

Better Bevo Now Neighborhood Association
Membership Meeting
March 21, 2019
6:30 pm, Local 73 Firefighter's Hall (4271 Delor)

Board Members Present: Gwen Murray, Mary Hackett, Kristin Hoffman, Charlene Beck Panek, Kenya Webster, Kay Miller, David Tallent

Members in Attendance: 40

The meeting was called to order at 6:37 pm.

BBN Board Chair -- Gwen Murray asked the new members to introduce themselves to start the meeting. Two of three new members identified themselves, Darryl Nice and Vinny Shaw and family. Next, Gwen reported the BBN has begun a vacancy initiative through SLU Law Clinic, the initiative's goal is to identify vacant homes and lots in Bevo, as well as inform Bevonians about programs such as the mow to own program, to motivate current owners to abate issues, litigate for possession of abandoned properties (defined as 6 months vacant, 1 year tax delinquent), then engage developers. BBN is also working with the U.S. Government over the Butterfly Garden at 4557 Eichelberger, the parcel is not owned by St Louis City, but the federal gov't provided the grant, Gwen reported the person responsible is working with BBN because they believe in the mission. The 2019 Bevo Directory is complete, members are welcome to pick one up and pass on to any neighbors. The Bevo Great Streets meeting will be March 26 with the presentation on Friday March 29, please join to share your ideas to improve Bevo. The BBN Board approved a joining SLACO, membership has many advantages for BBN including representation on the SLACO Board, 4 free hours of consultation on any topic, ability to list events on the SLACO website, educational and network opportunities, and the ability to influence regional decisions as a collective. BBN Board will discuss purchasing more yard signs for neighborhood meetings and events, the Board will decide at the next Board meeting. Gwen is working with the Better Together team on a Bevo forum, details will be shared as soon as possible. BBN's board members are working to move the BBN website to a more updatable, easier to navigate, the website will be available in April. The Bevo Bazaar-O is coming this May, vendor registration is open and spots are filling up. The Oct 12 Bevo Day has been postponed,

the CID turned its focus toward the residential sales tax and commercial development (filling the empty storefronts in Bevo). The CID Happy Hour is March 28 at the Silver Ballroom from 5-7p. Neighborhoods United for Change Bus Tour is scheduled for May 4, Bevo is paired with Sherman and The Academy neighborhoods, join the tour and visits 9-14 spots in our sister neighborhood across the city. Bevo Resident Ro Kicker has a 7500 sq ft garden project called Feed the People, at 3964 Walsh, they are looking for 5 gallon buckets with lids, and the project is open to any neighbor and provides garden grown food to those who need it. Be on the lookout for more information about a Community Yard Sale this fall. Finally, BBN and Oasis International are working together for movie days this summer, more information coming soon.

Vice Chair, Mary Hackett, asked neighbors to join a loyal group of friends who post signs around Bevo in advance of the Bevo meeting every month. If you are interested in helping the community garden, please see Theresa. Buder Library will host "Breakfast with Jim Merkel on Saturday March 23 from 1030a-noon, Jim will be discussing his book, "The Making of an Icon: The Dreamers, the Schemers, and the Hard Hats Who Built the Gateway Arch."

Secretary – John Silwanus reported that meeting minutes from the Executive Committee and the Member Meeting will be posted on line for February. The minutes will be posted for each meeting for members to review if they miss a meeting.

Treasurer -- Kristin Hoffmann presented the most recent financials for BBN. Bevonians should be aware of the savings section, this will help build interest on funds not used during the year. We have sold 13 spots for the Bevo Bazaar-O. Kristin also discussed more details regarding the BBN website update.

Neighborhood Watch -- David Tallent reported he is actively cataloguing all security cameras in the neighborhood. The goal is to help provide police with access to cameras and which will assist police in finding perpetrators who commit crimes. If you or a neighbor has a camera and are willing to share the footage with police please contact David with this information. BBN has also purchased the Club for member's cars, they are available at the monthly meetings. BBN has also purchased gun safes to help members secure fire arms if needed.

Block Captain – Nick Dunne was not in attendance, but shared with Gwen the next Block Blitz will be March 30 and be along Wilcox.

Officer Steve Wilson announced the City will get 5 new recruits with the most recent graduating class. The Police luncheon are currently on sale, please call the District 2 headquarters for purchase info. Call Officer Wilson if you spot derelict automobiles around the Bevo neighborhood. H

Court Advocacy – Kristin Hoffmann reported that the shooting on Ellenwood at Morganford is still under investigation. She will be sending out more information when she has it. 2 civilians were arrested and an officer fired his gun.

Victim Support – Kay Miller – had no report.

13th Ward Alderperson – Beth Murphy reported the Board of Alders will begin session April 15th. The Schiller speed study found the average speed was 24mph and would not warrant speed bumps, Beth will have them installed if a large majority of residents approve. Delor will get 4 new speed humps between Gravois and Gustine. The speed hump at Leona has been installed. The 3900 Ulena house has been demolished but the caterpillar is broken and remained. 5208 Morganford taxes are up to date, the home has burn damage on the front, but the owner assured Beth it is secure. Beth and Carol attended a presentation from Be Smart on gun ownership, she recommends more to do so.

14th Ward Alderperson – Carol Howard reported she requested a traffic study from East of Kingshighway to Gustine, there is no definitive timeframe for the study, but every block will be reviewed during the study. The former Shop-N-Save building is under contract by Planet Fitness, they are looking for another store to join them in the space. The YWCA building is being rehabbed. Rally's has purchased the lot where Steak-N-Shake was at Chippewa and Morganford, they are clearing the last hurdles. A developer is looking at 4747 Adkins and 4903 Delor to add market rate houses.

Andrew Gonzalez the 13th Ward Neighborhood Improvement Specialist reported the Botanical Gardens summer camp is open for students during the summer. Yard waste pickup service has begun again, the yard waste containers will be picked up weekly.

Christy Boyd the 14th Ward Neighborhood Improvement Specialist reported the conflict resolution center is getting a lot, the resolution center is to help neighbors to meet and discuss disputes with a mediator. Operation Brightside provides graffiti removal, they are giving away free flowers, and they will provide tools to help group's cleanup public spaces.

The meeting adjourned at 7:51 pm.