

West Pine Laclede Neighborhood Association
Northwest Coffee 7 PM
March 11th, 2025
General Assembly Meeting Minutes

CALL TO ORDER 7:02 pm

Treasurer; Terry Werner
terryfwerner@gmail.com

Vice President: Dug Felch
bkmarionnettes@charter.net

Treasurer: Terry Werner
terryfwerner@gmail.com

Secretary: Nicole Ewing
postonni@gmail.com

Association President Harold asked for permission to suspend the normal order of business, with the exception of introductions, in order to allow the two guest speakers to make their presentations without being forced to sit through possibly interminably long committee reports.

GUEST SPEAKER(S)

Donna Barringer

Comptroller candidate; 2025
no email provided

Donna won the primary in March and knocked on doors in the neighborhood through the winter. She may have missed your house if you live on the shady or icy side of the street but tried to hit every house in the association's boundaries. Donna is passionate about responsibly spending the ARPA funds allocated to the city so the city doesn't lose those funds in the upcoming fiscal year.

She believes that the earning tax is so critically important to that the city has the best understanding of what funds we have available to spend, so that city officials can spend funds the most wisely. She communicates that she is a 20-year veteran in the St. Louis community,

first serving on the board of Alderman and the Alderwoman of the 16th Ward. She now serves on the Missouri House of Representatives for District 82. She believes the Comptroller's office is in desperate need of a person to re-allocate duties and time spent in the Comptroller's office to truly serve as an effective watchdog for the cities fiscal needs and responsibilities. She also wants to serve as an examiner of conflict-of interest issues when looking at St. Louis City contracts for board of commission members and non-profits.

She wants to correct the city's financial infrastructure deficits and wants to empower citizens by making sure they know when, where, and how their money is being spend and have faith in the Comptroller's office that those funds are being spend wisely and with the city's citizens in mind first. She is asking for your vote on election day, April 8th.

Darlene Green

City comptroller

Darlene introduces herself and thanks the general assembly for their presence at the meeting tonight. She wants to strengthen the city's financial responsibility. She communicates she has high energy, a strong hand in representing the finances in this city, and the experience to continue to keep the city's great credit score it has. She wants to continue using her approach to the city's Comptroller office by providing honesty and financial responsibility while protecting tax payer dollars with her firm and knowledgeable leadership.

She wants to protect and provide a checks and balances of the states and federal funds allocated to the city. She communicates the city currently has 151 million dollars in rainy day funds and is passionate about protecting and using those funds appropriately. She is a strong advocate for women's rights, workers' rights, and human rights. She communicates that she is a strong advocate for all things that support St. Louisans way of life, and cares about the things that impact our daily lives. She supports expansion of the airport and worked hard to stop the privatization of the airport, that she believes would have hurt everyday St. Louis life. She is asking for your vote on election day, April 8th.

Marla

new owner of old Scottish Arms

She is very excited to bring back Scottish Arms in late May! They have a pending liquor license and is currently working on cleaning and refurbishing the space in order to have the restaurant in great order to reopen late this spring or early summer.

The menu will consist of the some of same old great menu items Scottish Arms from the past. She wants to create a comfortable and coy place with a great pub for locals! She plans on being open 5 days a week Tues- Sun in the evenings with additional lunch hours to come after getting opened and settled.

Jerad Boyd

Chief of Staff to Mayor Jones

Mr. Boyd communicates that the city's 16 homicides are down from 32 this time last year. Mr Boyd communicates he believes part of our city's success is due to the creation of the Office of Violence Prevention, raises to police dept for police officers, bringing in the new chief of police, and solving number of homicides committed. This past week, the city lost its city control over government issues and a recent vote has given the state control of our city.

Tishaura Jones

Mayor, City of St. Louis

Ms. Jones wishes everyone a happy new year! She updated the organization on plans for the Millennium Hotel and communicates that there is a 700-million-dollar renovation coming! She has a plans for the Railway Exchange Building though eminent domain and wants to get those buildings and surrounding parking lots improved. She has invested 250 million dollars to improve infrastructure, support renovations to old, abandoned homes, demolished over 900 vacant buildings, and is improving various services to move and streamline the city's office and citizen's bureau processes to online.

She is keeping at watchful eye on the spending freeze at the federal level and is watching federally funded programs such as homeless services and healthcare services that impact the city. Though decreases in crime the state of Missouri, the House of Representatives voted to turn over the rights from the city to the state level and warns the organization of this move.

In a question-and-answer session, Mayor Jones answered a question from a neighbor concerning immigrants and safe haven in the state of Missouri. She communicated that St. Louis is not a sanctuary city, rather a welcoming city, and she communicates that she is working to improve city infrastructure to support new citizens and immigrants.

Review and approve December 2024 Minutes- The December and February minutes (no meeting in January) were posted online and sent out with the monthly announcement. Harold asked for a motion to accept the minutes. Sue made a motion to accept minutes, seconded by another neighbor in attendance. All in favor, motion passes.

9th WARD ALDERMAN REPORT

Michael Browning

browningm@stlouis-mo.gov

The board of alderman is currently on break and doesn't have much to update. He welcomes the New Scottish Arms is RE-opening on Sarah street this spring/summer.

Communicates the plan for the Boy Scouts building are currently halted for now.

NEIGHBORHOOD ORGANIZATION UPDATES

Treasurer

Terry Werner

Update on financials:

Checking: \$1,282.48

Savings: \$2,857.50

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

Terry noted that the updates on financials hasn't changed since our last general assembly meeting in February.

**Annual dues are due. If you haven't yet paid your yearly dues, please do so by contacting Terry Werner or visiting the WPLNA website.

NEW AND ON-GOING BUSINESS

- 4300 block of Laclede is a new halfway house for women purchased by Sanna Lake and a neighbor is requesting further information from the house managers.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Beautification Committee Chair

Lorraine Simpson

lorraineline@msn.com

- nothing new to report

Development Committee Chair

Dan Hellmuth

dhellmuth@hellmuth-bicknese.com

- nothing new to report

Neighborhood Improvement Specialist

Ron Coleman

colemanron@stlouis-mo.gov

- Communicates the city is working hard to fix potholes and believes the trash collection issue is caught up from the bad weather this winter.
- Asked the membership always to report any cars with either missing or expired license plates so that the city can take appropriate action, either by ticketing or towing. Alderman Browning noted that the city's towing lots are currently filled to capacity.
- 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: David Maltby (816) 516-9818

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next General Meeting: April 8th, 2025@7pm @Northwest Coffee
Meeting adjourned at 8:04 p.m.