

FSJNA EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING - August

AGENDA

Monday, August 11, 2014

I. The meeting was held in a classroom at Morris Jeff School and was called to order by President Greg Jeanfreau at 7:15 pm.

II. The attendees are noted on the sign-in sheets. A quorum was present.

III. President Jeanfreau noted the meeting rules.

IV. Guests

New Orleans Mosquito, Termite & Rodent Control Board (NOMTCB) Director – Claudia Riegel: NOTB manages all mosquito abatement for the city; that includes mosquito control, surveillance, and source reduction. Dr. Riegel addressed the issue of early-morning and late-night spraying for mosquitoes. The decision to determine to spray is based on weather, monitoring of mosquito traps, and life-cycle of mosquito-transmitted viruses (right now is the peak time for West Nile). They spray late at night (9:30 – 10:00 pm) to target the “southern house mosquito” which is active late at night. The southern house mosquito carries West Nile. NOMTCB met with the CDC’s Dr. McAllister to test insecticide for the mosquitoes carrying the new virus “chikungunya”. They sent a plane out about 4:00 a.m. Dr. Riegel said they use a pilot formally with NASA and safety is her first priority.

She was asked about the danger of aerial spraying to humans and she said the insecticide exposure is minimal and suggested going to the CDC website for more information. She was asked about the danger of insecticides to animals, and she said the EPA has done studies on animals and their studies are on the EPA website. She was asked if there were other actions we could take other than aerial spraying, and she said spraying is one of the tactics they use but education of homeowners and source reduction is also important. She distributed flyers to put on neighbor’s doors to warn of the dangers of mosquitoes. She was asked about the canoes and kayaks in the bayou, and she said that Susan Guidry’s office is leading that effort. Dr. Riegel has checked some of the canoes along the bayou and said they are not really breeders, but it will be NOMTCB that will ticket canoes and kayaks with standing water. She said we could arrange a visit to their office on Leon C. Simon.

NOPD Quality of Life Office - Officer Ken Gill: Officer Gill has a new land line (504) 658-2141. His email is kgill@nola.gov. Officer Carr-Levine’s (kcarr@nola.gov) land line is (504) 658-6371. He has received an email about streetlights. He discussed the issue pertaining to St. Ann and N. Lopez Streets where a resident is blocking sidewalks and working on vehicles. He went there last week and spoke to the man repairing vehicles and told him he has to move the car off the sidewalk and can’t have a repair business. He also told him he could leave his music on outside but had to keep it turned down low. He also addressed the issue of unlicensed B&Bs. He said they can’t operate without a permit. If you email him he can summon them for not having the proper paperwork, and he notifies the city after citing them. Your name and address is kept private and you will not be identified. He stated that Barbara Norris is

the new Commander's assistant and replaced Melody Young – now working for the DA's office. Officer Gill is also working on identifying abandoned cars parked on private property. If you have an abandoned car on your property it has to be enclosed by a fence.

Fairgrounds Patrol - Captain Scott: Linda Landesberg spoke about the results of the meeting with the DOJ concerning the City's Office of Secondary Employment taking over control of the Fairgrounds Patrol. FSJNA was not invited to attend because we did not file a suit. The result of the meeting was that the Fairgrounds Patrol does have to go under control of the Office of Secondary Employment; but for the next 12 months (beginning September 1) Captain Scott can operate as he has in the past. All the provisos will stay in place, and the Fairgrounds agreed to pay more to the officers to keep their pay status quo. Captain Scott went over crime statistics for the area patrolled by the Fairgrounds Patrol and distributed a 9-page handout showing crime statistics for the last 3 months and comparing our numbers to the city as a whole.

