**Opening:**

Tina Wong began the meeting at 6pm.

All attendees were asked to sign in and provide contact information.

**Items on agenda:**

Association name discussion and vote.

Speakers and questions –

Greg Simmons with crime report

Elysia Musumeci Brightside St. Louis

Open floor for new items for discussion

**Business from previous meeting:**

First item was to agree on the working name for the group.

Proposed name “Northampton Neighbors Network (NNN)”

Vote of hands agreed on the NNN designation.

**New Business:**

Tina had invited 2 speakers:

1. NNN member and police officer Greg Simmons
2. Elysia Musumeci

Each speaker was asked to present ~15 min with additional time allotted for questions

Speaker 1: Greg Simmons Report Crime report: Greg Simons is a police 34+ years works at headquarters. 2nd district captain is Mike Mueller

 Summary of crimes for NoHa in August 2022:

Hyundai (13 stolen in Aug) and Kias (0 in Aug)

6 burglaries (3 businesses—315 Primo cannabis)

Garage (with door open) leaf blower stolen

Vehicle larceny phone keys and wallet

Vehicle gas tanks and catalytic converters

Vehicle firearms (3 instances)

Vehicle garage remote

Vehicle jewelry

Car theft of Kias is a recurring problem and increasingly Hyundais are being targeted too. Kia model years 2010-2021 and Hyundai model years 2015-2021 were manufactured without immobilizer systems, which prevents the engine from starting unless the proper key is recognized. So they are relatively easy to hotwire and the hotwiring methods have been widely disseminated on social media posts (eg. TikTok videos)

Recommendations to protect your car from theft/tampering:

Use and steering wheel locking device, such as “The Club” for your car (discount rate at Senior center on Arsenal). This is being recommended for owners of Kia and Hyundai models vulnerable to theft.

Don’t leave anything (e.g. valuables or packages) in car

Don’t leave anything visible in console that would appear valuable and attract attention (e.g. charging cords, coins, remote door opener)

Keep car locked and windows rolled up completely – if in doubt take the time to check it again

Questions and follow-up discussion:

Tina: Do alarms help? (Tina Wong question)

Criminals use punch -- pops window and doesn’t trigger alarm –pops window and allows access.

Margery: Are you covered if you leave car unlocked?

Insurance may give you trouble and provides premium brake for security add’ns

Tina: What should we do if car is broken into or stolen? No matter how small an issue, call 911. They have crime analysis unit which takes every call that come in and collates statistics for city and neighborhood.

What about non-emergency 314-231-1212? Will still make a report and give report #?

Police will always consider it a crime. For instance, if person walking down alley at inappropriate time or who is loitering or looking in properties. You can call and police will do field interview/report

To hear about incidents in real-time subscribe to policing info scraping sites, such as “lookout St. Louis” (<http://lookoutstl.com>). Chief Dodson put this out and it will tell you what’s happened in St. Louis.

Is citizen academy up and running? Greg Informs people how the citizen academy run by the department works. It’s a weeklong program that is still active. (Website: https://www.slmpd.org/citizens\_academy.shtml)

Speaker 2: Elysia Musumeci from Brightside St Louis (<https://www.brightsidestl.org/>)

Elysia is the Sustainability Education & Outreach Coordinator

Blitz cleanup:

Tools and bags and pickup can be requested (online)

Free flower seedlings for planting in public spaces (prior years they have provided daffodils

Roll off 40yd dumpster can be requested

Need 1 weeks’ notice for request online form to borrow tools and/or dumpster for a clean up job.

Nature neighbor’s scaping program. Identify location Groups can apply for grant to request up to $1500 plant material (local sources plants) for public planting. Must get permission from parks department to plant in city public parks.

St Louis urban garden symposium -- program/workshop to learn about appropriate planting for your space. The office at Kingshwy and Vandeventer (across from the library) has a demonstration garden.

There are also bulbs for sale through Brightside St. Louis (e.g. Carlton daffodil, mix daffodil and tulips) – orders must be submitted by Sept 16th

To celebrate 40 year anniversary of Brightside St. Louis they have set a goal of planting 40,000 daffodils this fall. Brighside St. Louis will be given out in 100 plant parcels for planting in public spaces. Lawn area in front of your house is public so may be eligible but going for more public places. Visit <https://www.brightsidestl.org/> (or STLVolunteer.org and search “Brightside”) to volunteer.

Graffiti removal program – daily team goes out and attends to graffiti that is readily accessible (on buildings, retaining walls, dumpsters, etc.)

