

## FSJNA EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING – April 2015

### AGENDA

Tuesday, April 7, 2015

- I. The meeting was held at the Holy Rosary Cafeteria and called to order by President Steve Mardon at 7:10 pm.
- II. The attendees are noted on the sign-in sheets. A quorum was present.
- III. The Meeting Rules included in the Agenda were noted.
- IV. Guests

**NOPD Quality of Life Officers Update – Officer Lavigne:** Officer Lavigne reported that the graffiti on the signs and steps along the bayou has been covered up and painted. Permits at the corner stores are up-to-date. She was given the location of two blighted structures in the neighborhood: 1600 Block of Gentilly and the 2600 Block of Bayou Road. She was also informed that cars on blocks are back in the street in the 3100 block of St. Ann and nutria holes (without stakes to mark them) are back along the bayou. Officer Lavigne said neighbors could contact her at 658-6371 or [kmcarr@nola.gov](mailto:kmcarr@nola.gov).

**Fairgrounds Patrol – Linda Landesberg:** Captain Scott was not present. Linda Landesberg reported there was 1 crime in our area on Fortin and no missed days by the Fairgrounds Patrol.

**Jazzfest Update – Jimmy Farenholtz (FSJNA), Susan Roth (FSJNA), Jerry Ursin(Jazzfest):** Work has started on potholes, street lights, etc. in the neighborhood in preparation for the Jazz Fest. Abandoned vehicles will be towed starting April 13; small potholes will be filled starting April 15; large potholes will be filled with hot asphalt starting the week of April 20. Each household in the restricted parking area will receive 4 parking permits. They cannot be put in a mail slot, but they can be put on the front door. If more than 4 are needed call or text Jimmy Farenholtz at 504-259-7495 (after 8 am and before 9 pm). There will be 3 tow wagons operating during Jazz Fest. The NAT line is 504-942-7799. Improvements have been made to the NAT line, but Jimmy Farenholtz can also be notified if the response from the NAT line is not satisfactory.

**Lafitte Corridor Update – Sophie Harris:** FSJ resident Daniel Samuels introduced Sophie Harris, the 1<sup>st</sup> Executive Director of the Friends of Lafitte Corridor. She reported that the 2.6 mile greenspace from Armstrong Park to N. Alexander is 86% complete and will be open early this summer. It is a 9.1 million dollar project and includes a new bridge at N. Lopez, signage for directions, 2 public recycling bins, and public art installations. The group is looking at community gardens along the corridor, volunteer program to clean trash, and bike repair stations.

**McDonogh #31 building update – Pierre Walker, CCNO Development:** Mr. Walker and Joseph Stebbins with CCNO Development presented at the meeting as part of the formal process with the City to show their plans to the neighborhood. Mr. Stebbins said that the development would be market-rate apartments, with each former classroom becoming an apartment and utilizing the attic space, for a total of 34 - 36 units with 34 - 36 parking spaces and limited visitor parking. The building is secured. They are proposing a zoning change for the apartments from RD-3 to RM-2A. They plan to use the cafeteria building and in the future in-fill with single housing on the empty lots. They expect the rates to be about \$1300 for a 1 bedroom and \$1650 for a 2

bedroom. They will add a buffer of plantings and a hard fence between parking and the surrounding neighbors. During the presentation several neighbors that surround the development expressed concern about the density of the project and proposed a one-on-one meeting with CCNO Development, separate from the FSJNA Board Meeting. CCNO agreed to meet with those neighbors.

**Half Shell update – Sarah Stogner:** The owner of Half Shell, Mark Lawes, was unable to attend the meeting. Sarah Stogner stated that she had been contacted by Mr. Lawes and during Jazz Fest he wants to have an acoustical-type band outside with seating. If any neighbors have problems, they can contact Sarah Stogner.

**Bayou St. John Book Project – Cassie Pruyn:** Author Cassie Pruyn is writing a narrative history of the bayou and neighborhoods along the bayou, focusing on the Faubourg St. John neighborhood. She is requesting documents, family stories, etc. You can email her at [cassie.pruyn@gmail.com](mailto:cassie.pruyn@gmail.com).

**Greater New Orleans Housing Alliance – Lindsey Lewis:** Lindsey Lewis is the Program Manager for GNOHA. GNOHA is working on a Housing Plan for New Orleans. The Executive Summary is due in August and the document is due in November. Ms. Lewis distributed a flyer with information about the New Orleans Housing Plan. The website address is [www.housingnola.org](http://www.housingnola.org).

#### V. Committee Reports/Updates/Actions

**Membership Committee** – Brenda London reminded neighbors that membership is \$10/individual or \$15/family. Bayou Boogaloo is May 15-17, and volunteers will be needed to help operate the Daiquiri booth.

**Events Committee** – Linda Landesberg announced that the *Celebrating of 90 years of Terranova's* event will be held on April 18 in Fortier Park from 2:00 pm – 6:00 pm.

**A motion was made by Linda Landesberg: \$2,000.00 of the net profit from the Bayou Boogaloo daiquiri booth will go to the Feed the First program and the remainder will go to Desmare Playground. Gloria Martin made the second. 8 in favor of the motion and 1 opposed. Motion carried.**

Linda also gave an update on Desmare Playground and recent developments with NORDC, the City, and Dana Brown & Associates. The City has agreed to surface underneath the swings, and swings should be installed before the end of the year. A storm-water management garden is being designed.

**Rebridge** – Steve Mardon reported on a meeting on April 1, 2015, with the City, State and FSJNA. The July deadline for completing the plans will not be met, which jeopardizes the funding of the grant. The Department of Public Works did agree to our request to “strip-to-the-metal” rather than encapsulate the lead paint. FSJNA was encouraged to request an extension for the project.

**Landscape Committee**- no report this month.

**Treasurer's Report** – Treasurer's report is on file.

**Public Safety** – Jim Danner reported the neighborhood hasn't had much crime. You can contact him at [safety@fsjna.org](mailto:safety@fsjna.org).

Zoning Committee – Thea Morgan reported on the survey response on the request by the 1000 Figs Restaurant to receive a conditional use for selling alcohol. More than 500 surveys were distributed; 88 supported the conditional use and 6 opposed. Thea agreed to meet with the owners and review the Good Neighbor Agreement with them.

**A motion was made by Nancy Shepard: To not oppose 1000 Figs' request for a conditional use allowing the sale of alcoholic beverages in a restaurant, pending an execution of the Good Neighbor Agreement. Gloria Martin made the second. 9 in favor of the motion and Rocky Seydel abstained. Motion carried.**

VI. Old Business – Linda Landesberg made a motion to approve the minutes from the February and March Executive Board Meeting, and the March General Meeting. Charlie London made the second and the motion passed.

VII. New Business – no new business

VIII. Adjournment - A motion to adjourn was made by Charlie London. Gloria Martin made the second and it passed by unanimous consent. The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m.