



DNA Town Hall Meeting Notes 6pm, November 14th, 2016 Downtown Central Library

Announcements

- We have a Facebook account to connect DNA members called STL DNA. This is different than Nextdoor since it is neighborhood specific.
- The Thaxton introduced their business and invited everyone to see their place. It is open Thurs-Sat from 9-1:30 when there aren't events.
- Sam Kincaid introduced the MX Movies and some of the events they have going on. They would like to host a happy hour and will provide free movie tickets during the Happy Hour
- Leonard Johnson is having cookies, cocoa, and community in the LaSalle Park neighborhood if anyone wants to join.
- Emily with the St Louis Blues will have an exhibit on 3rd floor of Central Library.
- LaShana Lewis said the Launch Code program she participated in is having their 3 year anniversary at Delmar and Euclid.

Homeless services update

- Eddie said a lot has been going on in the last week. Would be more productive to put questions related to NLEC issues directly to Larry Rice. We can compare Rice's facility to Biddle House. Biddle has been open for over 2 months. Wants the DNA Board to take notes and will provide answers at the next meeting.
- Larry Rice said Eddie Roth is doing a great job.
- Dana Kay gave a few bullet points which occurred over the past week.
- Cease and desist has been given to NLEC and Rice will appeal.
- Rice said K2 overdoses were not all homeless. He claims he cannot move the people because nearby parking lot owners and property owners allow them to sleep in front of their property. Rice stated that Brad Waldrop is the problem because nearby parking lots are allowing people to sleep on the sidewalk next to NLEC.
- Laura Griffin asked if they were a part of the Continuum of Care. Rice stated "no".
- Laura also stated they have registered sex offenders and pedophiles staying there. How can he allow them to stay there with woman and children? Rice stated they are segregated from the women and children on the 3rd floor. Men go up one set of stairs and women go up another set.
- Teka Childress stated the facility is very controlled.
- Rice said they have a day shelter that allows for additional shelter.
- Josh Restivo asked...do you feel obligated to follow the laws and the rules of society? Rice stated God is calling him to do this and has appealed all rulings. Housing is a



provision of worship. He is trying to abide by all the laws he can. Josh said we all have to come to the town square and abide by the laws and rules of society. No one is above the law.

- Bob Lindsay - what is city doing to house people on the streets? Rice said they only take a certain number and are full. 12th and Park is closed and he believes he is obligated to house them.
- Laura Griffin asked why are you allowing people to sleep on the streets? Rice said people want to smoke and socialize. City services have been cut and no telling what's going to happen in the future.
- Member from the audience asked how long NLEC has been in operation? Rice said they have a new day center so there are no closing times.
- Member from audience stated we should not allow people to sleep on the street due to school.
- Leonard from Lasalle Park provided clarity on 12th and Park. The City will open it if temperature is below 40 degrees so people do not have to sleep in freezing cold temps.
- Bob Ray said you (Larry Rice) have \$20 million in assets. You have been instructed during the hearing at the Board of Public service and the NLEC has agreed to resolve issues with nearby businesses and work with the neighborhood and have social worker, clean up, have security. Rice responded that Connie is working to place people and they have licensed security guards. Rice confirmed they have paid security with licensed 24-hour security company. They have hired a social worker named Connie.
- Steve Smith asked How many beds, how many people stay there, and what are the plans? Rice stated...
 - Between 3:00pm and 4:30pm women come in.
 - Between 5pm and 7:30pm men come in.
 - At 8pm woman come in that don't want to sleep upstairs but rather in the worship studio.
 - 9-11pm men come in.
 - They take in any people from police departments and hospitals.
 - Have 50 people as their permanent home. In training and residential staff. Will house 150 on a cold night which brings the number to 200. Rice said they ask city to take people on sidewalk away on cold nights so they don't freeze.
 - They are registered to have 34 beds per Rice. Original permit was for 34.

Neighborhood Police Updates

- LT Bothers stated crime is currently down in every category. K2 is an epidemic thus far and has created problems.
- Member from audience asked is it true about parking lot owners allowing people to sleep on the sidewalks? LT stated not true what Rice said. He believes that the times people



have called you wanted them removed from NLEC. They can remove from NLEC if it is posted.

- Member stated they came across someone who was passed out on Locust and police showed up. Police said to sleep on other side of library wall. Member was flabbergasted that was a suggestion. LT was unfamiliar of the call.

Updates from Elected Officials

Marty Murray 7th Ward Committeeman -He appreciates forum for discussion. Wishes there were public officials present. Getting ready for next elections. Said to contact him if interested in helping.

Rasheen Aldridge - He is the newly elected 5th Ward Committeemen. In process of forming new 5th Ward Organization. Email at 5thwardmightyorganization@gmail.com. Call at 314-502-5500

NGA Project Connection Presentation - Russell Halliday

- Said role of city is to provide site as one property. NGA is expected to spur \$1.75 billion in investment. It has been in the city for 72 years currently located by Lyons Park. Looked at 100 sites and boiled it down to 6. Important to North City due to lack of investment in area.
- They are engaging with community by people, plans, and projects.
- A number of other projects such as Northside Regeneration and other Federal programs have been overlaid in the area. Action plan is to encourage larger review and encourage full participation.
- Dana Kay said questions in the past over NGA. What are plans for hiring people from specific area to NGA? Responded that NGA employment is very specified.
- Bob asked why not have incentive based program to hire groundskeepers and cooks?
- This has already been considered and anyone can go to website and apply for those jobs.
- They will also have a community resource meeting to make connections to work there.
- Question from member that it looked like suburban campus from renderings. Are you engaging designers to think about more integrating into urban fabric? NGA Rep stated yes they are beginning that process. Process is very involved. Overlay of what is needed around area.

Upcoming DNA Board elections and new office -

- DNA has new offices located at 1409 Washington Ave. by Hiro. Dana Kay thanked Bryan King for providing the old offices.
- Board elections are coming up. Think about considering running. Visit the DNA website if you want to sign up.



DNA Committee Updates

Safety committee - Dan Pistor from Safety said to continue calling 911 on any illegal activity along Locust and contact your elected officials. The contacts are on our website. There will also be an Open Forum on Liquor Licensing at 6pm November 21st. The next Safety Committee meeting is November 30th at Lucas Park Grille.

Planning & Zoning - Josh Restivo said they are working on a map for manholes. Will be requesting any recessed manholes to be fixed.

Form Based Code is something we are pushing. Will help avoid bad planning and encourage good design and investment.

7:30 am last Friday of every month at Washington Ave Post.

Events will not have December Happy Hour. Have holiday party instead. Dec 1st from 5:30 to 8:00pm at Missouri Athletic Club.

The last Fall Fires is this Friday. Bob will barbecue.