President of Cabrini High School – Ardley Hanemann: The Cabrini student population is now 540, which is equal to its pre-Katrina enrollment. He spoke about student parking in the neighborhood. He said that if any student blocks a driveway, throws trash, or is rude to neighbors to call 482-1193 and report it. Give the location and the license number if possible, the car will be pulled from class and will move the car. The City said they can no longer park cars at Desmare at night so there will be more parking in the neighborhood. He has two security details at the school, one on Esplanade and one on Moss to ensure a secure campus. He has repeatedly asked parents not to block both sides of Moss, if that occurs call the police and report it. Mr. Hanemann also mentioned they have initiated a feasibility study for a new gym on Esplanade Avenue. It would be 3 stories tall with a white façade and bricks to blend with the other buildings. It will be set back from Esplanade at the location of the former "Pizza Shack", and the little house will be moved to another location on the campus. It still has to go to City Planning and they need to raise about \$10 million – they hope to begin construction in 3 to 4 years.

Motown Coney Island – Sonia Chatman: The Motown Coney Island full-service restaurant is located at 1155 N. Broad between Orchard and Ursulines. The owners came to introduce themselves, provide information about the restaurant, and to inform FSJNA that they will be requesting a full liquor license. The restaurant is family owned, they moved here from Detroit, and they have been in business for a year. The 72-seat restaurant serves breakfast all day, plate lunches, and Coney dogs. They are open from 9:00 am to 9:00 pm. Liquor will be served to dine-in customers only. They have alarm system, cameras, shutters, and a gate. Linda Landesberg recommended they contact Broad Community Connections.

V. Approval of Minutes from the July 2014 Executive Board Meeting and the FSJNA Special Board Meeting on August 4, 2014, was provided in a motion by C. London and seconded by L. Landesberg and passed by unanimous consent.

VI. Committee Updates/Actions (if any)

Membership Outreach Committee – L. Landesberg gave a brief overview of upcoming events. On October 7 there is a possible event called "Night Out With Neighbors" on the same night as city-wide Night Out Against Crime. It would be in Fortier Park but is dependent on securing a band. October 25 is

Voodoo on the Bayou and the Fairgrounds has agreed to sponsor the band. October 31 is the children's Bounty on the Bayou. January 6 is a Twelfth Night dinner at Café Degas along with Slow Food NOLA to raise money for FSJNA and the Community Garden on St. Philip and Dupre.

Landscape Committee- none

Treasurer's Report – M.McMahon's report is on file.

Re-Bridge – President Jeanfreau said that he spoke to the City Attorney and the cooperative agreement with the city is no longer in limbo. It will include both bridges and in about 60 – 90 days we could see the numbers.

Public Safety – J. Danner spoke of the vandalism at Fortier Park. The gold fish pond was tipped over and the chess pieces were thrown around the park. He said the 3200 Block of Ursulines has 6 households with crime cameras and to contact him if you are interested in a crime camera.

Zoning Committee – S. Mardon said there are 3 zoning issues. The first is the request from Motown Coney Island for a full liquor license. The second is the ongoing discussion with the Half Shell at 3101 Esplanade Ave. At the Special Board meeting on August 4, FSJNA supported the liquor license with Provisos and a Good Neighbor Agreement (GNA). The owner is currently reviewing the GNA. Steve is not sure when the request will be on the city calendar. The third is the former Soprano's at 2703 Ursulines selling hard liquor. Susan Guidry's office said they have a permit, but was unable to provide any information; this is the first time the store has been in Guidry's district and they may not know the history of the store. A discussion ensued on the difference between a State license and a City license. C. Abadie provided some background on previous attempts by the store to obtain a license to sell hard liquor. The zoning committee will follow-up with Safety and Permits.

VII. Old Business –

- C. Abadie informed the members that the purchase of the old Morris Jeff school on N. Rendon would be going to closing within a month.
- The Kayak tours are offering a Bloody Mary tour – are they licensed for it? And a structure was seen on the bayou near Orleans offering kayaks for rent – probably not permanent.

VIII. New Business -

- The Nomination Committee will be looking for members to serve on the Executive Board – including President.
- Attendees were reminded to call 311 if they need transportation during a hurricane evacuation.

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