

Lafayette Square Restoration Committee (LSRC)

Minutes to August 2026 General Membership Meeting

Date: Wednesday, 12th August 2026, 18:58-20:26 GMT-05:00

Meeting Summary

The August LSNA General Membership meeting covered neighborhood events, park updates, fundraising and governance. Key presentations included logistics and volunteer needs for Tour de Lafayette and the holiday/spring house tours, a preview of Torco (Shakespeare in the Park) closing at Lafayette Park on Sunday, September 6, park programming and fundraising priorities presented by the Lafayette Park Conservancy, and quarterly financial results showing increased cash and revenue versus budget. Officer Rojas reviewed crime statistics and community programs (including a Citizens Academy), and City Treasurer Adam Lane presented brief remarks about city investment and ID access outreach. The board announced nominations and open committee/board positions for the coming year and asked for volunteers for communications, sponsorship, content, and tour coordination roles. Several operational items were noted (video/slide technical issues, meeting minutes recording, and planned outreach video).

Next Steps

- Register/attend Lafayette Park Conservancy (LPC) events and consider volunteering or donating — contact LPC via website; membership drive continuing. [\(15:14\)](#)
- Provide feedback on 2000 Missouri development proposal (design, activation, parking) and expect future traffic studies — outreach to developer/zoning process anticipated. [\(24:47\)](#)
- Consolidate and submit traffic calming/speed hump requests to Alderman's office for prioritization next fiscal cycle — Alderman to follow up after September return. [\(45:07\)](#)
- Form working groups: bylaws review, house tour marketing/sponsorship/coordination, preservation/maintenance committees — interested members to contact board; specific volunteer roles listed (marketing communications, sponsorship leader, tour coordinator). [\(51:24\)](#)
- Follow up on problem properties (1730 Nicholson, 1713 Carroll): await attorney responses and committee review; expect updates within 1–2 months. [\(70:56\)](#)
- Finalize Parkhouse lease/maintenance planning and convene interested parties for scope of repairs and projects. [\(67:38\)](#)

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- Distribute and finalize neighborhood directory corrections; decide on electronic version and publication timeline. [\(62:23\)](#)

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Topics & Highlights

1. Events & Outreach

- Tour de Lafayette promotion and volunteer logistics were discussed, including ticketing and Urban Chestnut involvement. [\(00:33\)](#)
- Video and slide technical issues occurred; plan to take video for neighborhood outreach and route microphone for audience questions. [\(09:09\)](#)
- Shakespeare will be at Lafayette Park on Sunday, September 6; audience seating rope-off around 16:30, performance 18:30–~20:00, Urban Chestnut may be present. [\(19:10\)](#)
- Lafayette Park Fall Festival replaced by a Lafayette Park Fall Festival and Beer Garden on Sunday, September 18 (12:00 start) with vendors and family activities. [\(26:36\)](#)

2. Fundraising & Park Conservancy

- Jerry Ehrlich introduced as part-time executive director of Lafayette Park Conservancy and emphasized fundraising to address park maintenance needs (fence corrosion, pavilion repair). [\(25:30\)](#)
- Conservancy event 'Soiree For The Park' on September 18 with \$150 tickets; volunteer and corporate landscaping opportunities highlighted. [\(26:36\)](#)
- Residents urged to renew memberships and consider donations; requests for volunteers (landscaping, gardening, fundraising, events). [\(31:13\)](#)
- Conservancy priorities: maintain reserves, seek outside support, and solicit neighborhood involvement for park sustainability. [\(28:42\)](#)

3. House Tours & Volunteer Roles

- Holiday house tour planning underway with need for sponsorship coordinator (position vacated by Michael Quinn) and multiple communications/content roles. [\(45:27\)](#)

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- Specific roles requested: marketing communications lead, content creators (photo/reels/posting), tour book content coordinator, map redesign, and co-chairs. [\(46:13\)](#)
- A professional tour facilitator has been engaged to assist with operations, PR, and sales spreadsheets; facilitator may supply additional staff for content. [\(50:52\)](#)
- Emphasis on earlier planning and consistent messaging across website, social media, and traditional media to expand regional awareness. [\(46:21\)](#)

4. Governance & Nominations

- Board announced slate and open positions for 2027: president (Gary Larson noted), vice president-elect, secretary (open), treasurer (preference for qualified candidates), committee chairs and several open slots. [\(34:50\)](#)
- Emphasis that any member can run for any positions; membership encouraged to join boards since they influence spending decisions. [\(35:07\)](#)
- Process: nominations being prepared per bylaws; board will finalize slate and elections per timeline. [\(33:40\)](#)
- Open committee leadership needs include Communications Chair and Preservation Committee vacancy; members urged to contact presenters after meeting. [\(36:59\)](#)

5. Financial Report

- Quarterly treasury report presented showing \$323,000 cash in bank, an increase of \$26,000 year-over-year and \$21,000 since start of year. [\(40:26\)](#)
- Revenue is up approximately \$23,000 year-over-year and \$11,000 over budget for events; net income and net revenue significantly above prior year and budget in reported actuals. [\(41:17\)](#)
- Expenses are favorable to budget in categories including legal and maintenance; donation spend underspent against plan. [\(42:18\)](#)
- Budgeting process kickoff planned; board to vote in November and present budget to membership in December; financial statements posted on website. [\(43:36\)](#)

6. Public Safety & Community Programs

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- Officer Rosa Rojas reported a 67% reduction in primary incidents compared to last year (two incidents vs. six) and shared outreach contacts and program information. [\(12:42\)](#)
- Circuit Attorney's Citizens Academy offered Sept 30–Nov 4 (5 weeks, 5:00–7:00) with applications due Sept 1; SLNPD Citizens Academy status to be determined. [\(13:21\)](#)
- Advice to residents: keep dry during events, contact Officer Rojas via website for concerns, and participate in community programs. [\(16:04\)](#)
- National Night Out noted (October 6) with more details to come from organizer 'Rain' at future meeting. [\(16:17\)](#)

7. City Treasurer Presentation

- City Treasurer/Adam Layne was guest speaker. He described city investment guidelines, recent higher short-term yields, broker/depository oversight, and availability of investment reports. [\(55:47\)](#)
- Treasurer emphasized conservative use of investment funds (reserve priorities), annual review of depositories and broker-dealer lists, and public availability of investment reports. [\(64:20\)](#)
- Flyers and informational materials were provided at the meeting for attendees. [\(56:21\)](#)