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**LAFAYETTE SQUARE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION**

**SqWires 7 PM**

**5 May 2024**

**AGENDA**

**CALL TO ORDER 7:03pm Chris Budde** [*president@lafayettesquare.org*](mailto:president@lafayettesquare.org)**Welcome New Residents**

**Approval of March and April 2024 minutes**

Motion to approve Ty Lipe

Seconded by William Young

**GUEST SPEAKERS**

**8th WARD ALDERMAN REPORT  Cara Spencer**

[spencerc@stlouis-mo.gov](mailto:spencerc@stlouis-mo.gov) New session started 2 weeks ago

Population loss - 20k residents (7%) since 2020 census - budget and personal will be making this a focus

Reckless driving - fatality rate 3xs the national average

Attempting to force improvements at USPS

Infrastructure is number 1 priority - City has a long standing policy of allowing utility companies to repay the city to repair the roads, city doesn’t have enough staff to do this and is only charging a fraction of the real cost of the repairs; there has also been a failure to coordinate utilities to avoid the same section being damaged/repaired repeatedly

**POLICE REPORT-3rd District Officer Rojas**

[rrojas@slmpd.org](mailto:rrojas@slmpd.org)

Last 28 day crime stats:

3 reports - 1 assault, 1 burglary, 1 felony theft

88 calls for service

Coffee with the Cops - Benton Park Cafe 5/14 at 9:00am

Central Patrol Business Association night at Busch Stadium - June 25th, tickets are $25

**SLDC Neighborhood Manager** - unable to attend

**St. Louis Charter Reform Commission Anna Crosslin**

Mission is to update City’s Charter that was passed and has remain largely unchanged since 1914

Ballot language must be ready by 8/27 to ensure that proposed changes are on the Nov 2024 ballot

* Should we have a Board of Estimate and Apportionment
* Do we need a controller's office?
* Personal Dept - cumbersome structure and way to higher people despite numerous openings

[Commission website](https://www.stlouis-mo.gov/government/boards/public-board-detail.cfm?groupID=2136751020)

**NEIGHBORHOOD ORGANIZATION UPDATES**

**Barr Branch Library Tiger Reed**

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

**Lafayette Prep Academy (LPA) Dee Dee Arms, Director of**

**Development and Communications**Last day of school is 5/24

StL Gives Day is tomorrow!

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

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

Unable to attend

**Lafayette Square Arts Council Donna Korando**

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

Unable to attend

**NEW AND ON-GOING BUSINESS**

* **VP Nomination**

VP Jeff is going to have to step out of the position which leaves next year’s president vacant

Vince Volpe

* has volunteered to fill the position
* long time resident and active member of the neighborhood for just under 50 years
* Board has nominated Vince as VP, President elect
* Vince introduced himself

Nominations will remain open for 2 weeks, email Chris at [president@lafayettesquare.org](mailto:president@lafayettesquare.org) with nominations

* **Membership Chair Kimberly Winters**

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

New membership chair will be taking over duties and account

* **Update on Legal Action for Problem Properties Christina Ryan**

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

LSNA has filed suit against one owner of 3 properties that have been condemned for many years

* Owners have reached an agreement with the City that gives them until August to submit a proposal that include plans and contracts for repairs
  + there are concerns with this b/c the city has not followed through with enforcing prior agreements and owners have historically not repaired properties
* LSNA is working to file Mtn for Summary Judgment on the nuisance statute
* The other statute is receivership; LSNA would become the receiver but this does not mean the LSNA owners them or that LSNA needs to do the work; the hope is not to get to this point
* Goal is to see the buildings get fixed and see them occupied
* **Block Captain Coordinator Wayne White**

*wmw@studio2108.com*

Finalizing new block captain list

Role is about safety, communicating with neighbors, and fun

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Treasurer’s Report (Jan/Apr/Jul/Oct) Tatiana Clader**

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

**Business Affairs Bart Lissner**

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

[Cocktails on the Plaza](https://lafayettesquare.org/event/cocktails-on-the-plaza-2024/) - tickets are on sale now; taking place on 5/29. The event is limited to 150 tickets so buy them soon!

**Fundraising Jill Peckinpaugh**

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

Memorial for Susanne Sessions on Saturday at her home on Kennett

Spring event - antique fair, packard cars, food cars, vintage baseball tournament

Masquerade Ball - looking for volunteers

Gearing up for 2024 Holiday House tour and 2025 Spring house and garden tour

**Membership Kimberly Winters**

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

**Preservation Marsha Delcour**

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

Recognize loss of Susanne Sessions

* Tips of the month:
  + Permits are required for:
    - Windows & doors
    - Gutters & downspouts
    - Decorative trim
    - Tuckpointing
    - Lighting
    - Awnings
    - Street furniture
* Meets every 3rd tuesday of the month - email preservation to get on the agenda

**Communications Tim Strickfaden**

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

**Safety George Boulware**

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

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

New traffic mirrors in alleys have been installed

Working to replace historic street signs and stop signs

**Beautification Linda Weiner**

[*linderweiner@gmail.com*](mailto:linderweiner@gmail.com)Mulch on Park & Lafayette is up for grabs - please take as much as you’d like

Flowers will be available at no cost for front-facing spaces; email Linda if you’d like

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Next Board Meeting:** Tuesday, 04 May

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

**Neighborhood Yard** Saturday 6/22 - looking for more participants; [sign up form](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdkOx0Fdg2ugTcY6Ig3vaQXhtfyN5FpL1XphQet7WnWCswUEQ/viewform); please email [sapbhakta@gmail.com](mailto:sapbhakta@gmail.com) or [aliceggleston@gmail.com](mailto:aliceggleston@gmail.com) with any questions

**ADJOURN** motion by Sarah Hust; Second Christie Castille ****LSNA Membership Sign Up