

2023-3-16 Old Southwest Community Meeting Minutes

Board Attending: David Jeavons, Elaine Fleck, Richard Normand, Bill Dandridge, Phillip Morgan, Julie Mugford, Lynn Speno

Absent: Mary Anne Mather, Mark Hostetter

Acting Secretary: Annmarie Drake

(David Jeavons, treasurer)

Welcome & Who's New

ANNOUNCEMENTS REVIEW

- TY social host(s) Joan Tsamas & AnnMarie Drake. **We STILL need April volunteers!**
- **MARK YOUR CALENDAR! Neighborhood Appreciation Month Family Festival**
Sun, 5/7, 1-5PM. LIVE music. Games. Gish Open-house. More. Grilled foods provided. BYOB, chair, dish to share. Rain date: 5/21
- **OSW Plawking:** Tentative dates April 5; April 19. Please contact Stephen Bendele
- **POCKET PARK:** Day Ave & 8th St.
Work Days: March 18, 9 am-noon (lasagna composting and sheet mulching workshop);
April 22 9 am-noon (Occultation Workshop)
Please save brown cardboard boxes (no tape or staples); newspaper (no glossy inserts); leaves or yard waste (no invasives). These are needed for lasagna composting and mulching
Interested in this or having a tree planted in your curb strip? Contact Terry McGuire (stephen.terry.mcguire@gmail.com)
- **VOLUNTEERS STILL NEEDED:** Highland Park Elementary School chess club and hiking club.
Contact Julie Mugford (jmugford01@gmail.com)
- **WELCOME NEW RESIDENTS:** We have drafted a letter of welcome and Old Southwest information. If you have new neighbors, please feel free to take a copy and invite them to our meetings. There will be laminated copies placed at the Highland Dog Park and the Gish House.

6:45-7:05 SPEAKER

Monica Rokicki-Guajardo, Better Building Works (monica@betterbuildingworks.com)
Monica, our neighbor on Day Ave. and owner of Better Building Works, is an expert on science based home assessments, identifying problems and practical solutions. She gave invaluable information on certified energy audits, and available tax credits for professional audits or improved energy efficiency products. She stressed the need for each home to have working carbon monoxide and radon detectors. For OSW Neighborhood ONLY, Better Building Works can do an energy audit in 2023 for an incredible price of \$595.

7:05-7:15 Q & A

OSW BUSINESS

Approval of minutes from 2/16/2023

Announce: Interested in what OSW has been doing on behalf of our neighborhood? All Community Meeting minutes are available at: <https://oldsouthwest.org/osw-minutes>

Committee Updates as needed/available

A. Historic Preservation

B. Environmental Protection, Parks, Greenspace

C. Gish House

REMINDER: Gish, grounds, gazebo & firepit available to rent. It is the best priced event rental in town!

Info: oldsouthwest.org/alexandergish-house

D. Events

- **Block Pride** April 1st 8 am - Noon: city wide clean-up, meeting at Day Ave. and 8th St.
- **Neighborhood Appreciation Month Family Festival**, Sun, 5/7, 1-5PM. Rain date: 5/21
Explanation/Purpose: April is Neighborhood Appreciation Month
Chairperson: Beth Dimun, On the Edge Salon, an OSW business
Features: LIVE music with Leggz (interactive band to sing & dance to). Games. Gish Open-house. More. Grilled foods provided. BYOB, chair, dish to share. Volunteers encouraged!
- **Food with Friends Pot Luck**: at the Gish House, end of April, date TBA, live classical music!

Reminder Future Events (open to all):

- Block Party: July, Argonne Circle (Terry McGuire)
- National Night Out: August
- Block Party: October, Day Ave.
- Thanksgiving Pot Luck Dinner, Thanksgiving Day
- Holiday Social in place of December Meeting
- IN THE WORKS: OSW Speaker Series hosted by OSW Historic Preservation Committee

E. Safety

- No update on Southwest Market
- Safety concerns were expressed by a resident of the 800 block of Marshall Ave. She was concerned by squatters in vacant homes, homeless individuals and a recent shooting. She felt it was unsafe for her children to play outside. She reiterated that she loved the neighborhood and did not want to move. She also expressed dismay at the litter down

by the railroad tracks. It was mentioned that the railroad company was responsible for the upkeep of that property and it has been lately improved.

- The owner of the vacant lots on the 500 block of Day expressed concern about the dumping of refuse on the curb adjacent to these lots.

3. Other business

ADJOURN 8PM