

May 24, 2022 TGHNA monthly meeting: via Zoom

7:15 Welcome

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

SLMPD Neighborhood Liaison's report : Officer Walker: On vacation so Officer Don Veile filled in via phone: Jennifer began by saying that the neighborhood wants a meaningful relationship with the police. Shaw resident Christopher Brennen was killed in his backyard recently. Nigel Holloway, a resident of TGH, has a video of the suspect in his backyard back on April 27th, which he shared with police. But still the suspect remained at large.

We know that the video of the actual crime against Christopher helped catch the killer, so videos are very important. In future, how do we get videos to the police? Perhaps we need a Video Coordinator within our Safety Committee.

Officer Veile said to send videos to Officer Walker. She will forward them within the police department. We should forward the list of people with cameras in the neighborhood to Officer Walker. She will again forward them.

Jennifer asked how we can share videos with each other and resident Rick Stein responded that the Shaw NOM has been doing this and we should consult with them. We can also use the TGH Facebook page.

Nigel Holloway suggested that we form a fact-finding committee to explore how to improve our communication around safety issues. He suggested using flyers and social media to get word out more about potential problems and risks. He asked if police were O.K. with this. Officer Veile said they were as long as the information is factual.

15th Ward Alderperson Megan Green's report: NA

Neighborhood Improvement Specialist Katie Wolf: There is more money for street and alley paving in the new budget. She and Megan Green have been driving around looking at streets. Work on the McDonald Dog Park will start next Spring.

Question: Why are Katie and Megan checking out the streets? In the past the Street Department made those decisions.

Answer: We thought it was important.

Guest Speaker: Dr. Mark Abbott: TGH resident and Chair of Tower Grove South Development Committee:

This Committee began in 2018 because many in Tower Grove South were not happy with the design of the new apartment building on Morganford. Their mission was to devise a development process for review of requests for support (letters of support) for future development projects.

Mark gave us his bio and showed us the list of other Committee members and discussed their qualifications at length. He showed us a slide about the review process and said they have only had a handful of requests so far.

There is a City-wide plan for development. Each neighborhood will participate and it will take years. TGS is getting a head start because we have so many “experts” here, according to Mark.

The plan should be what stakeholders and residents want for their community.

Timeline: pre-planning began in Fall 2020. Covid happened and put everything off schedule. It was tough to have community engagement. They did an Architectural Survey for the residential part of the neighborhood. They want to preserve demographic and income diversity in the neighborhood. They want to control hyper-gentrification. Mark did not elaborate on what that was.

Summer 2022: Community Engagement. Mark will make presentations.

Fall 2022: “Visioning”

Winter 2022: There will be a draft that will be presented to the City.

Question: How can you devise guidelines without first getting community input? Your process in backwards.

Answer: We have done interviews with various stakeholders. He named some.

Question: Is the Development Committee asking for feedback?

Answer: yes.

Question: What community feedback has been gathered so far? This is sounding like a top-down process, like Fanning School development.

This question was never answered.

Question: Are people from all of the areas and neighborhoods represented on the Development Committee? Did the Fanning School development process follow your own guidelines?

Answer: yes. Several residents responded with a “no”.

Comment from a resident: “You sacrificed public input on Fanning to make a deadline”.

Question: Will your development principles be made public?

Answer: That is why we are having this meeting.

Question: How will your guidelines overlap with the South Grand Business District guidelines?

Answer: We will mesh the two together.

Question: You have divided neighborhood areas into “subdivisions”. How will they be used?

No answer given.

Question: Will what happens next relate to Fanning?

Answer: What happened with Fanning won't happen again. At this point the Developer is going to do what the Developer is going to do.

Question: Can the Developer override what the community wants and what Megan Green wants?

Answer: yes.

Question: Then why have this committee in the first place?

Answer: The Fanning project is currently in limbo.

President's Report: Jennifer Florida: Not given due to time constraints. Other reports also had to be abbreviated.

Treasurer Report: Rick Stein: Our only expense in April was \$20,45 in PayPal fees. We took in \$530 in Membership fees, \$217 in Gazette Ads, \$0.46 in interest and \$35 in donations (a membership renewal that included extra money as a donation). Our net worth as of 4/30/22 was \$11,961.12. We are moving our savings account from Capital One (formerly ING) to Commerce.

Membership report: Jean Iezzi: There are 420 members.

Social Committee: Sharon Angle: We will have Heights Nights again this month, on the 2nd Tuesday in June, the 14th. Time: 6-8 PM. The venue will be The Gelateria on S. Grand. They are under new ownership. They have both indoor seating and a beautiful outdoor patio.

Block Captain report: Debra Knox Deierman: We are still looking for a Block Captain for 36-3700 Wyoming. We are getting Welcome Packets to new residents.

Communication Committee: Debra Knox Deierman: We have 759 on Mail Chimp email. Check your spam and junk if you are not receiving them.

Safety Committee Report: Erica Westbrooks: Register your cameras!

Old Business: NA

New Business: Task Committee as part of our Safety Committee

Upcoming dates: TGHNA Board meeting June 9 at 7 PM. The next Membership monthly meeting is June 27 at 7:15.

Adjourn: 8:45 PM

Submitted by Sharon Angle