

**MEETING MINUTES
SIXTH WARD DEMOCRATIC ORGANIZATION
MAGGIE O'BRIEN'S
General Membership Meeting—November 18, 2010**

Meeting called to order at 7:05pm

Approval of Minutes

Minutes from October 21, 2010 meeting were presented and M/S/A.

Treasurer's Report

Mary Sue Rosenthal presented a written report. The beginning balance on October 15 was \$4,584.94. Expenditures included November election expenses for poll work and absentee ballot meetings. The ending balance on November 15 was \$4,013.22. Report was M/S/A.

Officer Elections Report

Mary Sue Rosenthal presented the slate prepared by the Nominating Committee. The officer candidates are:

Alison Gee	Chair
Mary Kay Christian	Vice-Chair
Mary Sue Rosenthal	Treasurer
Nikki Taylor Statum	Recording Secretary
Martin Casas	Corresponding Secretary

The election will be held on January 20, 2011

Reports from Elected Officials

Damon Jones spoke for Senator Robin Wright Jones. He noted the Tax Credit Commission will present a report in January. The 6th Ward has benefited from tax credits for development as have 16 other wards.

Representative Tishaura Jones stated that she and Rep. Nasheed are members of the "Interim Committee on Budget Transparency", which Rep. Silvey chairs. The committee meets every Monday (1-5pm) and Tuesday (10am-1pm) until Christmas; the hearings are open to the public. It is looking at DESE and Higher Education. Overall, she anticipates the need to find \$700 million in cuts. She noted the Republicans want to make government smaller and find "efficiencies." She also mentioned that if they try to reduce eligibility for Medicaid, the state could lose the entire program. Rep. Jones was elected Assistant Minority Leader by the Democratic Caucus, which is a historic first. She believes the prospects for local control of the SLMPD look good, the Speaker Tilley is supportive. She is also on the Congressional Redistricting Committee.

Alderman Kacie Starr Triplett noted that things are quiet at the Board of Aldermen, but they are dealing with a \$46 million budget deficit. There will be a discussion in Ways and Means next week. Ameren UE is providing free front porch lights for safety and Tower Grove East has instituted a Citizens Patrol. The new building at Chouteau and Jefferson will produce new jobs with good benefits. The building at Lafayette and Compton is being redeveloped after many years.

Senator Robin Wright Jones arrived and added to her report. She said the Tax Credit Commission on which she and Senator Jolie Justus sit was reviewing tax credits with several issues in mind. From her perspective, the recommendations must 1) not impact the City's AAA Bond rating, 2) 'Do no harm', and

3) not disrupt current tax credits that have been awarded. She encouraged members to go to the website for more information: www.tcrc.org She did not sign the committee report because she did not feel the recommendations were in the best interests of the City. In addition to capping tax credits and cutting historic tax credits, the report also eliminated the 'circuit breaker' for seniors. The Governor can accept, reject, or pick pieces of the report to support. The big issues in the coming session will be immigration, right to work (for less), and dismantling the non-partisan court plan. There is now new leadership in the House and Senate. She is Secretary of the Democratic Caucus which comprises 8 Democrats. The Film Tax Credit was eliminated, although it was a good investment.

John Maxwell reported a good turn-out on November 2nd and that the 6th Ward cast more votes for Robin Carnahan and for Susan Montee than any other ward; Robin Carnahan took 82% of the vote. 25 people canvassed the neighborhoods and knocked on 1500 doors; several phonebanks were organized by OFA, and there was a robust absentee ballot program as well as rides to the polls. Volunteers worked hard and got impressive results. While we cannot match corporate spending, we can put boots on the ground. He has nominated Ollie Stewart as committeewoman; it will become official once the Central Committee meets.

Meeting adjourned at 7:40pm

Upcoming Meeting

Thursday, January 20, 7pm

The location is TBD