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**Lafayette Square Neighborhood Association Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**

**02 Jan 2024 7:00PM Park House - 2023 Lafayette  
Expected Absences:** Bart

| **Item** | **Presenter** |
| --- | --- |
| Call to order and approval of December Minutes | Chris |
| Called to order at 1904  December board mtg minutes approval:   * Motion to approve: Tom * Second: Christina | |
| **Ongoing Business** |  |
| Taxing District Update/MOU | Tom |
| * Park Central engaged as management firm   + they are asking for a memorandum of understanding (MOU) first ask is to enter into a non-binding agreement of duties until election where it is approved   + the second ask is for LSNA to deposit $7k into a separate account that would cover potential legal fees. at $5k and for mailings that would have to happen per state statute; this would be a loan that would be paid back if approved and would ask that the loan be forgiven if the taxing district doesn’t pass     - LSNA would ask for another MOU detailing the repayment if passed and forgiving of the loan if it does not pass * Neighborhood Q&A Meetings Scheduled   + Sqwires Wednesday, January 17 7pm-8pm   + Barr Library Meeting Room, Saturday, January 20 10:30am-11:30am   + Zoom, Tuesday, January 23 7pm – 8pm * Website live [lafayettesquaresbd.com](http://lafayettesquaresbd.com/) * Planning on August 6th election. * January goals   + SBD boundaries and Draft Petition (1/16)   + Petition sent to Board of Alderman (1/19) * Motion to approve MOU and $7k loan made by Matt   + Second Ty | |
| Fountain Plaza and Pocket Park Updates - [Renderings](https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1P2QQ9sCFq-r-SLRbgwPssweo6-c5nw7H/edit?usp=share_link&ouid=104280667521156478295&rtpof=true&sd=true) | Tom |
| * Pocket Park   + Dec 2021 LSNA acquired the Pocket Park   + $40k line item for landscape architect fee- other bids have not been sought out     - Tom recommends not committing to those fees w/o passing of the tax district   + Park & building b/w $1.25-1.5 million   + Park alone $250-500k     - Can do park only and f/u with building later     - Building would occupy approx ⅓ of the park     - Building gives potential for rental/retail space that could be sustaining revenue * Fountain Plaza   + Part of taxing district that Chris Goodson has been overseeing   + no formal agreement   + maintained by LSNA & Sqwires   + Question is what will happen when TIF expires/Goodson sells   + 2023 taxes have not been paid; should be paid by TIF/Goodson   + Clairfy if this property is on LSNA insurance * Parking lot   + asking if LSNA would obtain it   + currently owned by 4 entities | |
| Legal Action on Walter Moody Properties | Chris |
| * discovery interrogatories and RFP re: how this is an impact on neighbors/property values/rodents * Moody’s asked for a 30-day continuance on discovery * still do not have a date for walk through   + Jeff to take photos, combos of Chris/Matt/Tom, and Travis | |
| 2024 Budget Review and Vote  [2024 program budgets](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1YrrX1lD5rUqL3z-9rio_3kVxz1owfjKH/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=115037675990238321660&rtpof=true&sd=true) | Tatiana |
| * LSNA will report a net loss for the year ($40.7k)   + increased expenses (pergola/mural, holiday/safety patrols, Pocket Park/Fountain Plaza)   + Likely underestimated revenue   + as of 12/31/23 276k in the Together account and total expenses are well under total in the account * Will go to membership for vote at the next membership meeting * Motion to approve: Ty   + second: Christina | |
| **New Business** |  |
| 2024 Goals | Chris |
| * Transparency   + no mtg w/ individual member alone   + always wants the board to be above board * Decision making   + deliberative decision making * Consensus and cooperation are key   + if you disagree, please speak up * Board to review by-laws * Starting on time is important * Chairs to write-up monthly report and get to Chris a week before the meeting so they can be sent out w/ agenda   + when read-aheads are sent out, members are expected to have read them * Increase membership   + currently 10-15% of neighbors in the association; most are 5%   + neighborhood population is approx 23,000   + would like to put together a trifold     - last time something like this was done was in 2020   + develop a QR code to put in neighborhood w/ links on how to join LSNA   + membership voting on historic code finalized by the City could be an opportunity to increase membership * Improving advocacy on issues that impact LS   + as LSNA finds issues that are important or impactful to the neighborhood, put together quick working group to spend a week doing research, writing up theLSNA position, and getting it to Cara/BoA or the mayor’s office     - Downtown Neighborhood Assoc does a good job at this; could be a good resource   + develop policy re: this * Make volunteering easy   + Last slide of presentation at general mtgs will be upcoming volunteer meetings   + Link to volunteer on front page of website * [Lafayette Square strategic plan](https://lafayettesquare.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/LSRC-Strategic-Plan_2021.01.pdf)   + take a look at updating it   + get the big ideas on paper   + funding     - matching funds, grants, etc. * Have to figure out what we are paying for   + breaking out specific accounts ie water/power     - Park House/Substation/parking lot   + maintain paying     - getting “credit for it”     - managing it appropriately * Website   + put a working group together to give it an overhaul     - website was put together about 5 years ago       * migrated everything from old to new company to manage it. Is this the most efficient way to manage?   + Story Power - designed it and still consult w/ them     - Tim and Kelly have administrative privileges       * Jeff Baird would have a lot of historical knowledge   + The website is for LS not LSNA     - LSNA pays for it - should be on the front page * Edit communication budget to add $10,000 line item for website redesign   + will put us at approx. a $51,000 loss * Continuing improvements that were started last year * Complete transfer of the Park House to the LPC * Lafayette Square archives and storage - through former neighbors | |
| **Committee Updates** |  |
| Treasurer | Tatiana |
| * in the process of updating signers * annual review with Modern Dollar - a little over $200k in Jim King Endowment fund * Pet Parade raised and donated $400 to APA * House Tour - net income just over $71k; merch sales just over $1k | |
| Communications | Tim |
| No updates | |
| Fundraising | Jill |
| No updates | |
| Business Affairs | Bart |
| No updates | |
| Safety | George |
| * Titan worked out well for holiday safety patrol   + Friday after thanksgiving until 12/30 for 6 hours/night (4pm-10pm)   + Tom and George met with them   + Red light camera - tying that bill to some sort of surveillance bill     - putting in a lot of restrictions towards surveillance     - Pres of BoA is looking into this now     - George to reach out to Cara to get clarification     - Titan has cameras that can be mobile or stationary/on buildings with approval       * uses AI to monitor       * could have alarms go off when triggered stating that SLMPD are being called       * Balancing personal rights vs safety | |
| Improvements | Mitch |
| No updates | |
| Membership | Erika |
| * Megan met with Erica (new chair) to complete turnover | |
| Preservation | Marsha |
| No updates | |
| **Upcoming Meetings and Important Dates** |  |
| General Meeting | 10 January 2024 |
| Next Board Meeting | 06 February 2024 |

Motion to adjourn at 2056 by Ty; Seconded by Tatiana