

**MEETING MINUTES
SIXTH WARD DEMOCRATIC ORGANIZATION
MAGGIE O'BRIEN'S
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING- MARCH 18, 2010**

Alison Gee called the meeting to order at 7:01pm

Approval of Minutes

Minutes from Feb. 18, 2010 meeting were presented. M/S/A John Maxwell/Damon Jones

Treasurer's Report

Mary Sue Rosenthal presented a written report. The income was Membership Dues of \$10. There were no expenses. The total cash on hand is \$4219.94

Local Control of the St. Louis city Police Department

Rep. Tishaura Jones presented detailed information regarding legislative efforts to get local control of the St. Louis Police Department. The bill will be heard in committee before spring break. A 5-4 vote is needed to get it out of committee. Rep. Jones reported on some of the myths about local control. Local control is not about the pension or retiree benefits. Currently the governor appoints the 4 commissioners and the mayor has one vote. It is illegal for the mayor to touch the pension of the police department. It would help to have our Aldermen lobby for local control. Rep. Jones also gave us a list of representatives who have not made up their minds or are against local control. Alison motioned for our Aldermen to go down and lobby legislators and the measure was unanimously approved.

Ways to Stay Engaged: Discussion & Volunteer Request

The Census is currently testing for employees. They are looking for people who currently live in the city to go out and implore people to fill out and mail back their census form. The idea to reach out to clergy in the area to encourage people to turn in their census was brought to the floor.

Everyone agreed that a follow-up fundraiser for Haiti would be great and very much needed for the people of Haiti (Dr. Wolff can speak at the engagement). Alison suggested the SWDO could host something in conjunction with the ward neighborhood associations. Christine Ingrassia, Mary Kay Christian, and Ollie Stewart volunteered to help

Jobs with Justice is still looking for help with the decline to sign effort to stop Rex Sinquefield's efforts to repeal St. Louis & Kansas City 1% earnings tax.

Reports of Elected Officials

Congressman Russ Carnahan's campaign office is moving to 6000 Chippewa. There is a neighborhood coffee/fundraiser for Carnahan April 11th at Michelle Sherman's at 3:30.

Upcoming Meeting

Thursday May 20th, 7pm

The location is TBD