Call 622-4800 for graffiti removal also citizen service bureau (CSB) report can be submitted and will be sent to Brightside StL

Elysia provided a recycle review. What to put in alley containers

**Do’s**

Paper and flattened cardboard-- reminder to put paper in cardboard boxes not bags

Plastic containiners/bottles

glass bottles and jars

Metal food/drink cans

Food/beverage cartons

**Don’ts**

No bagged recycling

No stretchy plastics

No Styrofoam

One time food use disposables (plate, utensils)

Can also find more information at <https://www.STLCityRecycles.com>

Household hazardous waste (paint, stain, pesticides) -- 1 sites for disposal and instructions @

Website: <https://www.hhwstl.com/>

1st 50lb is free every time you visit

Non-latex paint can be re-cycled/reused

Recycling bins for in-home use can be picked up from office (kghwy/vandeventer)

What happens to recycling?

Goes to transfer station

MRF – public services – 2 sites (Bayless and Hazelwood)

Sorted and bailing

Most stays in region 3% goes to Mexico

Recycled to toilet paper.

Question from attendee about RePoly facility (Vendeventer and 44).

Heavy duty plastic—shredding not melting. May not be active anymore.

Elysia invited attendees to take Brightside St. Louis summer newsletter and other print informational/educational material that was made available at the meeting and to visit or call her office with any questions about the organization and their programs. To stay connected go to website and sign up for e-newsletter or request a print copy. Can also sign up to be a neighborhood leader and will get packets to pass out to neighbors.

**New items discussed:**

Mike Lapusan from the Tilles Park Neighborhood Assoc. discussed their recent activities.

Friends of Tilles Park--

Have planted 100 trees to date

Shrub planting

Have lobbied for the installation of security cameras near playground

St Louis chess club donated 2 chess tables for park and club will host training for kids

Must get Parks Dept permission for any initiative

NoHa is recognized by city and TPNA/FTP (Tilles park) are a sub of the NoHa

The city named our area NoHa (which includes Kingshighway Hills, Tilles Park and Northampton neighborhoods)

Kingshwy Hill and Tilles Park Neighborhood Assoc. are supposed to be merging

Tilles Park NA and Friends of Tilles Park--focused around beautification

Block captain need to be assigned to meet everyone on their block and provide updates to neighbors

Since NoHa not active these activities have been suspended.

Discussion of Ward reorganization:

All Alderman will be elected for this April ---some will be for 2 yrs and some will be for 4 yrs.

Current Joe Vacarro and Joe Volmer

As of April NoHa 5th ward ---Joe Volmer

Organization merging and Communication of NoHa activities:

Grant Codak suggested that we need a website and webmaster for NoHa. He has experience with web design and would be willing to be webmaster for the NoHa site. It was suggested that we need to finalize the association first and then set up a central website for information.

Short discussion of history of the NA groups, beginning the merger, the final meeting of Kingshwy Hills and progression to where we are now with no NoHa meeting since 2020. Suggestion was made to go forward with initiatives to reactivate NoHa or restart the NA organization through NHNN.

Approaches for integrating NoHa and NHNN

1. Get Meagan Gallagher and Chad Beffa to hold an in person NoHa meeting and then form new committees and elect leadership. Submit requests via NoHa facebook page.
2. Invite NoHa board to come to NNN (Sept meeting) and see if they want to continue to lead or hand over the reins.

Jeanne Yegge and Felicia Allen Eberhart will contact Megan Gallagher to see what her interest is.

Determine if NoHa board members are interested in continuing and, if not, will they help with the transition. Is there an alternate NA working that can consult? What are the existing bylaws and what information can they provide us.

SLACO conf at SLCC is being held 9/10/22 and is $40 to attend. Information on how cities recognize their NAs and what NAs can do to provide input/position about what goes on in area development, parks activity, beautification etc.

Final minutes were used for attendees to introduce themselves and how long they have lived in the neighborhood. Many people highlighted the main reason for their interest in the group and their prior experience with neighborhood association activities.

**Next meeting:**

Next meeting is planned for September 26, 2022 at 6-7:45pm at the Machacek Library Conference Rm

6424 Scanlon Ave.

Meeting notifications will be sent electronically via email.

Proposed flyer distribution to broaden outreach. Ann Rolf and Larissa Yahnke wlll coordinate on the design and printing of flyers. Will need volunteers on each to distribute flyers.

**Meeting adjourned by Tina Wong at 7:45**