

October 24, 2023 TGHNA monthly meeting: at CDL

7:16 Welcome: Greeting and intro from Erica Westbrooks, TGHNA Board President

SLMPD Neighborhood Liaison's report : Officer Nicola Walker: NA

6th Ward Alderperson Daniela Velazquez report: Fanning School: Screaming Eagle Development still is pursuing their re-do of Fanning into Affordable Housing. But the proposal is on hold for 90 days from the last meeting. There are still concerns about parking and the fact that local neighbors have questions and objections. She gave us all a handout with info about the project.

Short-term rental (AirBnB) legislation: The Mayor has not yet signed it. It will take about a year for it all to be in force.

Senior Property tax credit: It would freeze the City portion of property taxes for properties \$550K and below. It would begin in 2024. She supports it.

B of A Bills 126-128: the Unhoused Bill of Rights: There was a five hour hearing today and there will be two more. The public urination part is 126. The other parts have to do with zoning and taking away the right of local residents to object. Instead, a City Board would decide where homeless shelters and encampments go. The 51% would be taken away.

Question: What is the timeline for this Bill?

Answer: Not sure.

Question: The public urination proposal is an embarrassment for the City. Why go over all this again? The neighborhoods have already spoken about this for the last 15 years.

There was a comment that year by year, the numbers of the unhoused population haven't really increased. They have stayed stable.

No answer.

Alder DV talked about the tiny house model is a potential solution.

At the next TGHNA meeting, Alder DV will be the only speaker. Please send questions in advance. The cut off for questions will be two weeks before the meeting.

Neighborhood Improvement Specialist: Christian Saller: He sent sub Sam Kibbon. Sam will pass along anything you would like CS to know. The NIS is a liaison with the City on quality of life issues.

Guest Speaker: Latoya Wison: Intern with Conflict Resolution Center STL: Conflict Resolution Center offers free mediation services to all St.Louis City residents. These could be disputes between neighbors, landlord-tenant, or between police and residents. We are funded by the City and you can use our website or call us to start services. If you are in the midst of a dispute, we will call the other party for

you. If the other party doesn't want to engage with you, we offer Conflict Coaching. We are a neutral party. Our services don't apply to disputes between residents and businesses.

Question: How long does it take?

Answer: Depends on the situation.

Question: What is your success rate in mediating evictions?

Answer: I don't know.

Question: How long has your agency been in existence?

Answer: Since 2017. It began after the Ferguson riots.

Question: What is your success rate?

Answer: I don't know.

Question: If you have a conflict with a neighbor, do you have to be present for the mediation?

Answer: Yes.

Question: Can we use these services with "Nuisance" properties?

Answer: Yes.

President's Report: Erica Westbrook: Our new Communications Chair is Shannon Heffernan. Jean Iezzi is retiring as Membership Secretary and Ann Stanley is taking her place. The tentative date for the next Town Hall meeting is Saturday, November 11th.

Treasurer Report: Rick Stein: In September, we spent \$1,348 to renew our insurance policy (we're hoping we may get a refund on some of that as we did last year when they miscalculated our rate), \$43.13 on PayPal fees, and \$13.20 on postage stamps. We took in \$260 in Membership fees, \$40 from two items that were raffled off at the September Heights Night, \$2.68 in interest, and \$1,950 in donations. Our net worth as of 9/30/23 was \$9,805.89, though note that some of that is in designated funds based on how it was donated (like street signs, safety, etc.).

Membership report: Jean Iezzi: There are 412 members. Please see Jean for membership forms. Please water trees planted in easements.

Social Committee: Open position: Our Heights Nights are over for 2023. Thanks to everyone who participated in them!

Block Captain report: Jennifer Florida: NA.

Communication Committee: Shannon Heffernan: No report since Shannon has only been Chair for 3 days!

Safety Committee Report: Sharon Angle: We will meet again on Monday November 20th. We meet on the 3rd Monday every other month via Zoom. I will be writing a letter for TGHNA for the Unhoused Bill of Rights and if you would like me to include your thoughts please let me know. We are looking for a new Chair for 2024 and new members.

Old Business: Our fundraiser ends November 1st. We currently have \$3800 of our \$4000 goal. At our July Heights Night we all witnessed an incident on S. Grand in which an assault-style weapon was displayed very close to where we were all sitting. Erica gave us some current gun statistics.

New Business: We would like to formally nominate TGHNA Board members for 2024. They are Rick Stein for Treasurer, Sharon Angle for Recording Secretary, and Ann Stanley for Membership Secretary. Joyce Reese has already been elected President. We are still seeking a President Elect. We will vote at the November meeting but only members may vote. We are using paper ballots.

Please check for a paper copy of the original letter that should have been printed in its entirety in the Gazette. BCs passed them out in the last couple of weeks.

Upcoming dates: next Safety Committee meeting is Monday November 20th at 6:30 PM via Zoom. Next TGHNA Monthly meeting is Tuesday, November 28th at 7:15 PM at CDL.

Adjourn: 8:23 PM

Submitted by Sharon Angle