



Tower Grove Heights Neighborhood Association Meeting – January 26, 2016
Convened: 7:15 p.m. Adjourned: 8:30 p.m. 40 attendees
Meeting chaired by TGHNA President Stephen Gregali

- **Introductions**

- **President Stephen Gregali** (president@towergroveheights.com) introduced himself and other members of the 2016 TGHNA Board:
- **Barbara Gilchrist**, President-Elect (president-elect@towergroveheights.com)
- **Rick Stein**, Treasurer (treasurer@towergroveheights.com)
- **Tricia Heliker**, Membership Secretary (membership@towergroveheights.com) reported TGHNA has 217 current memberships; and the 2016 Members' Buzz Book is being printed. President Gregali recognized Tricia as the person who is keeping us up to date via Facebook about the rehab at 3801 Hartford (at Spring).
- **Debra Knox Deiermann**, Recording Secretary (secretary@towergroveheights.com) reported the TGHNA notification list currently goes to 477 subscribers. This very low-traffic list is open to all. Attendees who include their email addresses at the meeting sign-in (or send her an email) will be sent an invitation to join. It's a great way to get neighborhood information that is not posted elsewhere. We now have a Neighborhood Book Exchange and TGHNA Suggestion Box. President Gregali announced there will also be an online Suggestion Box coming to www.towergroveheights.com.
- **Kelly Stout**, Past-president (past-president@towergroveheights.com) was not in attendance.

- **Neighborhood business/announcements**

- **15th Ward Aldermanic Report:** Megan-Ellyia Green spoke in favor of the upcoming vote on the Earnings Tax. For more information: <http://kplr11.com/2016/01/26/earnings-tax-to-go-before-city-voters-in-april/>. She presented "Resolution 187 – Matt the Cat" to Maire Murphy, owner of Matt. (See attachments.)
- **First-time attendees:** President Gregali recognized two individuals who identified themselves as first-time attendees.
- **TGHNA Financial Summary – 2015:** Treasurer Rick Stein presented the annual financial summary as required by TGHNA bylaws. Gregali moved to accept the report; seconded by Jennifer Florida. No dissentions (see attachment).
 - ✓ **Amazon Smile:** Your Amazon purchases can now benefit TGHNA through the Amazon Smile program. For more information: <http://smile.amazon.com/gp/aw/ch/about>
 - ✓ **100 Neediest Cases:** In December 2015, TGHNA chose two families from the 100 Neediest Cases program. In addition to providing the suggested gifts, our generous neighbors contributed \$1000 for each family's utilities bills. Thank you!
- **Crime Report:** Officer Ed Slade (edslade@slmpd.org), SLMPD 2nd District liaison, distributed copies of the "District 2 Property Crime Report" and "Crime Comparison by Date of Occurrence" (see attachment).
 - ✓ **Cameras:** If you have cameras on your property and are willing to allow law enforcement to have access, contact him.
 - ✓ **Burglar Alarms:** In response to a question, Slade stated that residents may be charged for second and subsequent false alarms. These charges are issued by the City.
 - ✓ **Bond Reduction Hearing:** There will be a bond reduction hearing in Division 26 on January 27 for a defendant charged with a crime in the Tower Grove South area. If you can attend, let Officer Slade know.
 - ✓ **Police Substation** is up and running on Bamberger.
 - ✓ A recent shooting incident at the KFC on Grand near Gravois brought attention to a nearby garage that was being used as a site for drug dealing/use.

- **Featured Speaker**

Sean Spencer, Executive Director, Tower Grove Neighborhoods Community Development Corporation

Spencer distributed rack cards summarizing the goals of TGNCDC's 2015-2019 5-year Strategic Plan (see attachment). He reported that there are only 17 CDCs left in the city and they must now begin to do work that generates income outside of grants. Volunteers who will continue work that was initiated by grants are sought.

TGNDCDC will produce a Community Resource Guide which will be mailed to each household. For more information: check out his blog at: www.tgncdc.org.

- **Other Announcements**

- **Heights Nights:** This popular TGHNA-sponsored event takes place on second Tuesdays from March to September. Everyone is welcome to attend this meet and greet-type neighborhood event while patronizing a designated local business. Hodak's Restaurant and Bar, consistently cited as having the best fried chicken in St. Louis, will be the site of our first Heights Night on March 8, 6:30 p.m. Hodak's, 2100 Gravois Avenue, 63104, is not directly located in TGH, but the owners are long-time TGH residents and generous supporters of TGHNA's Autumn Fest. Mention "Tower Grove Heights Nights" for 10% off. (Vegetarian options available.)
- **Committees:** Your help/input is requested for our committees: SOCIAL, COMMUNICATIONS, SAFETY, and BLOCK CAPTAINS. This is a great way to gain experience and make your voice heard while helping to make our beautiful neighborhood even better.
- **Flood victim relief:** President-Elect, Barbara Gilchrist, announced TGHNA will be donating a total of \$500 to help area flood victims. A contribution will be made to one or two local agencies toward this effort. Recipient suggestions include the Arnold Food Pantry which can use our donation towards gas cards, etc. for affected residents. A suggestion from the floor was to include a pet food pantry in the affected area.
- **Speakers for Upcoming meetings**
 - February:
 - ✓ Carolyn Compton, Central West End Neighborhood Safety Initiative <http://cwensi.com/>
 - ✓ Comptroller Darlene Green (regarding the City Earning Tax) <https://www.stlouis-mo.gov/government/departments/comptroller/profiles/About-Comptroller-Darlene-Green.cfm>
 - March:
 - ✓ Local filmmaker, Bill Streeter, will discuss his recent, highly acclaimed film, "Brick by Chance and Fortune: A St. Louis Story," a documentary on the history of brick in St. Louis featuring many south city brick structures. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rrTAKgL6upw>
- **Announcements from the floor**
 - ✓ La Leche League neighborhood meetings: Third Wednesdays, 10 a.m., Oak Hill Presbyterian Church, 4111 Connecticut, 63116. <http://www.llstl.org/>
 - ✓ Matt the Cat Neighborhood Gathering: Saturday, January 30, 4-6 p.m. at Rooster South Grand, 3150 S. Grand, 63116.

Respectfully submitted,
Debra Knox Deiermann
Secretary, TGHNA
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