 28, 2023 (for March)