



Minutes of Tower Grove Heights Neighborhood Association Meeting – September 26, 2017
Convened: 7:15 p.m. Adjourned: 8:15 p.m. 20 attendees

Meeting chaired by TGHNA President, Barbara Gilchrist (president@towergroveheights.com)

- **Opening of meeting and welcome**

- **Newcomer recognition**

- Welcome to all!*

- **Neighborhood business/announcements**

- **15th Ward Aldermanic report**

- *Alderman Megan Green stated she wants to trigger an audit of the city government which is estimated to cost \$1.2 – \$1.7 million. Once an audit is done, it will be posted on the city website. The last one was conducted 10 years ago but the city did not implement a lot of the recommendations that were suggested after the audit was completed.*
 - *Speed humps: Green said she will have a list, by the next meeting, of the addresses where these are scheduled to be installed.*
 - *She stated she voted against the sales tax increase because we just had a property tax increase and she says she feels we need an audit first.*
 - *In response to a resident's question regarding the Board of Alderman proclamation honoring drug suspect, Lamar Anthony Smith, who was shot by police officer, Jason Stockley in 2011, and whose bench trial resulted in a not guilty verdict, triggering recent civil unrest, Megan stated, "Whether you believe he was a good person or not, his death sparked an important issue." Green voted in favor of the proclamation.*

- **Ice Breaker: Vicky Dean** (president-elect@towergroveheights.com)

- **Featured Speakers**

- **Steve Hogenmiller, Tower Grove Park Horticulture Supervisor** (shogenmiller@towergrovepark.org or 314-771-5445)

- *Former TGH resident, Hogenmiller, announced the need for volunteers at Tower Grove Park to provide services such as planting, carpentry, and office work. TGH resident, Wes Browning, had contacted the park about some basic maintenance and this outreach plan was formulated.*
 - *Anyone who would like to find out more about volunteering for the park, in any capacity, should contact Hogenmiller.*

- **Mark Abbott, Tower Grove Heights SLACO representative**

- *Tower Grove Heights Neighborhood Association is a member of the St. Louis Association of Community Organizations (SLACO). Because their by-laws called for each member neighborhood to have a seat on their board, this has become unwieldy since there are now 33 representatives. They have come up with a plan to divide the city into seven clusters which will yield seven reps plus four at-large reps. TGH will be in the cluster with Tower Grove East, Tower Grove South, Shaw, and Compton Heights.*

- SLACO represents about a third of the city's population and provides neighborhood advocacy. They were behind the recent proposition to stabilize vacant buildings; however, the proposition did not pass due to its failure to reach the threshold for city bond issues.
- Abbott will step down in March 2018 and encourages anyone interested in representing TGH to pursue it.
- SLACO's annual conference will take place on April 14, 2018 at Forest Park Community College. This year attendance will be by invitation only.

- **Announcements**

- **Safety Committee**

- Ryan Barry has graciously agreed to co-chair the committee which meets at Gelateria, 3197 S. Grand, on third Mondays at 6:30 p.m.

- **Social Committee**

- Halloween will take place on October 28 in Ritz Park, 5-8 p.m.
- Tonight's Social Hour will take place at Pizza Head, 3196 S. Grand, immediately following the meeting.

- **Block Captains** The 15th Ward does not have a dedicated Neighborhood Improvement Specialist (NIS) but for "behavioral" issues (formerly known as "nuisance" issues), contact Christian Saller at 314-657-1375 or sallerc@stlouis-mo.gov.

- We would like to enlist a co-Captain for 3800 Hartford. Please contact blockreps@towergroveheights.com for more information.

- **Treasurer**

- Net worth is \$17,175.87.

- **President**

- The TGHNA 30th Anniversary Neighborhood-wide Block Party was a tremendous success with over 200 attendees. Thanks to all the volunteers and special thanks to Planning Committee Chair, Patrick Weber and Committee member, Pat Edwards.
- Please consider joining one of our many committees. Contact: info@towergroveheights.com or sign up on one of the forms in the back.
- Nominations for the 2018 TGHNA Board are due next month. If you are interested in running, contact: info@towergroveheights.com. Eligible voters may vote at the November meeting.

- **Other Announcements**

- Former TGH resident, **Emily Freeman**, would like to open a Pilates studio at Juniata and Bent. She is seeking support for this endeavor to present to an upcoming zoning meeting. She described her business plan and asked for signatures on her petition.
- **Dave Difani** is having concrete re-poured for patio service at Black Thorn Pizza, 3735 Wyoming. He does not anticipate any noise issues as a result of the patio service.
- **Amanda Doyle** will speak at our next meeting about her new book.
- TGSNA meeting: October 18 at Oak Hill Presbyterian Church, 6:30 p.m.
- TGHNA meeting: October 24 at Center for Divine Love, 7:15 p.m.

- **Adjournment**

Respectfully submitted,

Debra Knox Deiermann
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