

Holly Hills Improvement Association Meeting  
Monday, January 27, 2020  
Meeting called to order 7:08pm by Board President, Anna Baldwin

Board Members Present: Anna Baldwin, Beth Murphy, Michele Bildner, Julie and Kent Orrick, Michael Dauphin, Tara Ohler-Jenney, Jim Sahaida

Speaker 1: Benjamin Singer, St. Louis City Treasurers Office

Mr. Singer said the Treasurer Office handles parking for the City and also operates the Office of Financial Empowerment. The parking is under ParkLouie (phone number -314-2830) Cash, card, and app payments are now accepted at city-owned meters, garages, and lots. As a result of options to use at parking meters parking tickets have gone down 80,000 tickets in the last year. There were 3,000,000 on smart apps for parking payment. The Treasurer Office serves as a bank for the City of St. Louis and the Treasurer is an investment officer in that role. A new account has been created that has saved thousands of dollars. Previously yields were not high and fees were. With the new investment strategy being revamped these matters were improved on and is no longer a passive strategy. \$25 million dollars has been earned and saved with the new investment strategy. Over \$100,000 has been saved by renegotiating the City's banking agreement. This has allowed the Treasurer Office to send \$8 million dollars to the St. Louis Public Schools to educate children. The \$8 million dollars resulted from reforming the Argyle TIF, a collaboration with the Treasurer's Office, Board of Alderman, and the Comptroller.

The Treasurer's Office also operates the Office of Financial Empowerment (OFE). This Office offers a wide variety of classes and last year provided 85 classes. The phone number for the Office of Financial Empowerment is 314-622-4700. Classes can be brought to neighborhoods and there can be one on one information regarding credit counseling.

Additionally the Treasurer's Office operated the College Kids program. Currently there are 16,000 children's accounts. Every student that starts a public school has an account opened with \$50 seed money. This provides a jump start to college and/or vocational training saving for children. Currently over \$1.1 million has been saved.

The Treasurer, Tishaura Jones, has set a new \$15.00 minimum wage for all Treasurer Office employees. Ms. Jones believes in evidence based information and has used information from Forward Through Ferguson as a guide for actions. She also uses an equity lens to provide better services. An annual report is in the process of being prepared.

Speaker 2: Officer Steve Wilson

Officer Wilson handed out stats for the period December 15 through January 20<sup>th</sup>. It includes 1 aggravated assault, 5 robberies, and 8 larcenies. On Tuesday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>, there will be a Captain's meeting at the Spanish Society.

Speaker 3: Beth Murphy, 13 ward Alderman

She stated the traffic light at Grand and Bates will be better repositioned. Happily the bridge entrance to the Y Rec Plex is now open. She stated Richard Bradley, head of Public Service, assisted to help this

happen. She stated speed bumps will be placed on Wilmington that fronts St. Stephen Protomartyr Elementary School. A requested speed bump at Schiller and Goethe did not meet the eligibility criteria.

There will be a speed bump placed on Federer. Beth stated she suggested the HHIA Board approve \$1,000 donation to Woerner School for a new drinking fountain and it was approved by the Board. Regarding trees to be planted a homeowner can go online and request a type of tree to be planted.

Speaker 4: Sarah Martin, 11<sup>th</sup> ward Alderman

The apartments located at Morganford and Germania owned by TEH Reality are now being operated by the Sansone Group. The apartments are 55% occupied. The Sansone Group would like to acquire this property. Sarah said her bill for a prevailing wage on projects that developers get incentives passed. She said Alderman Murphy was a co-sponsor of this bill. She stated the BP gas station at Bates and Virginia has an owner who has not been a very good actor. She and other City officials are working with him and he has agreed to have security on the premises at night. She stated the traffic calming roundabout at Holly Hills and Grand will happen but the timing for it is uncertain. Work continues on the construction of market rate apartments in the old Lyon's School. The old Carondelet School has been bought by Go Brand Go and will be used for marketing and as an incubator for businesses.

Speaker 5: Michael Dauphin, City Assessor

Personal property declarations have been sent out. These are due back by April 1<sup>st</sup>. The easiest way to do this is on-line.

President Anna Baldwin made announcements:

She stated Lisa Bertke resigned from the HHIA Board due to family, work, and other commitments. She stated Jim Sahaida has volunteered to take over as Secretary and record the meeting minutes. She (Anna Baldwin) will be taking over Membership and all that entails. Julie and Kent Orrick will be taking over HHIA Merchandise. They will be storing and delivering order requests. Also, they will be assisting with displaying and selling at events. Lisa Bertke will continue to manage the HHIA Facebook page. Anna Baldwin will handle any emails with questions concerning the neighborhood. Anna will post HHIA events on the Nextdoor website – Neal Jenney keeps this site going. HHIA will continue to upload the meeting minutes and Newsletter to the Website library. Anna Baldwin will monitor all requests and questions about merchandise, membership, safety, and questions about events. Scott Lapp will continue to assemble the newsletter and have it printed. Beth and Tim Murphy will continue to assist with stamping and labeling. Anna Baldwin and Michele Bildner volunteered to chair special events. There is a desire to have another Holly Hills Grills but this will take a lot of coordination and assistance. HHIA will continue to have Holiday Decorating contests. HHIA will continue to support and recruit members and business members. HHIA will be donation \$1,000 to Woerner School for a new drinking fountain and will donate \$100 to the Y Rec Plex as a token of our appreciation for use of the facility.

Next Holly Hills Improvement Association meeting: March 23 at 7pm

The meeting adjourned at 8:05pm