

Tower Grove Heights Neighborhood Association Meeting
February 25, 2014 7:20p.m. 40 attendees

The Tower Grove Heights Neighborhood Association (TGHNA) meeting was chaired by President Mike Newsham.

Maddie Earnest of Local Harvest Grocery and Cafes first thanked attendees for the successful raising of \$120,000 to keep their doors open. Their future efforts will continue to center around building a local food community, with at least 50% of their inventory from within 300 miles of Saint Louis. Maddie introduced us to several local products including cleaning products, syrups, hot sauces, chocolates, and soaps. The cafes (one on Morganford and the other in the Old Post Office Building downtown) will feature more foods that are fast and convenient for carry out, including rice bowls, kim chee, and a variety of freshly –pressed vegetable and fruit juices.

Rebecca Widzer, also of Local Harvest, told us about Weekly Harvest, a weekly local food subscription comprised of the best local foods in the region. They pack it up and you pick it up. You can choose the vegetarian or omnivore option. When local produce is less available (Dec.-Mar.) they will substitute organic produce grown in the U.S. and with prepared food items from their café. For more information go to www.localharvestgrocery.com/weeklyharvest.htm.

Rebecca also told us about the Local Harvest Community Seed Library, based in the grocery. It's a free resource of seeds for plants—edible and ornamental—that grow well in St. Louis. Anyone can “borrow” seeds from the library, with the promise that they will save enough seeds to replenish the library when they have grown the plants. You can stop by the grocery to learn more.

Michael Brand of Rascals Foundation was at the meeting. Rascals Foundation was founded to promote awareness of ALS (Lou Gehrig's Disease), a degenerative disease affecting the neurons of the brain and spinal cord. They will have a 5K Run at Tower Grove Park on May 3, 2014. The registration form has not yet been posted, but for early information or questions contact him directly at michaelbrand314@gmail.com. For more about the Rascals Foundation go to www.rascalsfoundation.org.

Wayne Sweet of Stop Intruders Now, LLC gave a demonstration of a brace that can be attached to your door to prevent break-ins and push-ins. For more information visit www.Intruder-Stop.com.

Mike Newsham reminded us that Heights Nights, an opportunity to socialize with residents and support a local business, will be held at Café Mochi on Tuesday, March 11, 2014 from 6-8p.m. All are welcome!

The three initially proposed committees have been folded into one that will handle information for the neighborhood, planning events and activities, and community volunteer efforts. Additional committee members are always welcome. If you are interested, contact Mike at president@towergroveheights.com.

We still need block captains for the 36-3700 block of Hartford and both blocks of Arsenal. Judy Lane, our Neighborhood Stabilization Officer, can train all new block captains in their general responsibilities. If you would like to serve as a block captain e-mail Mike at president@towergroveheights.com.

Jennifer Florida told us the Green Alleys Project has begun again in the 36-3700 block alley between McDonald and Utah, and may be subject to delays caused by extreme cold, snow, and ice. She also gave us an update on the possible future store for IKEA which will be located on 15 acres at the corner of Forest Park and Vandeventer. Not yet a done deal, but getting closer.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20p.m.