

BETTER BEVO NOW Neighborhood Association Meeting Minutes **April 19, 2018**

6:30 Welcome & Introductions

Sarah Westbrooks with the St. Louis Treasurer's Office which oversees the Office of Financial Empowerment. Financial hub that hosts classes that promotes financial literacy from budgeting to investing, life insurance, retirement. Created to fight poverty and create a better life for St. Louis. Offer classes in the city and county. In the office, there are two different sectors. Operation Hope and College Kids Savings Programs. Abby Buckhouse is the financial coach. Program will come to you. They can come to neighborhood association and host sessions. Also offer individual financial counseling. College Kids gives all kids in the St. Louis public school system a bank account with \$50 for their college fund. Seed money comes from residual parking funds. Ellen O'Neil oversees this program. Students receive incentives for attending OFE classes which gives them more "bucks". All classes are free and about an hour or an hour and a half.

6:45 BBN Board Reports

Chairman – Gwen Murray

Bevo Community Directories have arrived and will be at all of the BBN meetings. There is a flipbook online at stlprograms.com. Introduced some new attendees.

Board heard from Jim Merkel regarding a project that the German Historical Society is working on. They are working on bringing attention to the anti-German hysteria and people singled out. They are wrking toward bringing German names back to streets. Intend to do 7 and have done 3. Want to make Bates, Robert Prager who was lynched by an angry mob in Collinsville and buried in St. Matthews. Board voted to write a letter of support for the project as we realize we are a community that is inclusive and diverse. The project needs 60% of registered voters to sign. Then the Alder will introduce a bill. Several board members attended the SLACO conference. Information was shared among leaders. We learned a lot and have talked at length so we can engage and grow as an organization, including more kid events. SLACO is also running Neighborhoods United for Change. A North-side and South-side neighborhood partner and talk about race, economics, and successes and challenges. We attended on April 7th and partnered with Lewis Place. Gwen would like for us to become "sister neighborhood". Gwen will be working with a small group that will partner north and southside neighborhoods to share resources and ideas. We are getting a new restaurant and bar at the old Lucky Duck. They had a conditional hearing but we haven't heard how it went.

Board's work with SLU law clinic. We are working on becoming an incorporated organization. We've been working with SLU law clinic which is free. Board voted to become a member-based organization with board of directors. We are committed to not having dues but need to identify community-members as members.

2018 Christy Park Concerts kicks off Tuesday, April 24th at Das Bevo. Happy hour starts at 5 then the Dust Covers start at 6. Any candidates running for office must reach out to BBN prior to showing up and must speak with all other candidates present to speak as well.

Flocking season is open! Flyers are on table. \$10 to flock. Farmers Market every Tuesday at Heavy Anchor. BBN is now on Instagram and Twitter. We have more recycling bins for \$1. Will have at meetings. 50/50 raffle tickets are now being sold during check-in.

April 26th – Bevo CID Happy Hour.

May 19th – Bevo Bazaar-O

Someone asked that the light at Delor extended and lines for right turns. Beth Murphey will relay the question to Carol Howard. Mark Vickers with Oasis is building a program where they will buy vacant properties in Bevo to rehab and putting families in those homes in a rent to own program. Speaker next month is Mavis Thompson.

Co-Chair -- Mary Hackett

T-shirts for sale. \$15 to BBN. Suggestion box at the front of the room.

Secretary -- Alicia Hernandez

Bevo Bazaar. Donations from TC, Devil Dogs, and SBR – will be putting out door hangers in the neighborhood. BINGO card on back and then an exclusive BEVO neighbor raffle.

Treasurer – Kristin Hoffmann

Available cash balance is \$3K. Some in-kind contributions.

7:00 **Reports from NOM Committees (Neighborhood Ownership Model)**

Neighborhood Watch --Dave Tallent

Bevo Neighborhood Watch page on Facebook. Unemployment causes crime. If you know of anyone hiring, please share. David also attended the neighborhood tools and vacancy workshop and learned a lot about what neighborhoods can do with vacant properties.

Kenya Webster – Starting neighborhood cleans ups once a month. The Bevo Clean-up on Saturday, April 28th will start at Delor and Gravois and will go down the street picking up trash. Beatifying for the Spring. Looking for volunteers. Meeting at the Midwest BankCetnre parking lot.

