Cherokee CID Public Meeting Minutes

February 20th, 2020

CALL TO ORDER: 5:40

Board Members in attendance at December Public Meeting: Ron Strawbridge, Jason Deem, Jessie Chappel, Kate Burrus, Dasia Vence, Kaveh Razani, Justin Harris, Will Liebermann

Ron Strawbridge presented the protocol for CID Public Meetings.

Review of January Public Meeting Minutes: Kaveh motioned to approve, Jessie Chappel seconds, all in favor, none opposed.

Public Officials:

- **Ald. Spencer** discussed a new board bill she introduced to pass additional costs associated with securing vacant buildings on to negligent property owners.
- **Ald. Dan Guenther** gave an update on the effort at the board with the Close the Workhouse campaign. He encouraged attendees to reach out to the other members of the public safety committee - whose contact info can be found on the city’s website (stlouis-mo.gov.). He also shared that alongside Ald. Spencer, he sponsored a new bill to give full time city employees 6 weeks of paid family leave.
- **Barb Potts** advertised the job opportunities available with the Census. More info is available at 2020census.gov/jobs. She also shared that Forestry will soon be hiring seasonal employees for the summer at $15/hour.
- **Officer Holloway** shared that they recently arrested 2 juveniles in connection with a sting of recent car break-ins.

Cherokee CID Update

- Emily shared a number of updates from the Cherokee CID and its committees.
  - A number of committees will be meeting in the coming week for folks interested in attending. Reach out to emily for more info at emily@cherokeestreet.com
    - Beautification - Monday February 24th at 11 AM at Flowers & Weeds
    - Public Safety - Wednesday February 26th at 5:30 PM at Nebula
    - Arts - Thursday February 27th at 9 AM at Nebula
  - The CID recently applied for grant funding, alongside researcher and neighborhood resident Cristina Garmendia, to fund a study of the needs of small businesses on Cherokee Street, especially for women-owned, immigrant-owned and minority-owned businesses.
  - The CID also requested bright LED light bulbs from Ameren as an interim lighting measure for porch lights for dimly lit portions of the street.
  - The CID is also working on plans to reinvest in Love Bank Park and is looking for interested stakeholders to sit on a steering committee to guide that investment.

Interested people should reach out to Emily at emily@cherokeestreet.com

**NOTE:** These minutes may not have been reviewed or approved. They will be reviewed on March 19th, 2020. If these minutes are still electronically listed on cherokeestreet.com after that date, the reviewers found no changes and the minutes were approved.
Open Projects + New Business

- **Cherokee Street 2nd Saturdays (Tovia Black)** — Tovia thanked everyone for their participation in 2nd Saturdays over the winter and reported that more and more folks have been attending. To participate in the ad for March Second Saturdays, please have your text and payment to Tovia by February 25th. Send questions to cherokee2ndsat@hotmail.com

- **Cherokee Bar Crawl for Rise Young Professionals (Birdie Wilde)** — Rise Young Professionals are organizing a crawl on Cherokee to benefit Rise on April 18th from 2PM to 6 PM. The cost to attend is $15. They are looking for businesses that would want to participate - which could include bars that offer a special, special dishes, retail coupon, etc. Reach out to Birdie, Ben Robinson or Danny Jendusa for more info.

- **Lo Fi 2020 (Bill Streeter)** — LoFi 2020 will take place on Saturday April 11th from 9 AM to 7 PM and feature 18 bands of all genres, including brand new acts and national acts. Emily and Bill will send an email in early March asking venues to sign up.

- **2720 Update (Will Liebermann)** — Will is working on reopening 2720 as a performance venue. He has hired Liz Wolfson as the director of operations. They received occupancy permit, with capacity for 650 on teh first floor. They are doing work on the sound and stage and exploring the idea of pop-up art studios in the front windows and securing parking behind the venue. Questions can be forwarded to 2720cherokee@gmail.com

- **Community Arts Festival (Emily Hermann)** — Emily shared info about the upcoming Community Arts Festival to take place at Intersect Arts on Texas on May 17th from 1 - 4 PM. There will be arts activities and a bounce house for kids. More info available at https://www.communityartsstl.org/

- **Gift a Meal (Andrew Glantz)** — Andrew shared info about his mobile app, Gift a Meal, where patrons can take photos of meals at area participating restaurants and Gift a Meal makes a donation to Operation Food Search. They have 175 participating partners in St. Louis area and it normally costs $49 a month for restaurants but Andrew offered Cherokee Street businesses their first month free, in addition to a $50 donation to the Cherokee CID for every business that signs up.

Additional Announcements

- **Juvenile Courts on Cherokee** — Lynn Waldhauser from the Juvenile Courts introduced herself and Officer Dominguez. They have an office on Cherokee Street and supervise juveniles who are either formally or informally placed on probation. They shared info on Neighborhood Accountability Boards and some of the past partnerships they’ve had on the street. Community members asked if they are proactively involved in preventive measures that help youth stay out of the criminal justice system and the representatives said they’d be open to discussion future collaborations.

- **ARJ Back to School Festival** - Chris Schmitt advertised the ARJ Community Outreach back to school event taking place on the 2nd Saturday of August on pennsylvania in front of the Last Days Adventist Church. She is looking for a storage locker or warehouse space to store school supplies collected this summer. Reach out to ARJ Community Outreach on Facebook for more info.

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- **9th Ward Democratic Committee Elections** — Sarah Johnson shared that she and Bryan Walsh have filed for re-election as Democratic Committee People for the 9th Ward. They’ll be hosting a kick off campaign at Mad Art Gallery on Thursday February 27th at 6-9 PM.

ADJOURNED: 6:20 PM

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