

# CITY OF ST. REGIS PARK NEWSLETTER

January 2016



Dear Fellow Residents:

As 2015 draws to a close, on behalf of all the members of the St. Regis Park City Council and staff, I wanted to take a moment to wish our residents and friends a very happy and healthy New Year. May the dawn of 2016 bring with it the serenity and peace which we all need, as well as health to all.

Also, I personally want to extend a grateful "thank you" to the Council Members and those who serve on the Tree Board for their dedication and perseverance. Similarly, each member of our administrative staff deserves our praise for their competence and professionalism.

We achieved many of the goals we set for this past year. The City Council continued to demonstrate their commitment to fiscal responsibility. The property and sanitation tax rates remained virtually the same as in recent years with no decrease in services. Our finances are sound. The City continued to provide additional police protection for the security of its residents. To date, through the efforts of the Tree Board, 88 new trees have been planted throughout the City, and St. Regis Park's application to be designated a Tree City USA is pending. Social events included an inaugural Arbor Day celebration, the Fourth of July observance, the ice cream social, the city-wide yard sale and the annual Holiday Extravaganza with House Decorating Contests – all community events which hopefully brought us closer together.

As of this writing, the St. Regis Park Holiday Extravaganza and the judging of the House Decorating Contests have not yet occurred. Although the winners will be announced in next month's newsletter, in driving through the City, I believe our residents are decorating more and more each year. Without question, St. Regis Park truly has the Holiday Spirit. Our panel of impartial and independent judges will certainly have their work cut out for them.

Winter conditions will soon be here and everyone should be aware of not only changes in driving conditions but also home safety. Use caution with candles, space heaters and fireplaces. Make sure your home has working smoke detectors and your family has an escape plan.

Based upon local weather forecasts, all residents are encouraged to park in their driveways and remove their vehicles from curbside street parking so snow plowing can be effective and vehicles are not buried in snow. Street parking not only hampers snow removal, it also restricts access by emergency vehicles and sanitation trucks. Be a good neighbor.

If severe weather is forecast, please remember not to park on the street. It can severely affect our efforts to clear the roadways.

It has been an enormous honor and privilege to have been able to continue to serve you this year with both its challenges and successes. I strongly believe in open government and providing our residents insight into future concerns. With your help and support I pledge to continue to dedicate my energy to you and our community as we strive to build upon this past year and make the City of St. Regis Park an even better place for all of us.

Again, I wish you, your family and all those whom you love a Happy, Healthy New Year 2016.

Sincerely,

Brandt Davis, Mayor

### **IMPORTANT DATES**

JANUARY 1 NEW YEAR'S DAY

JANUARY 5 CITY COUNCIL MEETING

(MCMAHAN FIRE DISTRICT @ 7:00 PM)

KY GENERAL ASSEMBLY CONVENES

RECYCLING PICKUP
NATIONAL BIRD DAY

JANUARY 12 NATIONAL PHARMACIST DAY

JANUARY 15 NATIONAL HAT DAY

JANUARY 18 MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY

JANUARY 19 NATIONAL POPCORN DAY

RECYCLING PICKUP

JANUARY 21 NATIONAL HUGGING DAY

JANUARY 25 OPPOSITE DAY

JANUARY 26 SPOUSE'S DAY

JANUARY 29 NATIONAL PUZZLE DAY

\*\* CHRISTMAS TREES MAY BE SET OUT ANY COLLECTION DAY AFTER CHRISTMAS.

\*\* YARD WASTE PICKUP RESUMES MARCH 1, 2016.

### CITY OF ST. REGIS PARK

# MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MONTHLY COUNCIL MEETING

December 1, 2015

Following are the Minutes of the regular monthly Council Meeting for the City of St. Regis Park, held at 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, December 1, 2015 at 4318 Taylorsville Road, Louisville, Kentucky 40220.

### **ROLL CALL:**

Present: Council Members Talbott Allen, Bob Graves, Stephen Hoard, Louie Schweickhardt, Eric Shackelford, Frank Wheatley, and Cheryl Willett.

Absent: Mayor Brandt Davis

### MAYOR'S REPORT (Absent):

In Mayor Davis' absence, there was no report.

