

WARD PARKWAY HOMES ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING, OCTOBER 13, 2015

At Ward Parkway Presbyterian Church

Present: President Frank Haar, Vice President Alison Baker, Secretary Jon Rand, board members Carol Gould, Maureen Hardy, Laura Lynch, board attorney Aaron Schwartz, Julie Wittman, State Rep Jeremy LaFaver, Sixth District Councilman Kevin McManus, councilman's aide Fred Wickham, security chief Brent Parsons, Gene Hardy, Bob Gould, Alex Gill and Trisha Pitts.

Mr. Haar called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

Councilman McManus spoke about his transition from state legislator to Sixth District Councilman. He related growing up in Armour Fields and now serving a diverse district. He said his main areas of interest are finance and infrastructure. He suggested he can get more accomplished on the Kansas City Council than in Jefferson City because of the highly partisan atmosphere there.

Despite the demographic differences in the northern and southern areas of the Sixth District, Mr. McManus said there are common needs, such as improving or installing sidewalks and curbs.

Representative LaFaver spoke about his concerns about higher education, especially recent attacks by conservative legislators on the University of Missouri. He said that these attacks divert attention from much-needed economic development.

Asked about the need to improve roads and bridges, Rep. LaFaver said that a lack of initiative in the State Legislature leaves the state in danger of losing almost all federal matching funds.

Asked about the hostility of rural legislators towards the state's urban areas, Rep. LaFaver said the St. Louis delegation is more fractured than Kansas City's, compromising the ability of the state's two biggest cities to act as a unifying force for urban interests.

Detective Parsons stressed the need for citizens to be observant and report suspicious behavior to 911. He referred to residents as "force multipliers that make the difference."

Asked about the attempted abduction of a female jogger at 70th St. and Valley, he said that leads have dried up for the moment.

Mr. Rand passed around Metro Patrol crime reports for September, which showed two burglaries within WPHA boundaries. He said these monthly reports consistently show WPHA boundaries to have the lowest, or close to the lowest, incidences of crime in Metro Patrol territory.

The following slate of board members was proposed for 2015-2016: Alison Baker, Frank Haar, Maureen Hardy, Carol Gould, Jon Rand, Laura Lynch, Gaye Tillotson, Aaron Schwartz, and Julie Wittman. The slate was approved unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:07.

