

September 26, 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: NA

Neighborhood Improvement Specialist: Christian Saller: He is continuing to try to resolve problems with 3619 Humphrey and 3627 Utah. Our CDC and Alder are now involved. There is legal action on the Utah property. The Humphrey property is boarded up. The owner is not communicating.

Question: Were items being emptied out of the Humphrey garage into the alley recently?

Answer: Yes, that has been reported.

Question: What is going on with the homeless encampment at Spring and Chippewa?

Answer: I don't have an update on that. Check with the Mayor's office.

Guest Speaker: Trey Prothro: Community Communications and Engagement Assistant to the Mayor's Office:

Trey is a native St. Louisan. Mayor Jones would like every family to get ahead. We are taking a different approach (but he didn't say what that was).

We would like to break down barriers between neighborhoods.

Public Safety: Raises for police officers because the County is able to pay more. Police Chief Tracy has brought a new set of eyes to our crime problems. The Circuit Attorney's office has improved since Kim Gardner left. We need to create fun, safe alternatives for youth. Red light cameras are an idea to bring back. The City lifted the residence requirement for employees. There will be a new 911 Call Center in 2026.

Affordable housing is another important issue.

Trey passed out flyers on the Citizens Service Bureau, a job fair, an ad for Contractors, a neighborhood map, an ad for City jobs, Neighborhood Managers, and a PR piece on how the City has spent ARPA funds.

Question: What is a Neighborhood Manager? How do they differ from the NIS?

Answer: Their focus is more on development. The NIS deals more with quality of life issues.

Question: Why is it so hard to navigate the CSB system?

Answer: Use the hyperlink on the City's website.

Question: Who made the survey about the Rams Settlement money? It never even asks us what we want to do with the money.

Answer: Megan Green.

Question: Why is there no way in the survey to weigh in on what's important? For example, protecting our water supply.

Answer: The survey and input will take some time. We must spend the ARPA money first.

Question: Why the problems with the City jail? Much money was just spent on it five years ago.

Answer: Don't believe everything you read in the media about the jail.

President's Report: Erica Westbrooks: On Wednesday October 4th, 8-10 AM GOTham and Eggs will be hosting Coffee With a Cop. There will be a Town Hall meeting on October 10 at 6:30 PM (This is now cancelled and will be held in November).

Treasurer Report: Rick Stein: In August, we took in \$150 in membership fees, \$25 from the raffle at the Heights Night, \$2.77 in interest, and \$800 in donations (thank you to those who donated!). We spent \$331 on the Buzz Book, made two donations to Roosevelt High School (\$100 each for the Football Breakfast program and a fund for girls' incentives for excellence), and \$38 in PayPal fees. Our net worth as of 8/31/23 was \$8,957.54.

Membership report: Jean Iezzi: There are 403 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: We are meeting the 2nd Monday of every month.

Communication Committee: We have 751 Mailchimp members.

Safety Committee Report: Sharon Angle: We met a week ago on Monday and will meet again on Monday November 20th. We meet on the 3rd Monday every other month via Zoom. This is a thriving committee with 4-5 regular members but we need YOU. We are looking for a new Chair for 2024 and new members.

Old Business: We had to cancel Zumba in the Street. But the rest of our fundraising is going well. We are 75% of the way to our goal of \$4000. To donate, please go to the TGHNA website. It's tax deductible.

New Business: There is a new business in the Pawn Shop building. Its called the Umbrella Shop and it is an Art Gallery, Event space and a place for music. Back in the day, it was an actual umbrella shop! In honor of that, they will hand out free umbrellas when it rains.

We are looking for Board members and volunteers for 2024. Open Board positions are President Elect and Recording Secretary. We need Chairs for our Social Committee, Safety Committee, Communications and Block Captains.

Upcoming dates: next Safety Committee meeting is Monday November 20th at 6:30 PM via Zoom. Next TGHNA Monthly meeting is Tuesday, October 23rd at 7:15 PM at CDL.

Adjourn: 8:31 PM

Submitted by Sharon Angle