LaSalle Park Community Association Meeting

Wednesday, January 11th
7:00pm to 8:15pm

Meeting Information

In person: St. Louis Friends Meeting (Quakers)
1001 Park Ave, 63104

Topic	Time Slot	Lead(s)
Meeting Kick-Off Welcome, Opening Remarks, and Review of Agenda	**7:00-7:10**	**Jenn S**
Neighborhood Improvement Update	**7:10-7:20**	**Qiana Baxton**
Public Safety Update	**7:20-7:30**	**Ofc Kevin Dilg**
Good Development Group presentation	**7:30-7:40**	**Greg Gleicher**
Mardis Gras	**7:40-7:50**	**Tim Lorson**
8th Ward Alder Candidate Intros	**7:50-8:00**	**Cara & Nato**
LPCA Bylaws Update	**8:00-8:05**	**Ben W**
Financial Update ● Fundraising ideas	**8:05-8:10**	**Jenn S**
Meeting Wrap Up ● Recap Next Steps/Agenda Topics for Feb 8th meeting ● Concluding Remarks	**8:10-8:15**	**Jenn S**

Meeting Kickoff

Sal Martinez / Employment Connection
martinezs@employmentstl.org
Introducing new site director Samir S-B for violence prevention center operating out of Al Chappelle Community Ctr in Peabody Darst-Webbe. Samir grew up in the neighborhood, will be working to do violence intervention and mediation. Sal also listed upcoming events at the community center and other venues in the area. Samir and his team work at strategic hours on Tues-Sat to best coincide with when violence tends to occurs.

Everyone is welcome at these violence prevention events, volunteers also happily encouraged. Sal also working to hire 2 more persons for the team.

NIS Update – Qiana Baxton

Please direct questions and service requests to Qiana. Qiana is new to the neighborhood and to the role, please welcome her!

baxtonq@stlouis-mo.gov / 314-657-1374

Refuse pickup schedule is slowly returning to normal, please contact Qiana if you see dumpsters overflowing. Pickup is often delayed but still occurring.

Public Safety Update – Ofc Kevin Dilg

Dilg's monthly & yearly crime reports are linked in this sentence.

Dilg acknowledges Shotspotters do indeed detect gunshots, but usually the shooters a long gone by time the police actually arrive.

Discussion about what kind of offense unlawful gunfire is, can actually just be a city ordinance violence when not intentionally fired at a person or occupied building. City can't make its own gun laws. Concerns voiced about anticipated state law changes (Stand Your Ground, etc) which may just *worsen* the city's gun violence.

LaSalle Park had a 57% increase in part 1 crimes 2021 → 2022, a larger % than all other neighborhoods in District 3. The vast majority of these crimes occurred in LaSalle Park Apartments, generally between residents or people who know each other. Crime against strangers is not itself as high.

Dilg acknowledges the police can't resolve the crime problem on their own. The department is only reactive in nature.

Constructive things residents can do to help discourage violence:
- Build simple relationships with LaSalle Park Apts residents if opportunity provides. Say hello! Hire people for odd jobs like shoveling snow.
- Be visible and establish your presence! Go for a leisurely walk around the neighborhood, pick up litter, trim overgrowth in the medians or by fences.

City housing authority is working to identify and evict residents responsible for violence, but this process takes time. Sal Martinez is also board member with the authority, so he's very much in the middle of things working very hard to stop cycles of violence.

We also have brand new SLMPD Chief Robert Tracy.

Good Development Group Intro – Greg Gleicher CEO

Large new development project on the riverfront just south of downtown, bordering LaSalle Park. Large portion of the 1st phase will include manufacturing, expecting to bring many jobs. 1st stage: 1 million square ft, rehab of existing structures, take 2 – 2 ½ years. Hoping to bring tenants that rely heavily on prefab construction for facilities. Location in center of country ideally makes the location ideal for shipping.

GDG also working to get incentives it qualifies for, brownfield tax credits, historic tax credits.

GDG wants to recall St. Louis' heritage as an innovation hub.

Residential and commercial space would come as later phases.

Very first stage: stabilize existing structures, e.g. Crunden-Martin building and adjacent, construction for industrial tenants.

GDG gladly encourages community support, letters of endorsement.

GDG is in communication with the Hungarian Catholic church congregation, the church isn't going anywhere.

Mardis Gras

The Grand Parade is Saturday 2/18 at noon.

We'll have the same location on the west side of the pedestrian footbridge for our tent. Please reach out to LPCA at lpnastl@gmail.com and Brent Holmes if you're interested in getting involved!

8th Ward Candidate Intros

With the transition to 14 wards, LaSalle Park will now be in the new, larger 8th Ward, along with Soulard, Kosciusko, Benton Park West, Benton Park, McKinley Heights, Lafayette Square, Downtown East.

Primary election: March 7th, General election: April 4th. You can vote for 2 candidates in each! Early voting begins 2 weeks before each election.

Cara Spencer (current 20th Ward alderperson): https://caraspencerstl.com

Shedrick "Nato Caliph" Kelley: https://shedrickkelley.com/

LPCA Bylaws/Board Election

Working still to get amendment filing for LaSalle Park Community Association's Articles of Incorporation. This filing is necessary for the board elections in April to occur as planned, also to set ground rules with Secretary of State for the new membership-based structure.

As planned, nominations for the new LPCA board open up at the March 8th meeting, with the election beginning online short before the April 12th meeting, and then concluding at that same meeting with results announced live.

All board positions up for election to 2 year term: president, vp, secretary, treasurer, board member at large.

Finances

Bank account has $4720.48 as of 12/31/2022