

## **HHIA General Meeting – January 23, 2012**

Roll Call

Board Members in attendance: Tara Ohler-Jenney, Beth Murphy, Anna Baldwin, Kendal Dauphin, Ted Disabato

Welcome of new neighbors; members.

### **Update on Grace Church**

Norb Butz, Chaplain for Marine veteran group taking over Grace Church. Property gifted to them by United Church of Christ. Keep Troop 181 Scouts in the building- working with them. VFW meetings will stay as well. Very civic minded (Toys for Tots one of the organizations). Not a church and not involved politically. They will be good neighbors, do a lot of charity work. Norb has lived in the neighborhood for 25 years, loves the neighborhood.

### **Southern Funeral Home/Dollar General discussion**

Steve Schultz, engineer, Liaison at Shafer, Kline & Warren, Inc. for company contracted to put Dollar General in Southern Funeral Home. Firm headquarters in Kansas City. Dollar General is their client. Dollar General leases buildings. Steve asked by developer to get feedback on how the community feels about this.

Questions from audience: Is design of building set?

Schultz: Yes, typical Dollar General structure. There is some latitude to change the structure. Building will be close to street, with parking in back. Does not know square footage. Dollar General has not really looked at any other properties. Have not looked at Food Land. Deliveries will come in on Tennessee side of building. Does not have a physical loading dock.

Audience: This will not improve the appearance of the neighborhood. This is not going to attract the type of people in the neighborhood that the community wants. People in the neighborhood general consensus of the group.

First step, before the Board of Adjustment- Demolition of the Funeral Home; Then to Cultural Resources. *(Editor's note: An appeal of the denial of the required rezoning was heard by the Board of Adjustment on Feb. 29. The appeal was denied.)*

The Developer is R.S. Smith and Associates.

Nini Harris, historian: We want to keep the building as is until we can find a better use for it using the architecture of the neighborhood and existing building. Proposal is unacceptable to us. We will object to this all the way through. The architecture is the primary reason for this. No one in the room is in favor of this development. We live in this community for the architecture.

11<sup>th</sup> Ward Alderman Tom Villa: has lived in the neighborhood 66 years. Southern Funeral Home for sale for a long time. This is going to be a process. He has not interfaced at all with anyone in charge of this transaction. They did not show to the Board of Adjustment meeting.

Closing date of the real estate transaction was supposed to be this Wednesday. There is a lengthy procedure to get this complete. Villa assumes the company will come to the next Board of Adjustment meeting next month. Foodland officially out of business.

Why is the developer not here??? Villa has doubts that they will purchase by Wednesday without knowing what they can do there.

Lindsay Lewis, Carondelet Rec Plex, Historic YMCA on Loughborough not available for development - is used for the non-traditional YMCA programs.

### **President Lewis Reed, Board of Aldermen**

Discussion points: Sustainability and Budget Issues Sustainability: putting us in a better place for the future. We lower our costs- we use the \$ in better places and work for efficiently. It should be important to all of us. Not just about cars- larges loss of energy is from homes (thru windows). People need to think about this to lower the cost- insulate and energy efficient windows.

Biking in the city is really promoted. Lots of back paths. Bike commuter station downtown.

We are expected to be better with the budget this year- winning baseball season. The expected budget amount has been lowered. Hotter summer than what was expected. community used more air conditioning (generated utility taxes).

### **Officer Christopher Rumpsa:**

Last year crime up 2.3 %, person crime down 48%. Scrap Bill has been passed, hoping this will help. Dec, 2011 crime down 75% from Dec, 2010. Things are looking good. The rise in crimes were burglary.

Speeding: Shell Car just purchased as well as a radar cart. Things that can be implemented if need be.

Low staffing right now for neighborhood police.

Concordia and Morganford- idea for speed trap.

### **13<sup>th</sup> Ward Aldermen Fred Wessels**

Bates, Morganford, Holly Hills and Grand- Gateway to Holly Hills Neighborhood. Wessels goal to make the entries look better. Radar signs on Morganford, Gravios and Kingshighway. Hoping to minimize speeding. Trees planted on the east side of Morganford. Trees already on the West side. Hoping for a nice appearance in about 5 years. Wessels at Foodland for the last 13 years. Now going to try Schnucks- will see how this works. 8:30-9:30 every Friday morning.

Popular spaces on Gravois- lots of young people: Peppers, Lemmons, Nelly Glens, Walkers. Wessels will visit to see what is going on in the neighborhood.

Auto detail space across from Lemons, Gravois and Milentz- auto repair store and care sales. New building will go up. BBQ spot at 5713 Gravois- people from Jeff Co opening one up here.

Music Pavilion is going up now.

Electrical work on ball field. It is underground. It works.

Avalon is being torn down.

### **11<sup>th</sup> Ward Alderman Tom Villa**

Bandana's Restaurant proposed for Loughborough Commons: deal fell apart due to construction costs.

Spring and Delor- not in Villa's ward, but he is across the street. Huge improvement on apartments currently there. Affordable housing, not section 8.

Delor and Ulena- Apartments burnt down. They are working on them but not sure what is happening.

Question from Audience: Real Estate Developer- ? About cost for garbage disposal. Why is this so? Board of Aldermen passed a bill for \$11/month/unit. Used to balance the budget. Do you still have to pay if the unit is vacant? Villa believes you may be able to get the unit taken off. Villa will look into this.

Questions from Audience: Is there a way to force Dollar General to match the architecture of the community? Villa believes that the \$ General will not be coming into the neighborhood.

Audience: Will we be getting replacement dumpsters any time soon? Let Villa know the address and he will try to replace.

### **State Representative Jake Hummel is in session in Jeff City**

#### **11<sup>th</sup> Ward NSO Brian Kolde**

Programs being held at Long school. He provided a handout of classes that they are having. There is not a citywide mailing this year. Did not have the money. They are also posted online.

#### **Announcements**

Please pay 2011 dues! Also pay 2012 dues. We can send electronic newsletter. Let Tara know if you would like to receive it electronically.

Need writers or ideas for the newsletter. Increased add sizes are available. Flags and Boathouse tiles for sale.

Park cleanup- watch for announcement of another winter cleanup. They will be more frequent in spring and summer.

Meeting adjourned