

SDCC Board Meeting Minutes

Monday, February 12th, 7:00 p.m.
SDCC Office, 6008 Kingsbury Ave

ATTENDANCE:

Board Members Present

James Holzer, Molly Rater, Gene Gladstone, Cheryl Adelstein, Charlene Caburnay, Jessica Eiland, Kim Freter, Lana Stein, Mike Stephens

Board Members Absent

Sheryl Davenport, Rachel Asen, Dan Hudspeth, Randy Getz, David Mastin and Karla Carroll

Staff

Brandon Sterling

Aldermanic Representative

Heather Navarro 28th Ward

Neighborhood Stabilization Officers

None

Visitors

Andy Cross and Mavis Thompson- License Collector – City of St. Louis

Call to Order

President Jim Holzer called the meeting to order at 7:04.

Community Announcements and Speakers

Mavis Thompson, Esq – License Collector – City of St. Louis, gave a presentation on the role of the License Collector in City government and in particular the accomplishments and endeavors of her office during her tenure as License Collector.

January 2018 Minutes

Approved

January Financials

With limited financial activity during the month of January, the Financial Report was brief and highlighted by these figures

Total Income: \$18.25

Total Expenses: \$8,818.23

Total Assets: \$87,656.70

Total Liabilities: \$5,981.94

Total Liabilities & Equity: \$95,472.20

The January 2018 Financials were approved.

New Program Updates

Home Stay -

The Home Stay Program, designed to partner seniors and college students for more affordable and sustainable living, is moving forward. Four meetings have led to the framework which will partner 5 interns and 5 seniors in homes in the neighborhood. The WashU Gephardt Institute and the Friedman Center for Aging are working with the Home Stay program to provide sustainable practices to insure this program's growth.

Dog Park -

The Skinker DeBaliviere Community Housing Corporation (SDCHC) has made a commitment to develop the east lots on Des Peres from 520-532 into a SD Neighborhood Dog Park. The SDCHC will own the lot while the SDCC will provide insurance. The SDCHC has committed to \$6,000 to supply water service to the park to initiate the process. Estimates indicate the cost of this project will come in between \$40,000 and \$50,000. Currently, 40% of the funding has been raised with the prospect of more donors on the horizon. The SDCC and other interested parties may need to provide fundraising as the project moves forward through a timeline that includes securing compliance with the City's Dog Park Ordinance, completing the design process, hiring contractors and managing construction. Once operational, the park will operate on a fee structure capable of sustaining funding.

Block Unit / Block Captain Program -

1st official Block Captain meeting convened with ~40 neighbors in attendance. Several blocks have already selected captains. Conversations about communication and security are ongoing.

Zoning & Occupancy Subcommittee

- 5727 DeGiverville -
The City's Emergency Demolition Clause may be introduced to raze the property partially to secure the safety and integrity of neighboring housing. Progressively aggressive deterioration has led to negative impact on adjacent property. Heather Navarro and Brandon have met regularly with the owner of 5727, Ernest Barnes, and his brother who owns another distressed property. Both are problem properties and any solution appears to necessitate the two properties must be sold together.

- **Occupancy Violations -**

Court Proceedings for landlord occupancy violations has led to some landlords seeking creative forms of relief including designation as a rooming house. A few of the 20 properties we are filing against have appealed rulings seeking zoning variances. The City Counselor's office has encouraged the Board of Appeals to issue substantive rulings on violations including inspections as lease dates terminate and commence.

Historic District Committee

- Nancy Hohmann reports the Revised Historic District ordinance will go to the Planning Commission for final approval within the week.

Board Retreat

The Board retreat is a go. The topics of the two-day event include:

- Primary Topics: (A) 3-year strategic plan (B) Master Plan
- Secondary Topics: (D) Housing (D) Fundraising (E) Policy & Activism

The retreat will take place from 6:30-9:30 on April 9 and 12. Cheryl and Molly will serve as Lead Organizers.

Development at Skinker and Delmar -

The vacant lot on the southeast corner of Skinker and Delmar was a topic of discussion as the development of preliminary plans indicates a positive approach to the preservation of neighborhood integrity. It appears some level of tax incentives will be sought, however, details are so preliminary as to render most conversations speculative.

Committee and Community Reports

Andy Cross

The McPherson Community Garden Committee meets on February 13th and will follow up with a detailed report at that time. The Beautification Committee has mulched all trees and shrubs in Lucier Park.

Aldermanic Report

Heather Navarro

Public hearing ahead – Decriminalization hearing on Marijuana Bill 480.

City residence requirement is a potential ballot issue regarding the desire for City employees to be required to live in the City.

Airport privatization discussions continue as the City seeks to privatization of the management of this facility.

Historic guidelines were approved for Skinker DeBaliviere.

Working on Air BnB guidelines is in progress with ongoing talks.

Lucier Park provides an opportunity to bridge the gap between neighborhoods and neighbors. It was suggested that SDCC co-sponsor an event in Lucier Park as a hub for bringing neighborhoods together.

Old Business

None

New Business

None

The meeting was adjourned at 8:13.