

October 25, 2022 TGHNA monthly meeting: via Zoom

7:15: Meeting called to order. Welcome! Greeting and intro from Jennifer Florida, 2022 TGHNA President. A moment of silence to reflect on the tragedy yesterday morning at a local high school. We are grateful for the quick and brave response from St. Louis police and other first responders.

SLMPD Neighborhood Liaison's report : Officer Walker: NA

15th Ward Alderperson Megan Green's report: NA. No word on why she didn't attend. (Note: this failure to attend or send a report has gone on for the last few months).

Neighborhood Improvement Specialist Dena Hibbard: She is attending another neighborhood meeting tonight.

Guest Speaker: Rachel Witt, Executive Director of the South Grand Community Improvement District:

Car accidents on S. Grand are out of control. Everyone needs to feel safe crossing S. Grand, yet there have been two pedestrians killed. Rachel is now on a City Committee and intends to hold the Mayor accountable and see that she follows up. Per chance, most on the committee are residents who live in this area. They are looking at State laws like bringing back Driver's Ed, using Speed Cameras. The Mayor has come up with a Citywide Transportation Plan. Rachel is determined to not let this go.

There is a juvenile crime trend in this city and a lot of it revolves around stealing cars. And if we don't speak up, nothing happens. There would never have been the Traffic Calming meeting if people hadn't spoken up.

In other news: there will be a new Mexican restaurant in the Alta Calle space. Lulu's has gotten a gut rehab and is close to re-opening its dining area. Businesses are doing well; sales tax receipts are good. There might be a buyer for the Pawnshop building.

There are three events coming up: S. Grand After Dark is Saturday night 5-8 in Ritz Park. The Tree Lighting will be on Small Business Saturday, and Grinchmas will be December 3rd in Ritz Park.

Final thoughts: It is very sad that it took fatalities to get the Mayor to do something about the out-of-control speeding. Media coverage has been helpful. What can we do? The answer is VOTE!

President's Report: Jennifer Florida: TGHNA will again participate in the 100 Neediest charity. More next month. We will vote next month on Officers for 2023. We are especially looking for a President-Elect.

There was a recent crime and gun violence incident in the 36xx block of Arsenal. A resident noticed his neighbor's car being stolen and went out on his front porch at 5 AM to shout out. The guys stealing the car did not stop and instead shot at the resident, with one shot barely missing him. The resident has a message for us: if you see an incident like this happening, stay clear and call 911. These guys are working in teams and they are armed!

Treasurer Report: Rick Stein: In September we spent \$1058 on Gazette printing, \$1,355 on our insurance policy, \$180.48 on printing new checks for our checking account, and \$10.12 in PayPal fees. We took in \$180 in membership fees, \$90 in selling tee shirts at the Block Party, \$5.99 from Amazon Smile (thank you to whoever has us set up as your charity!), and \$0.05 in interest. Our net worth as of 9/30/22 was \$9,084.72.

Membership report: Jean Iezzi: No report given.

Social Committee: Sharon Angle: We are looking for a Co-Chair for next year. This is a great way to meet neighbors, get to know restaurants and have fun! We will have Heights Nights next year and one big event. We are looking for volunteers for ALL committees. For example: the Safety Committee needs members and a Chair or Co-Chair for 2023.

Block Captain: Debra Knox Deiermann: There will be a Trick or Treat street closing 3800 Juniata for Halloween night 6-9 PM. All are welcome. There will be Alley Clean-up 36-3700 Hartford on both sides on Saturday Oct 29th. Meet at 9 AM at 3614 Arsenal. There will be some supplies but please feel free to bring your own.

Communication Committee: Debra Knox Deiermann: We have 759 on Mail Chimp email. Open rates continue to be good. We need help with the Communications Committee and also the Gazette!

Please vote in the November 8th election. You need a photo ID. Early voting began today and you will get a card in the mail telling you where to vote.

Safety Committee Report: Erica Westbrooks: Our camera program and Safety Committee work has paid off! We have added three cameras and more people are registering their cameras with us. Please report any suspicious activity. We want to continue to grow our camera program. The Safety Committee meets every 3rd Monday of the month on Zoom. Please speak up and volunteer. We need you! We need new blood in general and the coming year is an excellent time to get involved.

Old Business: NA

New Business: We nominated some TGHNA Executive Board members for 2023. They are Rick Stein, Treasurer, Sharon Angle Recording Secretary, and Jean Iezzi Membership Secretary. All nominations were seconded. We plan to meet in person beginning January 2023 at the Center for Divine Love.

Upcoming dates: Next TGHNA Exec. Board meeting is Thursday, November 3rd at 7 PM at the Gelateria.

Adjourn: 8:00 PM

Submitted by Sharon Angle