

Tower Grove Heights Neighborhood Association Meeting
August 26, 2014 Convened: 7:23pm Adjourned: 8:20 pm 46 attendees

Beth McKenzie of Brightside STL spoke about the resources and programs they offer, including:

- Tools and trash bags for Operation Blitz, alley cleanups with a renewed emphasis on meeting and working with your neighbors. Blitzes can be scheduled at any time, with one week of advanced notice to Brightside.
- Graffiti cleanup (call Citizen's Service Bureau at 314-622-4800 to report graffiti.)
- Greening initiatives such as roadside plantings, springtime offerings of annuals for public spaces, and a demonstration garden of environmentally sustainable plantings, pervious surfaces, and more.
- Neighbors Naturescaping grants of up to \$1500 for groups to beautify public spaces.
- Young Friends of Brightside, a volunteer program for people ages 20 to 40 years old.

For more information go to: www.brightsidestl.org

Kate Schnetzer and Kathy Loughren of Parenting Resources came to talk about their new business at the corner of Wyoming and Spring. They offer educational workshops and support for home pregnancy, childbirth, breastfeeding, baby carrying, baby nutrition, baby massage, parenting, and more, as well as an opportunity for parents to network. Their aim is to support parents from pregnancy through pre-school. Stop by their shop at 3801 Wyoming to check out their space, see their products and a class schedule, or just say hi. For more information go to: www.stlparentingresources.com

Officer Ed Slade of the STL Police District 2 stopped by to let us know that there have been a number of tagging and car break-ins in and around our neighborhood. House burglaries continue to occur primarily in the daytime, although there have been nighttime burglaries of houses being rehabbed.

Rhonda Smythe, currently working with TrailNet, is an independent candidate for the open 15th Ward Alderman position. She explained that her platform primarily consists of two points:

- Engaging the community to start active neighborhood associations for all residents.
- Promoting participatory budgeting, where residents are involved in how discretionary funds for their ward are spent.

She informed us that the special election to fill the 15th Ward Alderman position will take place on October 7th. Learn more about Rhonda at www.rhondasmythe.com

Mike Newsham

- *Stoop nights*: All are encouraged to spend some time on your porches or to stroll through the neighborhood every Thursday night this summer and fall. A beer wagon will be rolling through the neighborhood with beer (#wheresthewagon.) You're encouraged to take a beer or contribute one. A great way to meet your neighbors!
- *Heights Nights*: The next Heights Nights will be at Civil Life Brewery on Tuesday, September 9th, 6-8pm. Don't miss this chance to meet new people and support a local business. As always, children are welcome.
- TGHNA has been given a booth in Ritz Park for the Fall Festival on September 20th. We still need a few volunteers to staff it for a 2-hour shift. Please contact Mike at president@towergroveheights.com if you're interested in volunteering or need more information.

Rachel Witt, Executive Director of South Grand Community Improvement District updated us on the following:

- *New businesses*: A Brazilian restaurant is going into the space formerly occupied by Urban. Cheap TRX has down-sized and another small business will go in the space they vacated.
- *International Dine Around*: is scheduled for September 18th and will feature foods from all the South Grand restaurants. A great way to sample the diversity of foods on South Grand. The menu is on the website at www.southgrand.org. Order your tickets online for \$30 each and pick them up the day of the event at Parsimonia, 3194 S. Grand or buy them there the day of the event for \$35. Rachel noted that there will be vegetarian options for each course this year.
- *South Grand Movie Night*: Friday, September 19th *Honey I Shrunk the Kids*. There will be a ribbon-cutting ceremony at 7pm at the Pocket Park, and the movie is scheduled to be shown there at 8pm. Attendance is free.
- *Fall Festival*: South Grand will be sponsoring a festival on September 20th which will feature live music, crafts, food, and other entertainment from 10:00am to 10:00pm. Please note that the ends of the following streets will be barricaded: Juniata (west side at South Grand), Connecticut (west side at South Grand), and Wyoming (east and west sides at South Grand.) They will only be barricaded to the alleys, so you should be able to turn your car around...
- For information about these events go to www.southgrand.org

John Karel, Executive Director of Tower Grove Park, reported that crowds at the Festival of Nations last weekend were down somewhat due to the heat, but a conservative estimate was 60,000 in attendance! Ongoing events at the park include Food Truck Fridays, Tower Grove Farmers Market, and brunches every Sunday at Piper Palm House. For more information go to www.towergrovepark.org