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**LAFAYETTE SQUARE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION**

**Sqwires 7 PM**

**June 14th, 2023**

**AGENDA**

**CALL TO ORDER 7:05pm Christina Ryan** *president@lafayettesquare.org*

**Review and approve April 2023 Minutes-** The May minutes were approved without comment.

\*Two new residents were welcomed.

**GUEST SPAEAKERS**

**New Earth Farm Rachael Greathouse**

* Addressed the membership on their residential composting program.

**8th WARD ALDERMAN REPORT Cara Spencer**

[**cara@cara-spencer.com**](mailto:cara@cara-spencer.com)

* Budget considerations recently focused on the Pothole Fund and downed streetlights.
  + Legislation being considered includes Air BnB regulation, Parking Lot regulation, banning open-carry of weapons.
* -Q: Is St Louis at risk of having money pulled back by government efforts to recover unspent COVID relief money? Those funds have been allocated, but not spent, so there is a chance they could be pulled back.
* -Q: Update on the Scientology building at Lafayette and Jefferson? A proposal is in the works.
* -Q: Update on water improvements? A rate increase of approximately 20% is being considered to improve infrastructure. The Water Department is operating at a deficit and is in need of significant funds.
* -Q: What are the salaries of Water Department personnel? Unknown.
* -Q: Update on new Circuit Attorney? He is raising salaries and recruiting.

**POLICE REPORT-3rd District Officer Jazmon Garrett**

[**jdgarrett@slmpd.org**](mailto:jdgarrett@slmpd.org)

**314-444-2595**

The police report was provided by email. Nine incidents were reported in the previous month: seven larcenies and two vehicle thefts.

**NEIGHBORHOOD ORGANIZATION UPDATES**

**Barr Branch Library Tiger Reed**

[*treed@slpl.org*](mailto:treed@slpl.org)

Update was provided by email.

**Lafayette Prep Academy (LPA) Christina Ryan**

Nothing new to report.

**Lafayette Park Conservancy (LPC) Michael Bushur, Executive Director**

[*Michael.Bushur@lafayettepark.org*](mailto:Michael.Bushur@lafayettepark.org)

Playground upgrades are possible by the end of the year.

**Lafayette Square Arts Council Donna Korando**

*acls@lafayettesquare.org* **\***See full summer concert schedule here: <https://lafayettesquare.org/community/arts-council-of-lafayette-square/>

**NEW AND ON-GOING BUSINESS**

* Discussion of endorsement by the LSNA for a zoning variance for Phia Pella.
* President provided background on LSNA Endorsement Policy.
* President provided background on the property and the variance requested
* Prospective business owner, Sophia Beard, addressed the membership.
* Opposed resident, Janice Edwards addressed the membership.
* Brief open discussion, including conditional use versus variance was held.
* The proposal was referred to an electronic vote by the membership to be held the same week.

The replacement of the mural in the community garden was briefly discussed. The Garden Subcommittee will generate proposals.

* Board vacancies were discussed. Mitch Hunt was announced as the new Chair of Improvements.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Treasurer’s Report (Jan/Apr/Jul/Oct) Sarah Hurst**

[*treasurer@lafayettesquare.org*](mailto:treasurer@lafayettesquare.org)

**Business Affairs Bart Lissner**

[*lsba@lafayettesquare.org*](mailto:lsba@lafayettesquare.org)

Cocktails on the Plaza raised over $4k.

**Fundraising Jill Peckinpaugh**

[*fundraising@lafayettesquare.org*](mailto:fundraising@lafayettesquare.org)

Garden Tour profits exceeded $8k with over 2k attendees. House Tour is looking for houses.

**Membership Megan Biegacki** [*membership@lafayettesquare.org*](mailto:membership@lafayettesquare.org)

e-vote links to be sent by Friday

**Preservation Matt Negri**

[*preservation@lafayettesquare.org*](mailto:preservation@lafayettesquare.org)

Provided updates on problem properties action, to include that the LSNA has retained an attorney to begin legal action on three properties. The legal options and way ahead were discussed.

**Communications Tim Strickfaden**

[*communications@lafayettesquare.org*](mailto:communications@lafayettesquare.org)

New Lafayette Square merch for sale at the market inside Sqwires!

**Safety George Boulware**

[*safety@lafayettesquare.org*](mailto:safety@lafayettesquare.org)

New crosswalk stop signs were installed. New Block Captains are needed.

**Improvements Ian McCormack**

[*improvements@lafayettesquare.org*](mailto:improvements@lafayettesquare.org)

Nothing new to report.

**Beautification Linda Weiner**

[*linderweiner@gmail.com*](mailto:linderweiner@gmail.com)

Nothing new to report.

**Maintenance Matt Negri/Mitch Hunt/Frank** [maintenance@lafayettesquare.org](mailto:maintenance@lafayettesquare.org)

Nothing new to report.

* President provided an update on the initial Ward 8 Neighborhood Association Consortium.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

\*Friday night socials are ongoing- calendar of events on social media

**Next Board Meeting:** Tuesday, August 1st

**Next General Meeting:** Wednesday, July 12th @7pm @SqWires

Meeting adjourned at 8:30  
 ****LSNA Membership Sign Up