

FSJNA GENERAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES – July 2016

Tuesday, July 5, 2016

I. The meeting was held at Bricolage Academy and called to order by President Steve Mardon at 7:07 pm.

II. The attendees are noted on the sign-in sheets. A quorum was not present.

III. The Meeting Rules included in the Agenda were noted.

IV. Guests

First District Police Officers: Sargent Temple, Lewis and Hill were present. They spoke about recent traffic and crowd problems at the Seahorse Saloon on Gentilly Blvd. Call in complaints so that they can document in police reports for the ABO. There was a robbery on the basketball court at Stallings playground and an arrest has been made. There was a shooting reported in the 1600 block of Gentilly. The shooting actually happened at the corner of Paul Morphy St. and D’Abadie St. The police are working with the victims to identify the shooters. Two bikes were stolen in the 2600 block of Lepage. The police noted that bicycle serial numbers are important for solving cases. A reminder to lock your vehicles and to check the crime maps for trends.

Upcoming Election: Judge Regina Bartholomew Woods is running for Court of Appeal on November 8th.

Louisiana Landmarks Update: Carol Allen became the Director of the Louisiana Landmarks Society/Pitot House in May. She previously worked with the French Quarter Citizens and promotes historic preservation.

Fairgrounds Patrol Update – Commander Scott: Commander Scott reported that there was an armed robbery on Onzaga Street. An arrest has been made with links to other armed robberies and the shooting at Paul Morphy St. and D’Abadie St. A bicyclist was hit by a vehicle at the intersection of Esplanade Ave, Grand Route St. John and N. Lopez. The fairgrounds patrol was called, but they did not answer and Commander Scott apologized. We should see 2 new full-size SVUs marked with the Fairgrounds logo patrolling the streets in about 2 weeks. If you see these vehicles out of the patrol area, please report it. The fairgrounds patrol did not receive any calls on the night of July 4th. The numbers for the Fairgrounds patrol are 504-251-0111 and 504-251-0276. There was discussion about more signage regarding the bicycle lane on Esplanade Ave, especially near the intersection with GRSJ. President Mardon agreed to write a letter on behalf of FSJNA to DPW requesting additional signage regarding the bicycle lane.

City Council Update – Leatrice Dupre: There will be a budget hearing for District A on July 6th starting at 5:30pm at Lakeview Christian Center. Community input is encouraged. Leatrice noted that Councilmember Guidry scoped out the bayou on July 5th and noticed lots of trash. She contacted the sanitation department. By the afternoon it was “pristine.” The Fire Department has been contacted about the fireworks on the bayou on July 4th. Residents are encouraged to call the Fire Prevention Chief, Paul DeGrange, at 658-4710. The Magnolia Bridge is still in the design phase. Residents are encouraged to email Mary Cunningham at mbcunningham@nola.gov for further updates.

McDonough 31 Update: Jenny Bagert received a public notice post card regarding the demolition of the building behind the school, which used to be the cafeteria. She also reported that there are new plans on the onestop website, with a new application for resubdivision of the land. There is now a proposal for 3 multifamily units on one lot with parking underneath. This is regarding the lot to the left of the school. Jenny will call the city to try to get more information.

V. Treasurer's Report: Matt was not in attendance.

VII. Committee Reports/Updates/Actions:

Membership Committee – Brenda London reminded everyone that membership can be renewed online.

Events Committee – Bastille Day is this Saturday, July 9th from 5pm - 9pm. FSJNA will have a tent. Contact Brenda London if interested in volunteering at the tent. There have been some growing pains with the Bayou Boogaloo tent. Almost \$8,000 was raised this year.

Landscape Committee – there is grant money available through the Urban Conservancy to remove concrete from your front yard and replace it with grass or other permeable surface. It's called the "Front Yard Initiative." Call 311 if you see someone paving their front yard.

Public Safety – Jim Danner noted that there haven't been any more complaints about homeless people sleeping on porches or back yards. Jim and Linda reported that the NOPD was having trouble getting their cars washed. They worked together with the Shell Station at Canal Street and St. Patrick Street. The Shell station will now provide free car washes for police cars.

Zoning Committee – nothing new to report

VIII. Old Business

Ronnie Brink and President Mardon have continued removing graffiti around the neighborhood.

IX. New Business – There was discussion about the money given to FSJNA by the Coypu Foundation for nutria eradication. Beaux Jones will look into this and it will be discussed at a future meeting.

IX. Adjournment - A motion to adjourn was made by Brenda. Linda made the second and it passed by unanimous consent. The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.