Mr. Wheatley made a motion to appoint Bob Graves as Mayor Pro-Tem for the December Council Meeting. Mr. Schweickhardt seconded the motion, and it passed without dissent.

### **FINANCIAL REPORT:**

Mr. Charlie Veeneman, City Accountant, presented the Financial Report for November 2015. General Fund revenues for the month were \$33,929.75 with year-to-date revenues at \$308,873.54. Total expenses for the month were \$41,684.18 with year-to-date expenses at \$143,153.27, resulting in year-to-date revenues over expenses of \$165,720.27.

Road Fund revenues for the month were \$2,343.26 with year-to-date revenues at \$12,615.14. Total expenses were \$0 with year-to-date expenses at \$0, resulting in year-to-date excess revenues of \$12,615.14.

Ms. Willett made a motion to approve the November 2015 Financial Report. The motion was seconded by Mr. Wheatley, and it passed without dissent. The complete financial report is posted on the City's website.

### TREE BOARD:

Ms. Mary Mattingly, a member of the St. Regis Park Tree Board, advised the Council the City's Tree USA application has been submitted and is being reviewed by the Arbor Day Foundation. A decision is expected in February 2016 as to whether St. Regis Park will be awarded the designation. She also asked for input from the City Council for the 2016-2017 budget regarding new plantings, tree maintenance and additional surveying. Several Council Members expressed the opinion they were not in favor of the City offering financial support for the maintenance of existing trees. The Tree Board will finalize their recommendations prior to budget discussions for the upcoming fiscal year.

Ms. Mattingly also informed the Council the Tree Board planned to hold an Open Meeting on Tuesday, February 2, 2016, at 6:30 p.m., prior to that month's City Council Meeting.

The City's second annual Arbor Day Celebration is being planned for April. Additional details will be announced in the coming months. Mayor Davis will need to issue an appropriate Arbor Day Proclamation during the month of March.

Ms. Mattingly commented on the Treegator watering bags on the newly planted trees. She advised they could be left on the trees until there was a pattern of hard freezes but should then be removed. The bags should then be placed back on the trees in the spring, perhaps around St. Patrick's Day. This will be addressed in the Branching Out column in the upcoming monthly newsletter. To date, the City has planted 88 trees in St. Regis Park.

### **MINUTES:**

Mr. Hoard made a motion to approve the Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on November 3, 2015 noting that the expenses reported in those Minutes should have read \$101,469.09. The motion was seconded by Mr. Allen. It passed without dissent.

### **POLICE REPORT:**

Numerous car break-ins were reported during the month of November. In most instances the cars involved were unlocked, and although the perpetrators rummaged through items, the items taken were primarily of little or no value. Residents are reminded to lock their vehicles if parked in a driveway or on the street. Also, as outlined repeatedly in the City's monthly newsletters, leaving outside lights on after dark is a deterrent to criminal activity. If a resident sees something suspicious it should be immediately reported to authorities. Don't wait for several days to tell someone.

The Kentuckiana Law Enforcement (KLE) Small City Activity Report for the month of November will be published in the January newsletter.

CITY ENGINEER'S REPORT: MEL MILBURN (Absent) No Report.

### **CITATION OFFICER'S REPORT: KENNY BETTS (Absent)**

Although Mr. Betts was absent, he had earlier submitted a written report to the Council. He patrolled 107 miles in November, issued 7 Hi-Neighbor notices, received 5 complaints and conducted 21 house visits.

### CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT: JOHN SINGLER

Mr. Singler will review the amendments to the City of Louisville Zoning Authority during the January Council Meeting. Those applicable to the City of St. Regis Park will be emphasized.

**PUBLIC WORKS: LOUIE SCHWEICKHARDT**No Report.

### **SPECIAL EVENTS: TALBOTT ALLEN**

The House Decorating Contests will be judged by a 3rd party with no connections to the City. St. Regis Park's Holiday Extravaganza is scheduled for Sunday, December 13, 4:00-6:00 p.m. at the St.

The City has "No Parking" signs available for use by residents who host large gatherings. Residents may call City Clerk Bill Hodapp at 654-8145 for information regarding the use of these signs.

