# West Pine Laclede Neighborhood Association Northwest Coffee 7 PM December 10th, 2024 General Assembly Meeting Minutes

CALL TO ORDER 7:04 pm President: Harold Karabell

karabell52@gmail.com

Vice President: Dug Feltch bkmarionnettes@charter.net

**Treasurer:** Terry Werner terryfwerner@gmail.com

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dw

**Secretary:** Nicole Ewing <a href="mailto:postonni@gmail.com">postonni@gmail.com</a>

**GUEST SPEAKER** 

**Tishaura Jones** 

Mayor, City of St. Louis

Has been working hard to ensure a safe, strong, and heathy city through intervention strategies for crime intervention and has decreased homicides by 40%, other crime by 20%, and juvenile shootings by over 50%. She hired the first police chief from outside the city, opened the Office of Violence Prevention in 2022, and uses alternative response methods that includes social work for those in mental health crises. She works with the vast unhoused community in our city through grassroots methods.

She communicates that crime is not where she wants it to be but has drastically decreased homicides in the city. She has worked to hire more dispatchers for 911 and broke ground in October on a new 911 dispatch center and is working to cross train all dispatchers in police, fire response, and EMS. She started the Behavioral Health Burau that serves to answer calls for those in mental health crises and connects foreign born citizens to housing and employment.

She is working to addresses abandoned buildings including the old Millenium hotel and is working to acquire the Railway Exchange Building. The Friendly streets initiative provides an interactive city map of city investments and upcoming developments to infrastructure in the city including the Great River Greenway and is addressing the way citizens get around safely through traffic calming measures. In addition, she is working to redevelop the airport, working to redesign the Metrolink green line, hoping to improve the city through these projects to create our cities newest and brightest future.

Wants to support north St. Louis by redeveloping abandoned building and forcing homeowners to complete overdue renovations, demolish properties in North St. Louis that can't be saved and is working with Habitat for Humanity to build new homes and a robust housing market in north city.

In the Q & A period following the Mayor's remarks, Lorraine commented on the beautiful tree-lighting ceremony in Fairground Park. Noah suggested that a plaque be placed in Fairground Park to memorialize the 1949 Swimming Pool Race Riot. Harold supported that proposal and suggested additional plaques be installed in Fairground Park as well, particularly one at the Bear Pits, the sole survivor from the City's first public zoo.

#### Jess Watson

Washington University Medical Center Redevelopment Corporation jessw@wustl.edu

Jess is taking over for David Chunn and represents Washington University and BJC and wants to serve as a support to our neighborhood for any concerns and questions we might have of the university campus. He serves as a support for all things technology and community needs of Washington University and BJC. Moving forward, he will be our neighborhood contact for any questions or concerns. Harold commented that Jess' predecessor David Chunn had secured funding from the WUMCRC for certain neighborhood projects. Harold promised that the Neighborhood Association would continue with such requests in the future.

## **Donna Baringer**

Candidate running for Comptroller

donnabaringerstl.com

Former organization membership chair, served on the board of alderman, current 82<sup>nd</sup> state representative. Has a great understanding of financials for the city and state and is well versed in upcoming board bills and wants to see the city thrive and move forward. She wants to ensure fiscal responsibility within the city and ensures that the city gets the funding it needs and deserves to continue to grow and thrive.

**Review and approve November 2024 Minutes**- The November minutes were posted online and sent out with the monthly announcement. Harold asked the organization to make a motion to

pass the minutes, a motion was made by Katie and seconded by Terry to accept the minutes as written. All in favor. Motion passed unanimously.

### 9<sup>th</sup> WARD ALDERMAN REPORT

# **Michael Browning**

browningm@stlouis-mo.gov

Not in attendance because of illness; nothing new to report

#### **NEIGHBORHOOD ORGANIZATION UPDATES**

Treasurer Terry Werner

**Update on financials:** 

Checking: \$284.08 Savings: \$2,857.50

Time Deposit (business CD): \$4,504.31

• The organization paid GoDaddy for renewal of our organization website for the next 3 years

#### **NEW AND ON-GOING BUSINESS**

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Beautification Committee Chair Lorraine Simpson

*lorraineline@msn.com* 

Nothing new to report

Development Committee Chair Dan Hellmuth

dhellmuth@hellmuth-bicknese.com

• Not in attendance, nothing new to report

Neighborhood Improvement Specialist Ron Coleman

colemanron@stlouis-mo.gov

- Communicates to report any non-working Street lights cars and/or abandoned cars to the CSB.
- Please report an instance of unhoused to Alvin Ferguson NSI at 314-904-6879

# **Security Liaison**

# Open position

# **Block Captains:**

4100-4200 Laclede: Dug Feltch (314) 531-3313

4300 Laclede : Scott Gilbert (314) 406-3536

4100-4200 West Pine: open position

4300 West Pine: open position

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Next General Meeting: January 14th @7pm @Northwest Coffee

Meeting adjourned at 7:55 pm.