

**Upper Highlands Neighborhood Association**

**Wednesday November 14, 2018 6:30PM**

**Sullivan University Conference Room, 2100 Gardiner Lane**

**Meeting Minutes**

**UHNA Board members and Chairs:**

President, Honi Goldman

Vice President, Siobhan Sheehan

Secretary, Amy Straub

Treasurer, Julia Leist

Lisa Shoff, website and newsletter

Amy Straub, social media

Dwayne Adams, District 3

Lisa Crabtree, District 2

Paul Schuhmann, District 4

Rick Shuster, District 3

Officers present: Honi Goldman, President, Siobhan Sheehan, VP, Julia Leist, Treasurer, Amy Straub, Secretary

**Neighborhood:**

Lillie Brockelsby, Sunny Lane

Janice & Gary Dodson, Lamont

Paul Schuhmann, Falmouth Drive

Ian Hooper, Gardiner Lane

Barry King, Wickland Road

Margot Kling, Gardiner Lane

Becky Smith, Gardiner Lane

Martin & Katy O'Toole, Calder Court

Robert Cummins, Dunbarton Wynde

Charles Van Sickle, Dunbarton Wynde

David & Kari Katz, Sutherland Drive

**Minutes: 11-14-2018**

Meeting called to order at 6:30

**Reminders-**

**Still need representatives for: Membership Chair, UHN Festival Chair, Newsletter writer**

**Report/Update from Lori Rafferty, Floodplain and CRS Administrator with MSD-**

The grant process to approve demolition of homes already bought is almost final, expect to approve it early December, houses won't be demolished until most likely Late December or January of this year, once final approval process is complete.

Four Homes have been boarded up, as required by the city for safety reasons. MSD is negotiating with five other homes, those negotiations are moving forward, once owned by MSD, MSD will be able to release the addresses of those homes.

After demolition, expect to see a grassy area. Asbestos testing will be done, abatement applied if necessary, area will be safe, filled in with some decomposable debris and dirt, grass planted.  
\*\*FEMA requires that property has to be owned by MSD or a conservation agency to be turned into a park area.

#### **Answers to neighborhood questions-**

\*Mowing around creek is not considered eco-friendly to the creek water, keeps trash from getting into the water and polluting ecosystems in the creek.

\*MSD will only be purchasing the 9 homes with the buyout, they are suffering the most damage.

\*Demolition WILL NOT have any impact on the flood plain, the area is too small for the areas to absorb the flooding, even if the home areas were not filled in to ground level, it would not help with absorption of flood water from the creek during heavy rain.

\*It is possible for the flood plain to increase, they are studied every 20 years.

The last study on Beargrass Creek was 2006.

\*The money that is buying out the house, is 90% Federal, 10% MSD, long term maintenance cost is MSD's responsibility.

\*Flood insurance should be purchased to cover damages received from flooding.

Homeowners should be documenting damages from flooding with receipts, offers for buyouts happen in the fall, individuals can contact MSD about their specific address.

People selling houses in the Flood Plain are required to disclose that they are located in a Flood Plain.

#### **Reports from elected area officials:**

**Councilman Brandon Coan-** followed up about report from MSD-

\*Remember that FEMA is preoccupied with national emergencies\*

Facts about floodplain areas in Jefferson County-

-22 areas in Jefferson County 240 house have been approved for buyout.

-10,000 houses in a Flood Plain in Jefferson County, therefore realistically, the possibility of a buyout is low.

Solutions to the leftover spaces once the houses in the buyout have been demolished:

1. Expanding yards could be an option for dealing with the vacant properties once they are demolished. MSD could, for example, lease the property to a neighboring property owner, in which case MSD would still own the property and property taxes would not be assessed for that portion of land.

2. MSD could keep it and maintain the property- mowing every other week during the grow season

3. Many options for public use- community garden, park area, donated design services.

Neighbors with questions- contact Lori Rafferty at MSD by phone at (502) 540-6344, MSD will keep UHNA updated with the addresses of other sold homes. Check website for updates.

Neighbors who have suffered flood damage should keep receipts to document, report damages to MSD, research flood insurance, although it does not usually cover losses/damage to basements or foundations.

[www.Floodsmart.gov](http://www.Floodsmart.gov) is a website that can direct you to flood insurance resources and contacts for consultations.

District 8 Newsletter, go to District 8 website, <https://louisvilleky.gov/government/metro-council-district-8>

**Fifth Division Crime Report** –UPDATE- reminder to continue to use the tip line 574-LMPD, as it has been a huge help in making arrests on various crimes in the neighborhood.

Holiday season- always an increase in burglaries, packages get picked up off porches, be mindful of locking doors, closing garages, don't leave gifts in cars.

Pay attention to roads during severe weather, ramps see a lot of accidents when roads are slick.

Concern raised about salt trucks leaving large piles of salt that is not spread out, Brandon Coan will get answer about this from City Snow removal services.

If something doesn't seem right, please call LMPD. If dispatch will not send someone out, ask for the Sergeant on duty or call directly to the 5<sup>th</sup> District.

An overview of most recent crime data for 5<sup>th</sup> division, summary available online with crime data for the area.

Questions about patrol of the areas near Sutherland Drive with boarded up houses that are waiting on MSD to demolish, LMPD is aware of this and is elevating routine patrols. Always call if you see suspicious activity.

Meeting adjourned at 7:38pm.

**\*\*Next meeting Wednesday, January 16, 2018 at 6:30 PM.**

2019 Meeting Dates: January 16, March 20, May 15, July 17, September 18, November 20

