

1034 S. Brook St-Pressell  
House-Neighborhood  
Meeting Minutes

E-mails from neighbors unable to attend have been forwarded to Amy Brooks.

Transcription from Neighborhood Meeting 7/17/24

In attendance-

Darsey Naville, Shelly Fife, Amy Duncan, Rachel Washington, Michelle Collins, Britni Staats, Steven Staats, Shawn White, & Helga Ulrich.

The meeting began at 6pm.

Introductions were made and Ms. Naville gave an overview to the group of her plans and programming for Pressell House. The homeowner gave a breakdown of what her program will offer clients such as clinical treatment, life skills, supervision, and the daily activities within Pressell House.

Ms. White and Ms. Staats expressed concern with clients being “drug users” and “overdoses”. Ms. White stated, “I picked up 4 needles this year on the street” and “there are already centers in this area”. Ms. White referenced the VOA on Breckenridge St. It was pointed out to visitors that these will be people in recovery and will be supervised. It was reiterated that clients will be in clinicals most of the day and drug tested regularly.

Mr. & Mrs. Staats shared their concern that the area is not conducive to recovery. Their opinion being based on the amount of liquor stores in the area and the illegal activity they have witnessed in the 7 months they have lived in the neighborhood.

Ms. Ulrich gave a brief history of the Traditional Neighborhood Zoning District (TNZD) of Old Louisville and its purpose. Ms. Ulrich is concerned that realtors are not informing potential buyers of the restrictions within the TNZD and what is and is not allowed. Ms. Ulrich asked the homeowners why they chose the area, and it was explained that being near resources such as bus lines, places of business, and other necessities is important to this type of housing. It was also noted that the size of the homes in Old Louisville are larger and can accommodate community living that is needed for a transitional home.

There was further discussion among the group regarding funding and sustainability. Neighbors asked homeowners how they financed the property and why they aren’t locating somewhere else. Again, the benefits of being in Old Louisville were listed. In addition, Ms. Pressell pointed out that being in a nicer area gives a newly recovered person hope and dignity. Ms. Ulrich was concerned with too many clients being in one bedroom and it was explained that the purpose of this is to have accountability, socialization, and to prevent

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isolation. The theory of motivational track was introduced to the group where clients are earning privileges such as less roommates and free time.

The group then discussed the consequences of relapse and behavioral problems. Ms. Pressell and Ms. Fife shared a zero-tolerance policy of drug use on the property and clients will be required to return to inpatient treatment before returning to Pressell House. Neighbors then asked about visitors and were informed there are no visitors allowed outside of staff and volunteers and loitering by anyone will not be allowed. The group discussed the amount of supervision clients will have and who will be staffed for this purpose.

Homeowners expressed their understanding of the neighbors' concerns and tried to assure them that all issues would be addressed to incorporate a good neighbor policy within the program.