Andrew United Church of Christ, 2608 Browns Lane. The Church of the Ascension will also have a Live Nativity on the 13th, 6:00-8:00 p.m.

**PUBLIC SAFETY: CHERYL WILLETT** 

No Report.

**BUILDING PERMITS: STEPHEN HOARD** 

No Report.

MARKETING/IT: FRANK WHEATLEY

No Report.

**COMMUNICATIONS FACILITATOR: BOB GRAVES** 

No Report.

**FINANCE: ERIC SHACKELFORD** 

No Report.

**CITIZEN PARTICPATION:** 

None.

**OLD BUSINESS:** 

None.

**NEW BUSINESS:** 

Residents who have not paid their 2015-2016 property and sanitation taxes will have a lien placed on their property and their addresses will be published in the February newsletter. At present, 10 property owners are delinquent.

### **ADJOURN:**

There being no further business, Mr. Graves said he would entertain a motion to adjourn. The motion was made by Mr. Allen, seconded by Ms. Willett and passed without dissent. The meeting adjourned at 7:56 p.m. Submitted by Bill Hodapp, City Clerk (These Minutes are considered unapproved until signed by Mayor Brandt Davis.)

Approved:

Brandt Davis, Mayor, City of St. Regis Park
The City of St. Regis Park allows a public comment section during
its meetings. These public comments are summarized in the
City Council Minutes. The views expressed do not necessarily
represent the views of the City of St. Regis Park.

# COUNCIL MEMBER MEETING ATTENDANCE 2015

Name	Meetings Held	Meetings Attended	YTD%	
Brandt Davis	12	11	92%	
Talbott Allen	12	10	83%	
Bob Graves	12	11	92%	
Stephen Hoard	12	10	83%	
Louie Schweickhardt	12	11	92%	
Eric Shackelford	12	8	67%	
Frank Wheatley	12	10	83%	
Cheryl Willett	12	12	100%	

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# **Small City Activity Sheet**



City: St. Regis Park Month/Year: November 2015

Traffic Stops:	DSS	Speeding	RD	Other	Arrests	Warnings	Citations
Location:							
Woodmont/Lincoln		2				2	
Lynnbrook/Aintree							
Foxy Poise/Lynnbrook							
Woodmont/Mt. Vernon	1	1				2	
Dannywood/Browns		2				2	
Browns/Lincoln		2		1			3
4600 Block Lincoln		2				2	
Browns/Brookhaven		2					2
Rockwood							
Dannywood/Woodmont	1		1				2
Statton/Woodmont							
Woodmont/St Regis							
St Regis Ln							
Browns/Lowe		2		2		1	3
Mt. Vernon	1	3				3	1
Total:	3	16	1	3	0	12	11
YTD Total:	128	220	6	69	4	191	236
Resident:	1	8				9	
Non-Resident:	2	8	1	3		3	11
YTD- Resident	77	58	0	20	0	137	18
YTD-Non-Resident	51	162	6	49	4	54	218
TOTAL:	128	220	6	69	4	191	236

### Suspicious person/vehicles/other activity:

Suspicious Vehicle - 2 Suspicious Person - 1 Officer Assist - 2
Stranded Motorist - Foot Patrol - Business Check - 42
Council Meeting - Resident Contact - 3 Alarm -

House Watch - 5

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# **PUBLIC SAFETY CORNER**

### **COLD WEATHER SAFETY**

As temperatures drop, here are several tips to keep you and your loved ones safe.

### **PROTECT PEOPLE**

- Keep warm, stay inside if possible.
- If you need to go out, dress in layers and wear hats, gloves and an appropriate coat.
- Avoid overexertion as cold weather puts added strain on your body, but try to stay active to maintain body heat.
- When extremities feel numb, go inside.
- Never place a space heater on top of furniture or near water. Keep heat sources at least 3 feet away from furniture and drapes.
- Never leave children unattended near a space heater.

### **PROTECT PETS**

- Don't leave your pets outside when temperatures drop.
- Appropriate action should be taken for outdoor pets.
   Provide adequate protection from the cold temperatures or bring them indoors.
- Make sure your pet's water is not frozen.

