**We had ~40 attendees at the September NHNA General meeting. Joe Vollmer, Alderman for the 5th Ward, gave an update on Tilles Park improvements and recent board bills passed. We discussed the upcoming election, and the NHNA Executive Board nominees introduced themselves. Teresa Heilich discussed the proposed annual budget and membership dues for 2025. We filled a box with food donations to the Gethsemane Little Free Food Pantry and will continue to collect items at regular meetings and at future social events. The next NHNA General meeting will be held on October 28th at Gethsemane Lutheran Church.**

**Please email the NHNA admin at** **admin@northamptonneighbors.com** **with any questions.**

**9/23/24 North Hampton Neighbors Association meeting:**

* Jane Rain opens the meeting at 6:00 pm.
* Joe Vollmer, Alderman for Ward 5 (Contact: vollmerj@stlouis-mo.gov, (314) 622-3287)

-Highlighted issues and progress on Tilles Park updates:

-Park playground equipment has been delivered to the park and will take 6-8 weeks to install.

- The pickleball court surface cracks may be more severe than appeared on first inspection and will require coring of the underlying foundation. For this reason, the resurfacing project has been put on hold. Worst case scenario is the 195K estimate for the job may be twice that initial estimate.

-Thirty speed humps have been installed this year totaling 32K in expenditures with 36 requests outstanding. Please submit requests directly to Joe Vollmer and he will pass on the request to the streets department.

- Board Bill 61 proposes establishing a City Dept of Transportation to ease the bureaucracy that currently exists in decision-making involving streets, which often involve multiple departments (Streets Department, City Planning, etc.).

-Q/A Questions about Kingshighway paving job: Calvary to Gravois and Jefferson to Chouteau are being paid for using ARPA funds.

Additional Board bills discussed in Q/A —

Passed and sent to Mayor:

Board bill 51 Complete Streets calling for planned and maintained to ensure safe access for all users was passed and signed by the mayor.

Board bill 30 Gives additional budgeting authority changes to Board of Alderman

Board bill 72 To eliminate cap on illegal dumping and unpermitted demolitions.

Board bill 76 Change the name of Board of Aldermen to the City Council and to modernize the names of city departments.

Bills failed:

Board bill 71 creating a Public Advocate, essentially a public watchdog, with members of the B of A considering it a redundant position.

* Garret, our Gethsemane Lutheran liaison, announced that the church is looking for a new administrative assistant at 15 hr/week @ $19/hr.
* Jane Rain and Teresa Heilich discussed National Night Out

-NNO occurs on first Tues of October—this year it is on Oct 1st and will go from 4 pm-9 pm.

-Current events are planned for 5700 Potomac (5:30-7:30), 5300 Lindenwood and 4900 Miami. These streets will be closed off to allow neighbors to gather safely.

-Officer Gus Karagiannis from the SLMPD, representative from the SLFD, SLPL-Buder and NIS will stop by to meet with neighbors.

* Teresa Heilich reviewed the NHNA budget and membership dues.

-Teresa distributed hard copies of an expense report, containing the ongoing and one-time expenses for the organization paid to date. It also proposed future expenditures based on planned activities (e.g. social activities and fundraisers).

-Based on the report and prior discussions with members dues of $25 were proposed for the 2025 (Jan-Dec) fiscal year.

* Reni Gaska, head of the Election Committee

-Explained the election process which will be held on Oct. 28th.

-She introduced the Executive Board nominees to speak for 2-3 about their interest in serving.

Rob Meckfessel – At-large member

Jake Heilich – At large member

Jan Huss – Secretary

Teresa Heilich – Treasurer

Jane Rain – President

Annette Nowakowski – Vice-president

Tina Wong – At-large member

* Jane Rain – Resident Input session of the meeting.

-A poll worker gave important info/deadlines for the Nov 2024 election:

--last day to register for the 11/5/24 election is 10/9/24

--In- person no excuse voting begins 10/22/24 and many local libraries will be hosting early voting. Check the library website for hours. Voting times do not necessarily overlap with library hours. (See details at <https://www.slpl.org/>).

--Last day to request an application-based absentee ballot by mail

--Last day to vote absentee in person 11/2/24

--A photo ID is required to vote (w/o provisional vote is accepted)

--Only paper ballots will be used

 --Poll workers are needed but you must apply soon as training is required.

-Helen Petty announced that ASHREIfoundation.org is registering voters and holding voter ID clinics every Thursday at The Hub in North City

* Jane Rain announced next month’s Business Leaders showcase and reminded everyone of Executive Board elections at the Oct 28th meeting.

- Adjourned meeting at 7:05.

**To be added to the general meeting agenda, please submit a request though the NHNA website: https://northamptonneighbors.com/**