Date: Tuesday, 4th August 2026, 18:00-

Attendees: President LSNA, President-Elect (Treasurer), Past President, Treasurer-Elect (telecon), Improvements Chair, Safey Chair, Membership Chair, Fundraising Chair, Communications Chair, Preservation Chair and Member at Large #3

Meeting Summary

The LSNA board meeting covered board candidate slate and election preparations, off-site storage procurement and inventory, interaction with the circuit attorney's office neighborhood-collaboration program, detailed financial review (operating balances, Jim King fund use, budget variances and potential carryovers), fundraising and event staffing (spring house tour, sponsorships, merchandise), safety and public-rights discussions (overgrown lot, traffic calming, police substation window damage and proposed technology/camera support), and a contentious discussion about renewing or retiring the organization's fictitious name. The board approved paying the $150 fictitious-name renewal to preserve options while broader community discussion occurs. Action items and next steps were assigned including budget planning timelines, bylaw/treasury threshold review, storage key distribution and shelving plans, insurance follow-up for stored assets and the police substation, and outreach for volunteer roles for events and donations.

Next steps

- Present and promote the board-recommended slate of candidates at the general membership meeting; solicit nominations and candidate qualifications. (05:48)
- Identify and recruit candidates for open officer roles (president-elect, secretary, treasurer-elect, preservation chair-elect and preservation committee members). (06:33)
- Pay the Secretary of State fictitious-name renewal ($150) to preserve options pending neighborhood discussion. (78:30)
- Finalize off-site storage details: confirm renters insurance proof to reduce fee, assign physical hard keys to volunteers, and procure/transfer shelving and stackable containers. (17:56)
- Provide inventory valuations for stored molds and items to set appropriate insured value (initial placeholder $1,000 given, board to refine values). (18:13)
- Prepare high-level financial slides for the general membership meeting and produce a condensed balance-sheet summary for presentation. (35:52)

- Coordinate Jim King fund spending plan for tree planting along Truman; notify Jim King family when project schedule is set (anticipated billing Oct–Nov before withdrawal). (39:39)
- Follow up with Jamie regarding pocket park assessor/tax questions and outstanding items (note sent ~three weeks prior). (32:25)
- Develop 2027 budgeting / long-range planning proposals and circulate drafts to chairs by end of September with near-final materials by October 30. (80:44)
- Review bylaws/treasury thresholds: propose updated check-signing and approval limits (current $1,000 threshold to be reconsidered) and document delegated approval thresholds for board review. (84:11)
- Confirm storage shelving availability at police substation and move relevant event/tent inventory for convenient access during events. (21:32)

- Fundraising: finalize brick-order handling and refund/fulfillment for the $100 order; recruit volunteers for spring tour sponsorships, marketing, communications, content, and day-of operations. (87:15)
- Safety: request insurance/agent review about police substation window damage coverage and draft a letter to the police point of contact after insurance clarification. (106:17)
- Traffic calming: compile prior 2022 traffic-calming study materials, meet with Streets (Jamie) to scope costs and potential matching funds for sidewalk/traffic projects. (102:41)
- Preservation/development: prepare conditional support letter and coordinate with neighbors and preservation committee regarding 1411 (setback/rooftop) before August preservation-board meeting. (118:57)

Elections & Board Slate

1. Board recommended slate to be presented at general membership; open roles include president-elect, secretary (vacant), treasurer-elect, preservation chair-elect and committee slots. (05:48)
2. Members discussed confirming incumbents for specific roles (Charles & Jacob for membership/communications, Barb for fundraising, Mitch and Jeff continuing); Vince self-nominated for member-at-large #1. (07:02)
3. Board agreed to request nominees state qualifications; emphasized treasurer/treasurer-elect preferred skills (financial experience, check-signing familiarity). (10:51)
4. Plan: present slate at membership meeting then accept nominations; final candidates to be presented the following month before vote. (10:09)

Storage & Inventory

1. An 'out-of-board' expedited vote occurred over email to rent off-site storage for neighborhood assets and molds; lease secured and items moved into the Public Storage facility on 3rd Street; nine votes in favor reported. (17:56)
2. Current storage fee $150/month; expected reduction to ~$130/month after proof of renters insurance; keys to be distributed to volunteers. (19:58)
3. Action: determine insured value for molds (placeholder $1,000 used) and purchase/repurpose shelving (police substation shelves discussed) and stackable containers for better organization. (20:21)
4. Merchandise and event gear to be stored there; short-term use of police substation for event staging discussed. (22:49)

Financials & Budgeting

1. Treasurer reported healthy finances: ~$329,000 in operating accounts and positive performance vs prior year; Jim King fund up due to market performance. (34:59)
2. Discussed presenting condensed financial slides to membership; agreed on high-level bullets for meeting and detailed backup online. (35:52)
3. Events revenue exceeded budget (spring tour ticket sales up ~33%); overall events were ~$10,609 over budget due to strong ticket sales and sponsorships. (41:06)
4. Jim King fund withdrawal plan: up to 4% annual draw; intended use for tree planting along Truman with billing anticipated Oct–Nov prior to withdrawal. (39:39)

Organization Name / Fictitious Name Renewal

1. Lengthy, emotional discussion about organization's name change history (LSRC vs Lafayette Square Neighborhood Association) and community identity implications. [(61:14)]
2. Board debated letting the issue die versus proactive community engagement; concerns about historical origin and modernization arguments were raised. [(67:33)]
3. Motioned and voted to renew the fictitious name filing by paying $150 to preserve options until broader discussion with neighborhood can occur; one abstentions (Lamczyk) and one 'no' (Volpe) recorded. [(78:30)]
4. Board agreed that further decision-making should involve wider membership input and methodical pros/cons presentation. [(74:25)]

Fundraising & Events

1. Fundraising report: brick-order issue (one $100 order placed directly through vendor) to be resolved and refunded/fulfilled; Brick vendor communication ongoing. [(87:15)]
2. Spring tour success: ~30% growth, net positive after facilitator fees; proposal to retain event facilitator (Kelly) for 2027 with $24,000/year scope under discussion. [(91:08)]
3. Sponsorship and marketing roles need volunteers (sponsorship, marketing communications, content creators, tour book, day-of operations). [(90:35)]
4. Discussion about partnering/supporting local events (bike race) and reviewing sponsorship levels (five-figure sponsorships cited, e.g., $5,000 base). [(97:32)]

Safety, Police Substation & Technology

1. Police substation window was broken; windows expected to be repaired soon; board to check insurance coverage and clarify liabilities before committing funds to repairs. [(106:17)]
2. Board to consult insurance agent (John Chadley referenced) about coverage for substation and stored items; draft letter to the police contact after insurance review. [(110:50)]
3. Discussion about equipping substation with technology/cameras and/or docking stations; police seeking quotes and the board will consider funding based on returned estimates. [(116:43)]

4. Neighborhood overgrown corner (Missouri & Hickory) reported; board engaged Streets liaison (Jamie) to request cleanup and review traffic-calming petition and past study. (99:00)