### **PROTECT PIPES**

- Wrap exposed faucets and pipes, including those outside the house. If you don't have the foam pipe coverings, a towel or rag and duct tape will do the trick.
- Let your indoor faucets drip.

- Open cabinets below sinks to allow the heat to circulate around the water pipes.
- Make sure you know where your home's water shut-off valve is and how to turn it on and off. If a pipe bursts it could flood your home. Turn the water off at the shut-off valve.

# PUBLIC SAFETY

### **PROTECT PLANTS**

- Bring your smaller container plants indoors. Mulch or cover outdoor plants with straw, blankets or cardboard.
- To prevent heat loss from sides of containers, push together large outdoor pots and wrap the bases with plastic, burlap or a blanket.
- Be sure to turn off automatic sprinklers, detach hoses from outside faucets and wrap the faucets to protect outdoor pipes.

### ALWAYS TRUST YOUR INSTINCTS! BE SAFE THIS HOLIDAY SEASON!

### Neighborhood Block Watch Program

If you are not already on the City of St. Regis Park's Block Watch List, send your name and email address to: stregispark@gmail.com.

# **BRANCHING OUT**

While this season might have you thinking more about Christmas trees than the trees in your lawn, here are a couple of quick thoughts about fall and winter tree care and an update on trees we have planted:

- 1. If you have a Treegator® bag on your new tree, you can keep it on until we get consistently freezing weather. If you take it off sooner, continue to water while the temperature is over 40 degrees. Put your bag back on around St. Patrick's Day.
- 2. Fall is a great time to fertilize a tree, although we may be near the end of our fall fertilization window.
- 3. Older trees need deep hydration. If you think your large tree might need water, it probably does. Use the same watering guidelines as above.
- 4. If you choose a live Christmas tree this year, check out last month's *Branching Out* for advice.

A couple more points:

One of the Tree Board's primary goals was to apply for the designation of *Tree City USA* by the Arbor Day Foundation. Our application has been submitted and is in the pipeline, so please send us some positive thoughts. This designation is an honor and a benchmark for our efforts to "*Re-Tree the Park.*" We'll keep you informed.

The Tree Board wishes you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!
Thank you--and thanks to the Mayor and City Council of St. Regis Park -- for all you have done to support our work.

**The St. Regis Park Tree Board** Jane Ecker, Joe Hinkle, Mary Mattingly & Cindi Sullivan

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### INFORMATION TO IMPROVE HOMEOWNERSHIP

### 10 QUESTIONS TO ASK WHEN HIRING A CONTRACTOR

Updating or remodeling your home could be an effective way to add value to your property while customizing it to suit your personal preferences and taste. It's your responsibility to hire the contractor to do the work. Ask friends and family for recommendations, or look into sites like Angie's List or Homeadvisor which allow members to search for reliable vendors. When you interview likely candidates, you can use the following ten questions as a guide.

# 1. How much experience do you have with home-improvement projects?

Hire a contractor with experience in the type of project you want to complete. For example, if you're planning to remodel a kitchen, someone who has remodeled a large number of kitchens can help you with design details and will know what permits may be required.

### 2. Do you specialize in a certain type of work?

There are many facets to home repair and very few individuals have expertise in all of them. Consider hiring a specialist with specific training who is skilled in the type of home repair you're seeking.

### 3. Do you have a current license?

Licenses are subject to state rules and regulations and this helps ensure that the contractor has been trained and meets the educational requirements for licensing.

### 4. Do you have insurance?

Ask specific questions regarding the contractor's insurance coverage and make sure that the policy is current. The policy should cover both personal and property damage for the contractor and any subcontractors who will be on your property.

### 5. Do you work alone or with a team?

Large projects may require a team of people with different skill sets. During the interview, ask specific questions on how the work will be divided. If there is a team, find out if, and how, the service of other professionals will be used. Inquire about the team's qualifications and the possibility of additional costs for their services.

### 6. Can you provide professional references?

Ask for references and verify them. If the projects are similar to the one you are proposing, you may consider asking the homeowner if you can view the quality of the work.

# 7. Do you have a formal business entity established or are you doing business under your own name?

A legal business entity indicates a level of professionalism and accountability that may not otherwise exist.