If you have a Bevo shirt, we would love for you to wear it! Morgan Ford may be next. Trying to work with Erase the Trace for a neighborhood – wide cleanup.

Block Captains -- Ryan Henson

First block captain meeting was on April 17th at Majeed. Recently opened restaurant on Gravois. 4500 Adkins block party is Sunday, April 21st from 1 – 3 pm. Want to catalogue all of the cameras in Bevo. If you have cameras on your block, please let us know! Four more on the calendar.

Court Advocacy – Kristin Hoffmann

Impact statement present for the Loren Caught case (sex trafficking at Dojo Pizza). Impact statement is how this sort of crime affects our community. Verdict hasn't come in but this will help give a voice to the community. There will be a short turn around time and we will not have time to collect signatures so we're being proactive. Gwen read the statement.

Victim Support – Kay Miller

No report.

7:30 Reports from Community Partners

Aldermen -- Beth Murphy, 13th Ward

Email the three folks about the NSI reduction. Meeting with someone regarding a grant for the Gravois portion of the CID. Grant is for street-scape. Buffer bill could come back with shorten length. If they shorten the distance it may work. Passed a women and minority business bill that put restrictions on the minority contracting process. Bridge toward the recplex is being replaced. Will have pickleball courts at Corondalet Park.

Carol Howard, 14th Ward

We may be reducing the number of Neighborhood Specialists. Christy Boyd in the 14th Ward and Andrew Hernandez in the 13th Ward were present. Budget has to be approved by the Board of Aldermen. Carol encouraged everyone to write the Mayor, President of the Board of Alder, and the Comptroller. Nothing can move forward unless all three votes to move forward. Board will most likely approve budget in early July. Lime Bikes are in the city. You have to download an app to use them. \$1 for an hour ride but the first ride is free. Board Bill 34 – the buffer zone bill was defeated. The problem was that it limited people's free speech. Reintroducing bill for residency. Will be put to the voters for a charter change.

St. Louis Metropolitan Police Dept. -- Officer Steve Wilson

Welcomed latest members. Introduced new Captain of District 1, Darnell More taking over for Steve Mueller. Has spoken with Steve about the district. Been on the department over 23 years. Was in juvenile and sex crimes. Then 6th district, protective services, then promoted to Lt.. Will be keeping the Facebook page that Captain Mueller started. 314.444.0110. Will keep coffee with a cop going.

Homicide in April in the parking lot of the old Lucky Duck. Reviewed crime report from March 15-April 16, 82 crimes. Always lock your car doors! Banquet this Wednesday with guest speaker Judge Edwards. Call him for derelicts.

Neighborhood Improvement Specialists – Christy Boyd, 14th Ward

CSB is 622.4400. CSB is your first stop to report anything. You can tweet, email, call. Your board works very hard! Thanked the BBN board. The vibe of the community is growing in a positive way. Green Help Home. City offers mediation and BBN Chair, Gwen has been trained. 657.1377 is Christy's personal number. If you notice any nuisance property

A nuisance property is different than an annoyance property.

Andrew Hernandez, 13th Ward

Works with Alderwoman Murphy. You might lose your NIS because of the budget cuts. Contact Mayor, Lewis Reed, and Darlene Green. Meeting is tomorrow at 10 AM in city hall.

Cutting season has started. Grass has to be at least 7 inches for someone to be cited. Yard waste is being collected once a month. Trash now has 2 shifts and is being collected until 8 pm. If your trash is not collected, please call NIS.

Missouri House of Representatives – Donna Baringer, Dist. 82

Has an email blast and asked constituents about daylight savings time. Two investigations on Governor Greitens. SICO – Special Investigation Committee of Oversight of 7 people, bi-partisan. 1st part of investigation is over but the 2nd part is still in the process. This does not have anything to do with Kim Gardner. House of Representatives is waiting for the recommendations to be given. The majority of the House wants to proceed with impeachment. Donna's job is to find out where the 82nd District stands so she can represent. Even if he is impeached he can still remain Governor. The Lt. Governor will replace him if he is impeached. Mike Parsons will immediately step in and serve the remainder of his term.

Q - How comfortable does you feel sending bills for Greitens to sign. Donna – it has. Has held up some legislation and some are saying they don't want the Governor's name on the bill.

8:00 **Announcements**

50/50 raffle - \$20 prize.
50 in attendance.

We hope you will stay awhile after the meeting to chat with your neighbors, elected officials, and other community partners.