



TGSNA Board of Directors Meeting
January 31, 2023 (February)
6:30 pm
Mark's House

In Attendance (Presence indicated by ☑ - Absence indicated by ☐):

- ☑ Deborah Pratt (President)
- ☑ Leah Sweetman (Vice President)
- ☑ Robert Boggs (Treasurer)
- ☑ Rose Moller-Jacobs (Corresponding Secretary)
- ☑ Joe Mazzola (Reporting Secretary)
- ☑ Thomas Pratt (Northeast Quadrant Director)
- ☑ Mark Abbott (Northeast Quadrant Director)
- ☑ Adam Mizes (Northwest Quadrant Director)
- ☐ Joe Grailer (Northwest Quadrant Director)
- ☑ Hope Wyss (Southeast Quadrant Director)
- ☐ Karen Strombach (Southeast Quadrant Director)
- ☑ Liz Tegart (Southwest Quadrant Director)
- ☑ Suzanne Chisum (Southwest Quadrant Director)
- + Jack from development committee

President Deborah Pratt called the meeting to order at 6:44 pm.

1. Welcome & Introductions

Welcomed to the February board meeting.

2. Secretary's Report - Joe

Need to vote to review / approve Oct/Nov/Dec/Jan.

Joe to add Luminary report to January meeting minutes from Suzanne

Hope made a motion to approve Oct/Nov/Dec/Jan meetings minutes, Liz seconded, vote approved (no opposition)

3. Treasurer's Report - Robert

Current balance: 1478.31, no expected expenses

Insurance due in February

4. General Meeting Agenda / Structure - Debi

- a. February Agenda
 - i. Development committee Visioning session results will be reviewed.
 - ii. Starting a spring garden (Rachel Greathouse) demonstration. Bring extra cleanup supplies and newspapers to clean up for church.
 - iii. No Alderperson until elections in April, plan to have them introduced at the May meeting.
 - iv. Bylaw change?

5. Bylaw change recommendation

- a. Suzanne pointed out a discrepancy on when our board meetings were being held, and the Bylaws. Board meetings have been held on the second Tuesday, however bylaws require meeting to have a meeting two weeks before general. To get in compliance we need to update bylaws. There are other things that have been identified that we would like to change in the bylaws, and will take time. Plan to announce at February meeting, will revise to eliminate time requirement between meetings. Rose will make a suggested update to review in general for voting.

6. 2023 Fundraising Committee - Debi

- a. Should we create a committee? This committee would be for an ad-hoc fundraiser event, not for fundraising in general throughout the year.
- b. Ideas for the event included trivia, bingo, gala. Trivia Night could include silent auction, raffles, bingo, etc. to keep people engaged.
- c. Would need to determine a date for the event. Too many other events in spring, too many people out for Summer. Plan for a Fall (September) event. Ensure we are not conflicting with other large Saint Louis events.
- d. Would need to determine a location within the neighborhood.
- e. [need volunteers]

7. Dog Park Update - Leah

- a. The city finally replied to our proposal, and has requested a copy of our insurance that includes the City of Saint Louis on the proof. Our existing insurance will cover the dog park at no additional cost.
- b. The city still needs to work through the funding that was set by the former alder person.
- c. Dog park will provide TGSNA a stream of income, as we will charge membership fees to the park. These funds will be used to maintain the dog park.
- d. Continuing to work through maintenance costs and determine rolls between us and the parks department.

8. Role of Quadrant Director - Debi & Hope

- a. Draft of role: The purpose of Quadrant Directors is to try to get to know residents and businesses in your respective quadrant. Getting to know our neighbors helps to provide a voice for all of Tower Grove South residents. We hope to achieve this by conducting at least one annual meet & greet per quadrant per year. Quadrant Directors are asked to help organize and participate with the TGS board in these meet & greets.
- b. Generally agreement that putting this description in the bylaws would make it more difficult to change while trying to develop. Best to keep as a policy / guideline / expectations for the role that would be made public during meetings, on the neighborhood meetings. Can include the descriptions and more details.
- c. Suggestions to modify include
 - i. Set expectations of attendance to board and general meetings
 - ii. Set expectations for time commitment per month.
 - iii. May be encouraged to host other events (national night out) meetings around the neighborhood to connect more people.
 - iv. Determine needs of memberships & neighbors
- d. Encourage anyone who is interested to be on the board to read the Bylaws as well before applying
- e. We referenced the Bylaws, specifically article IV Section 2 “Individually, each Director has responsibilities significantly greater than those of other Members. Each Director is expected to make a commitment of time and effort to the activities of the organization, including, but not limited to, financial support of the organization within the means of each Director, participation in fundraising efforts, participation on committees, attendance at Board meetings, and attendance at Corporation events and functions. Such activities may be further defined by the Nominating Committee upon approval of the Board and shall be made known to prospective Board members.”

9. Development Committee Update - Mark & Jack

- a. Debi discussed the development committee with other professionals at Slaco (experts in other neighborhood associations) and lawyers. She posed the question to them “Do we continue to do development” the answer given from the various sources was “yes”

- b. Jack introduced himself.
- c. When developers request variances (re-zoning, etc) the city requires neighborhood support (from residents, businesses, churches). TGSNA provides letters of support, however, TGSNA is not officially recognized by the city.
- d. When a developer asks for a letter of support, TGSNA can also request things in favor of our support. However, we risk our requests being too big. In these cases developers will not oblige and find ways around needing our letters of support.
- e. Ongoing / Upcoming projects
 - i. Proposed new development at morganford, committee met with them.
 - ii. Proposed project on giles, block north of Gravois. Vacant lot from fire, was a 2 family unit, the developer wants to make into a 4 family. Issue is with lot size, needs variance. Already reached out to neighbors for (parking, trash, etc). Development committee voted to approve the letter. Will need to vote via email to approve, report.
 - iii. Development for Tholozan, development committee had a tie vote, Adam broke the vote to approve with conditions (design review). Developer wants to hear no from us, and then will likely develop industrial in that area. Committee needs to understand that developers can build a factory.
- f. Draft of committee guidelines were presented to board via email [I do not believe I received this]
- g. Fanning wasn't well executed, we learned, and now have guidelines for letters of support, and will eventually be made public on our website for future TGSNA membership. Additionally we plan to publish a timeline for Fanning on our website for complete transparency.
- h. Discussions around bylaws and guidelines continued.

Debi adjourned the meeting around 8:30 pm.

Submitted by Joe Mazzola, Reporting Secretary

Upcoming Events

TGSNA General Meeting; Tuesday, 6:30 PM February 15th at Oak Hill Presbyterian Church.

TGSNA Board Meeting; Tuesday, 6:30 PM March 7th Alpha Brewing.

Connections Committee Event; t.b.d.