



**Tower Grove Heights Neighborhood Association Meeting – May 24, 2016**

**Convened: 7:15 p.m. Adjourned: 8:30 p.m. 34 attendees**

*Meeting chaired by TGHNA President Stephen Gregali ([president@towergroveheights.com](mailto:president@towergroveheights.com))*

- **President – Open meeting and welcome**

- **Call for newcomers**

- Five first-time attendees were identified.

- **Neighborhood business/announcements**

- **Treasurer's Report** ([treasurer@towergroveheights.com](mailto:treasurer@towergroveheights.com))

- Rick Stein reported TGHNA's net worth is \$12,190.67 as of April 30, 2016.

- **SLMPD 2<sup>nd</sup> District Liaison Officer, Ed Slade** ([edslade@slmpd.org](mailto:edslade@slmpd.org))

- Crime report handouts were distributed.
- Reminded us to make sure windows and back doors are secured since these have become the primary access point for burglars.

- **15<sup>th</sup> Ward Aldermanic Report**

- Alderperson Megan Green ([megan.ellyia@gmail.com](mailto:megan.ellyia@gmail.com)) introduced the new Neighborhood Information Specialist (NIS) in Ward 15, Sharie Taylor ([taylorsh@stlouis-mo.gov](mailto:taylorsh@stlouis-mo.gov)), who has previously served as NIS in Ward 5 which includes parts of the following neighborhoods: Downtown West, JeffVanderLou, St. Louis Place, Carr Square, Columbus Square, Old North St. Louis, Near North Riverfront, and Hyde Park.
- There will be three more assemblies to suggest projects for Participatory Budgeting, as well as an online survey. The next step is winnowing down the projects to 8-10 for resident approval and finally, residents may vote on the approved projects outside polling booths in November.
- Repaving on Gustine will begin shortly.
- In response to a resident's question about getting more stop signs to slow down speeding cars, she stated that having more stop signs actually makes drivers mad.
- She stated that no speed bumps can be placed on snow routes such as Gustine.
- In response to a resident's question, she stated that if the new LED street lights approved in the last Participating Budget plan are not illuminating appropriately, residents can make a report to CSB requesting that the lights be tilted.
- A resident commented on the delivery drivers from Domino's Pizza and Jimmy John's who continually speed down Hartford and nearby streets. Megan said she'd call them.

- **Social Committee Report**

- Vicky Dean announced the next Heights Night will be June 14. Details to follow.
- A gift card to Baida was awarded.

- **Block Captain Committee**

- Debra Knox Deiermann ([blockrep@towergroveheights.com](mailto:blockrep@towergroveheights.com)) announced that some longtime Block Captains are moving out of the area so we need replacements on 3800 Wyoming, 3800 Connecticut and 36-3700 Connecticut. We are also recruiting a Block Captain for 3800 Arsenal.

- *Block Captains meet on second Mondays, January-November, at Oak Hill Presbyterian Church, 4111 Connecticut at Oak Hill, 6:30 p.m. in the Theoleos Room on the lower level.*
- *Block Captains will be touring SLMPD's Real Time Crime Center on Monday, June 13.*

- **Featured Speakers**

- **Mark Abbott – Board President, SLACO (St. Louis Association of Community Organizations)**

<http://www.slaco-mo.org/>

- *Mark, who lives on the 3600 block of Hartford, has been a Tower Grove Heights resident since 1989. He stated, "Tower Grove Heights is my passion and my career." He received a grant from Washington University to research what makes neighborhoods sustainable, comparing TGH to a neighborhood in Detroit. He states that one of the key factors that has kept TGH stable over time is our strong, vibrant neighborhood association. New SLACO program include:*
  - ✓ *Sustainable Neighborhood Academy <http://www.slaco-mo.org/spring-2016-sessions.html>*
  - ✓ *Inspiration Lab <http://www.slaco-mo.org/inspiration-lab.html>*
  - ✓ *Neighborhoods United for Change <http://www.slaco-mo.org/neighborhoods-united-for-change.html>*
- *One of the initiatives Mark is most excited about is the one dealing with "vacancy approaches." <http://www.slaco-mo.org/vacancy.html>*
- *SLACO has sponsored a Regional Neighborhood Conference for the past 20 years. This year's Conference will take place on October 29 at Harris-Stowe State University.*
- *There is also a Neighborhood Round Table to which member neighborhoods may send two delegates.*

- **Jim Whyte – Central West End Neighborhood Safety Initiative Executive Director**

<http://cwensi.com/>

- *There are 16,000 residents in the Central West End and seven self-imposed taxing districts in CWE which collect a property tax on residents to pay for safety and security initiatives. About \$630,000 is collected and is primarily spent on extra patrols.*
- *About four years ago, they began to install security cameras with help from Washington University. There are 86 cameras in the CWE, which ranks as second highest in the city for car thefts, robberies and armed robberies. All of CWENSI cameras have been installed on buildings.*
- *Whyte estimates that many arrests would not have occurred without the cameras. He states that the cameras make the whole region safer because they help to identify individuals involved in criminal activity.*
- *In response to several resident questions about individual surveillance systems, he suggested checking out Gander Mountain, Sam's, as well as internet research.*
- *He stated he would be willing to consult with us.*
- *A resident mentioned his doorbell camera which he purchased for his home. He said the newer models allow owners to watch live from their cell phones.*
- *Another resident suggested mounting a crowd-sourced effort to buy security cameras for the neighborhood.*

- **New/Old Business**

- *June speakers TBA.*
- *TGHNA now participates in the eScript program through Schnucks. Just sign up at any Schnucks Market and chose TGHNA as your designated nonprofit. Show your card each time you check out and you'll be making no-cost contributions to our neighborhood association with every purchase.*

- *Máire Murphy announced the organization, St. Louis City Kitties that helps older adults care for their pets in the event of illness, hospitalization, etc.*
- *Madelyn Barnes announced the South East St. Louis City Yard Sale 2016 which will feature sales grouped in particular neighborhoods. The Tower Grove Heights and Tower Grove South sale will take place on June 18. No individual permits are needed and it is free to participate. She would like this to become an annual event. Contact Madelyn if you would like to participate and she will add your street address to the map which will be posted to several social media platforms. <https://www.facebook.com/SESTLYardSale/>*

- **Announcements**

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- *The next Tower Grove South Neighborhood Meeting will take place on Wednesday, June 16, 6:30 p.m. at Oak Hill Presbyterian Church, 4111 Connecticut at Oak Hill. Everyone is welcome!*

- **Adjournment**

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Debra Knox Deiermann*  
[secretary@towergroveheights.com](mailto:secretary@towergroveheights.com)