

August 23, 2022 TGHNA monthly meeting: via Zoom

7:16 Welcome

Greeting and intro from Jennifer Florida, 2022 TGHNA President. Intro of other Board members.

SLMPD Neighborhood Liaison's report : Officer Walker: Please continue to be cautious. We have a new Captain in the 2nd District: Captain Mueller. She discussed some realignment of what police car numbers will cover what area. She said "we are not fully staffed by a lot".

Question: What is being done about the increase in panhandling? Answer: Not sure. (Katie Wolf mentioned later that Social Work Human Resources Outreach will be coming to S. Grand twice per week to help mitigate panhandling).

15th Ward Alderperson Megan Green's report: NA. No word on why she didn't attend.

Neighborhood Improvement Specialist Katie Wolf: She spoke about flood relief and disaster preparation and the flooding that our area experienced in the end of July. Issues are floods, sewer back-up and run-off. It is now easier to reach FEMA and they can be reached online. FEMA has opened two centers in our area: one in north St. Louis and one in St. Charles. The SBA can help with small business loans. Beware of disaster-related scamming. Maybe MSD will be giving us more information.

Question: Is there a City Official or team of people responsible for emergency preparedness?

Answer: Yes, there is a department but not sure if they are prepared.

Question: This is a question about Social Workers on S. Grand: are there statistics on their success rates? When they pass out a card, is it tracked in terms of how many people take them up on it?

Answer: Katie will ask about it.

Question: Was FEMA caught off guard?

Answer: Maybe. And our City departments are all stretched thin. Confusion reigned.

Guest Speaker: Robert Ashton from Albion Theater:

Since 2000, Robert, a TGH resident, has been involved in St. Louis theater. Now he has started his own: a professional, non-equity 501c3. It's the resident company at Kranzberg Black Box Theater located at Grand and Olive. Formed in the City and performing in the City, the intimate theater seats 60-70 people. The company will feature plays from England and Ireland. Albion is an old name for the large island of Britain. It comes from a Celtic word.

The first play will be "Heros" which is a comedy set in 1959. It runs from 9/23/22-10/9/22 Friday and Saturday evenings with a Sunday matinee. The 2023 Season features "The Birthday Party" by Harold Pinter in March and "Absent Friends" in June.

Tickets are via Metrotix or on their website. If you use the code 'TGHNA' you receive a \$5 reduction from the \$30 price. The company has lots of volunteer opportunities. Please email Robert: he is in the Buzz Book.

Question: What about Covid mitigation in the theater?

Answer: The audience will be masked.

Question: Are hearing aids available?

Answer: Not sure, will check. It's a very small space.

President's Report: Jennifer Florida: Please light a candle in your window or porch on August 30th for Officer Bohannon, who sacrificed his life protecting our neighborhood.

Sunday October 23rd is the 150th birthday of Tower Grove Park. We need volunteers for a neighborhood booth.

September 7th 11-12 is the tree sucker training in Tower Grove Park.

The TGHNA Executive Board recently voted to donate \$100 to the Roosevelt High School football team breakfast and \$100 for a girl's organization.

TGHNA signed on to a letter written by Rachel Witt about reckless driving in our neighborhood. Surrounding neighborhoods signed on as well.

There is a proposal to change the TGHNA Bylaws on Lifetime Memberships. If you have suggestions please let Debra Knox Deiermann know at debra_knox_deiermann@hotmail.com

Treasurer Report: Rick Stein: In July we spent \$187.50 on Gazette expenses, \$250 for our donation to the Tower Grove Farmer's Market (the donation was actually made this spring, but because of the way it was paid, it shows as a July expense) We took in \$185 in membership dues, \$195 in Gazette ads, and \$0.06 in interest. Our net worth as of July 31st was \$11,159.04.

Membership report: Jean Iezzi: There are 409 members. The Buzz Book is proofed.

Social Committee: Sharon Angle: We will have Heights Night again this month, on the 2nd Tuesday in September, the 13th. Time: 6-8 PM. The venue is TBD, but it will have outside seating. The date for the Block Party is Sunday September 18th 2-6 PM. There will be food, music, activities for kids, the fire truck, and FUN!

We still need volunteers! See upcoming link to sign up.

Block Captain report: Debra Knox Deierman: We are still looking for a Block Captain for 36-3700 Wyoming, but we now have someone to deliver the Gazettes. If you happen to see garage doors open, please let your neighbors know.

Communication Committee: Debra Knox Deierman: We have 758 on Mail Chimp email. Check your spam and junk if you are not receiving them.

Safety Committee Report: Erica Westbrooks: Our camera program is growing! We are ordering more cameras and there are currently 11 in the neighborhood. The Safety Committee meets every 3rd Monday of the month on Zoom. All are welcome!

Old Business: Block Party: It will be at Spring and Connecticut from 2-6 PM. Spring will be closed. There will be two musical acts, a portable bar will be set up, the pot-luck will return but please don't bring dip or items to be shared.

New Business: Thursday evening August 25th there will be a Forum and Debate at the Carpenter library at 7 PM featuring Jack Coatar and Megan Green, candidates for BoA President.

Upcoming dates: not provided

Adjourn: 8:23 PM

Submitted by Sharon Angle