**We had a well-attended (35 neighbors!) North Hampton Neighbors Network (NNN) meeting on 10/24 with a lot of constructive input from attendees and discussion with 2 of our local representatives.  I wanted to share a brief meeting summary with all of you.**

**10/24 North Hampton Neighbors Network meeting:**

\*\*Presentation of crimes in the area by Officer Greg Simonds.  Greg is a Northampton resident and a police officer with 34+ years on the force.  He currently works at SLMPD headquarters.

Greg’s report focused on the tragic school shooting that occurred on Monday morning at the Central Visual and Performing Arts High School.  Early details he shared was that the gunman was a recent graduate of Central VPA who entered the building forcibly (not at security entrance) and was armed with a long gun (now identified as an AR-15-style assault rifle).   A teacher and student were killed in the shooting.  Police shot the gunman to end the crisis and he died later at the hospital.   As tragic as today’s events were, the short response time and adherence to training protocols by the police saved many lives.

He quickly summarized the crime incidents for October (3 incidents with guns, 3 burglaries, 6 stolen vehicles).   **If you would like to sign up to receive crime updates or search incidents in your area go to** [**http://www.slmpd.org/crime\_mapping.shtml**](http://www.slmpd.org/crime_mapping.shtml)**or enter the crime mapping site through the SLMPD website (**[**https://www.slmpd.org/index.shtml**](https://www.slmpd.org/index.shtml)**)**

He recommends that we always call 911 with reports of in-progress suspicious behavior reporting as much detail as possible.  For delayed reports, like a car that was broken into overnight, call the 231-1212 number to report.

\*\* Donna Baringer, State Representative for District 82; her current term ends on January 4, 2023 (<https://house.mo.gov/memberdetails.aspx?district=082&year=2021&code=R>).  She is running for re-election for a final 4th 2yr term and is on the ballot in the Nov. 8th, 2022 general election.  She stressed her bipartisan approach with much of legislative successes coming on bills sponsored by members of the Republican party.  She emphasized new legislation evenly backed by both parties that addresses public safety in MO.  One plank of this new legislation addresses guns in public spaces.  Rep. Baringer talked about the budget and proposed and earmarked uses of the large pots of money from Build Back Better (BBB), American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Rams settlement.  One piece of legislation allocated $15 million in federal funding from the ARPA to go toward the removal of condemned, vacant, city-owned properties.  More details on legislative bill summaries and the budget visit the [house.mo.gov](http://house.mo.gov/) (<https://www.house.mo.gov/LegislationSP.aspx>) for District 82 or send email request to receive e-newsletter through the [House.mo.gov](http://house.mo.gov/) site above (see attached MO HOR newsletter).  Finally, early voting in the upcoming November elections is available starting 10/25 at Buder Library, Julia Davis Library, Schlafly Library and at the St. Louis City Election Board.  For general information on voting visit the Board on Elections site:

(<https://www.stlouis-mo.gov/government/departments/board-election-commissioners/index.cfm>)

If you want to sign up to work the polls call 314-622-4336 or apply online (<https://stlouis-mo.gov/government/departments/board-election-commissioners/poll-worker/>).

\*\* Joe Vollmer, Alderman of the new 5th ward (after the aldermanic general election on April 4, 2023) and he is the interim head of the board of alderman.  He discussed the upcoming elections and encouraged people to weigh their priorities for the community and above all VOTE.  He highlighted the 2 key challenges to the issue of hiring and retention of city employees: pay and the residency requirement.  Proposals to use nonrenewable funds to give for pay raises entails creating a future revenue stream to maintain higher payroll commitment.  He understands that the goal is to get salaries on par with county pay.   He backs a proposal to expand the residency area to allow city employees, in particular SLMPD officers, to live within an expanded region, such as ≤ 1hr commute from station.

\*\*Progress to activate Northampton Neighbors’ Network as an official neighborhood association will require SLACO approval.  Teresa Heilich asked for interested NNN members who want to meet with SLACO representative Mike McKinney to contact her (theilich@ameren.com).

\*\*As part of this ongoing effort to receive SLACO recognition  Rob Meckfessel is the point person working to identify a permanent location for the group’s meetings within our neighborhood boundaries (Hampton/Chippewa/Kings Hwy/Fyler (with cutouts);  please contact him with any information or input (robem1964@gmail.com).

\*\*Ann Rolf will send out an electronic version of her survey to identify members' concerns and to propose projects for the organization.  This is part of the ongoing effort to determine our group priorities and plan our core activities in the community.

\*\*We had a sign-up for volunteers who want to plant daffodil bulbs in Tilles Park.  Tina Wong ordered the bulbs from Brightside and needs help clearing the bed by the tennis/pickleball courts and plant the bulbs on Saturday morning (10/29) at 9am and probably additional date(s).  If you wish to participate email Tina (tinaawong@gmail.com)

\*\*  WE WILL SEND OUT NOTICE FOR HOLIDAY GATHERING as soon as we find a site and date!!  More formal meetings will begin again in January.

**If you would like to be on the agenda, have any questions or inputs please contact Tina Wong at** **tinaawong@gmail.com****or  916-627-5541 text/call**