### 8. Is your company certified by the Environmental Protection Agency?

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) must certify contractors involved in renovating homes built prior to 1978. The house paint used before 1978 frequently contained lead, and these paint chips and dust may pose health risks when disturbed during renovations.

# 9. What is the estimated amount of time it will take you to complete the project?

Always ask for a project completion date. Complicated projects may have a completion date for each phase of the project. If you interview a few different contractors, they may each quote a different timeline and project completion date. When discussing the project timeline, make sure to consider the amount of work and the quality of work you expect for your project. These factors could result in an extended timeline.

### 10. What is the cost of the project?

The cost of any renovation is an important factor. Ask about down payment requirements and any periodic payments. Don't decide to hire someone based solely on the price. Talk to multiple candidates and evaluate everything each one has to offer. Remember, contact your real estate professional to evaluate the opportunities of making a move, and make certain you know the **TRUE VALUE** of your home **BEFORE** listing it for sale.



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# The Church of the Ascension Welcomes You!

Join us for Mass:
Saturdays at 4:00pm EST 5:30pm DST
Sundays at 8:30am and 10:30am
Tuesday at 5:15pm
Wednesday, Thursday and Friday 8:15am
Learn more at: ascension-parish.com

4600 Lynnbrook Drive Louisville, KY 40220 Parish Office: 451-3860





### YOUR OPINION MATTERS

The City of St. Regis Park welcomes letters to the editor. Short letters are more likely to be published, and all letters may be edited for reasons of style, accuracy or space limitations. Letters may be sent by First Class mail to City of St. Regis Park, Post Office 20429, Louisville, Kentucky 40250 or by email to stregispark@gmail.com.

"As Christmas approaches let me remind you, \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_, to please put an article in the City newsletter to explain to the residents that motorized vehicles are not to be bought as gifts for children. Please check with our city attorney, Mr. John Singler, about the correct wording for such an article to be put in the paper."

A Foxy Poise Road Resident

Although this issue was most recently addressed in the March 2015 Newsletter, all of the City of St. Regis Park's Ordinances can be found on the City's website, www.stregispark.net. Mopeds, scooters or motorized skateboards are NOT toys. They are subject to all applicable traffic laws and will be treated accordingly by law enforcement if ridden on public streets.

SRP

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### **IMPORTANT NUMBERS**

Louisville Metro Police – 911 Emergency 574-2111 or 311 – Non-Emergency www.louisvilleky.gov McMahan Fire District – 911 Emergency 491-4745 – Non-Emergency

### 2015 CITY COUNCIL

Brandt Davis, Mayor – 654-8145

### **MEMBERS**

Talbott Allen, Special Events – 451-3776
Bob Graves, Communications – 451-2047
Stephen Hoard, Building Permits – 931-7004
Louie Schweickhardt, Public Works – 639-7731
Eric Shackelford, Finance – 379-7721
Frank Wheatley, Director of Marketing/IT – 452-2343
Cheryl Willett, Public Safety – 458-8386

### **CITY EMPLOYEES**

Bill Hodapp, City Clerk/Treasurer – 671-9469 Kenneth Betts, Citation Officer – 664-2784

#### **CITY NUMBERS**

St. Regis Park City Hall – 654-8145 E-Mail – stregispark@gmail.com Website – www.stregispark.net Rumpke Waste Removal – 568-3800

### ST. REGIS PARK COUNCIL MEETINGS

Council Meetings are held the first Tuesday of each month, 7:00 P.M., at the McMahan Fire Station

### **NEWSLETTER PRINTED BY**

Printworx of Louisville – 491-0222 E-Mail – orders@printworxoflouisville.com

### **NEWSLETTER ADVERTISING**

Business ad space is available in the newsletter. Please contact the City office at 491-7777 if you are interested in placing an ad. Ads must be camera ready and be sent electronically. The rate schedule is as follows:

1/8th page\$300/year\$150/six months1/4th page\$600/year\$300/six months½ page\$1000/year\$500/six monthsFull Page\$1800/year\$900/six months



The McMahan Fire Protection District Board of Directors meets the second Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at the fire station, 4318 Taylorsville Rd.

THE PUBLIC IS INVITED.