**WEST PINE / LACLEDE ASSOCIATION**

**Minutes: Feb. 10, 2015**

President Harold Karabell opened the meeting at 7 pm at NW Coffee. The minutes were accepted for the

Jan 13 meeting, and Treasurer Terry Werner reported $493.15 in the checking account, and $8487.98 in

savings. Harold then announced that Tom Fox will resign as Secretary as of April 1, after serving eons

as secretary. He and his wife are moving to a condo on Lindell. Harold then introduced a guest James Treace, from the nearby Gaslight area.

BEAUTIFICATION: No report.

DEVELOPMENT: Ron Coleman, our neighborhood liason with the City, gave several updates. He reported that Cortex will open Boyle in the spring, and that Conway Plastics on West Pine is being replaced by new housing (between Sarah and Vandeventer). He also said that 4157 Laclede (now an empty lot) will soon have construction beginning on a single family dwelling. And related to the building boom near Sarah, the Block Restaurant is suffering ….if you are eating out, consider that as a destination. Also, Goodwill on Forest Park

has refurbished their new store, and employs 150 people. Of note are the 200,000 books on the 4th floor.

Slayco, a group of neighborhood associations, has invited our Association to join. All agreed to join and pay the annual dues of $50, and Terry VanSchaik will represent our group.

SECURITY: Harold then introduced Jim Whyte, the director of the CWE Neighborhood Security Initiative,

who gave a thorough and comprehensive view of security issues and data regarding the CWE. He explained that the Property Tax of $147 K from the Special Business District funds his security group—the bike patrols, the police who are hired for general safety and protection (all are off duty cops of STL), the cameras,

etc. He passed out the NSI Crime Summary for 2014, and explained the details. Larceny was down this year

statistically; property crime was also down (83 fewer incidents in ’14 compared to ’13). A major concern in the city of St. Louis is that 8,800 gun violence incidents have been reported in the last three years. Jim took

many questions while giving this overview. He mentioned that at present there are 79 high tech cameras now, mainly focused on the commercial properties, and more are in process. The monitoring process was

explained in detail. Also explained were the ramifications of the reduction of police precincts from 9 to 6.

The CWE is now assigned to the 5th Precinct which extends to Goodfellow and the Wellston border.

Mr Whyte’s presentation was much appreciated, and his expertise in law enforcement was evident.

Submitted,

Tom Fox, Secretary (tjfox63108@gmail.com )