

FSJNA EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING – May 2015

AGENDA

Tuesday, May 5, 2015

- I. The meeting was held at Holy Rosary School-Room 106 and called to order by President Steve Mardon at 7:01 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 had nothing report this month due to JazzFest. She will re-check cars on blocks in the 3100 block of St. Ann Street. Officer Lavigne said neighbors could contact her at 658-6371 or kmcarr@nola.gov .

Fairgrounds Patrol – Captain Scott: Captain Scott went over crime statistics for the area patrolled by the Fairgrounds Patrol. He distributed a 6-page handout showing crime statistics for a 90-day period covering 2/1/2015 - 4/30/2015, and compared our numbers to the city as a whole. There was 1 carjacking, 9 burglaries, and 7 auto thefts. A discussion followed on the boundaries of the Fairgrounds Patrol.

Preliminary Jazzfest Follow-Up –Susan Roth: Attendees provided their perspectives on JazzFest. In the 3100 Block of Maurepas the vendors were better than last year, but unlicensed vans at Maurepas and N. Lopez were there all day and the NAT Line was called; in the 2800 block of Ponce de Leon the sound levels were better than last year and the planes carrying banners flew over the Fairgrounds and not over homes; towing better on 2nd weekend; sound checks better than last year; a person had a parking permit but was still ticketed; cabs were still a problem, including speeding on Moss and picking up passengers in the restricted zone; no police officer at Grand Route and Esplanade; and street sweeper on Esplanade came by at a time when cars were parked on both sides of the street. Neighbors can continue to send in their comments to jazzfest@fsjna.org.

The JazzFest Liaison team gave the JazzFest a “D”. The pre-fest activities including lights, potholes and towing were great. But the cab issue and police presence in the neighborhood are still issues that can be improved. They are meeting with JazzFest, the Taxi Bureau, RTA, Uber and Revenue to provide input; and to recommend State Troopers and a donation to FSJNA.

McDonogh #31 development – Shana Sassoon and Jenny Bagert, “Neighbors of McDonough 31”: CCNO Development hosted a meeting with neighbors on May 4, 2015. The neighbors asked CCNO to delay their zoning request. Jenny Bagert reported that neighbors surrounding the development have issues with parking, drainage and water pressure. Their goal is to minimize any negative impact on the neighborhood. Shana Sassoon said the issue is the density and scale of the project, and not the quality of the project. They want CCNO to reduce the number of units in the development and to continue an ongoing relationship with the neighbors. The 4 house lots are a key issue because of the number of parking spaces for the apartments. They got 50 letters from neighbors opposing the development. Because it is a very large development in FSJ, the neighbors are asking the

FSJNA to listen to their concerns and support them. A copy of the “Neighbors of McDonough 31” letter to the Board, dated May 5, 2015, is filed with the minutes.

McDonogh #31 development – Pierre Walker, CCNO Development: Mr. Walker said CCNO will table the request for a variance for at least a month, or maybe longer, to address the neighbor’s concerns with parking and density. The variance is for the set-back from the street for the single-family homes. They do not need variances for the apartment development. He said they are about a year away from breaking ground.

V. Committee Reports/Updates/Actions

Membership Committee – Brenda London said FSJNA is looking at a membership drive to increase membership. Bayou Boogaloo is May 15-17, and volunteers are needed to help operate the Daiquiri booth.

Events Committee – Linda Landesberg gave a recap of the *Celebrating 90 years of Terranova’s* event held on April 18 in Fortier Park. Terranova’s presented FSJNA a check for \$4,000.00 as a donation.

A motion was made by Linda Landesberg: Donate \$500.00 of the \$4,000.00 donation from Terranova’s to the Red Cross in the Terranova’s name. Jim Danner made the second. All in favor of the motion and none opposed. Motion carried.

Linda gave an update on Desmare Playground. On June 3, 2015, there will be a meeting with the City Planning Commission’s Design Advisory Committee to present all three Phases of the project.

Rebridge – No report this month. The Board asked Mike Martin, Council Staff, to talk to Councilmember Susan Guidry about the status of the bridges.

Landscape Committee- No report this month.

Treasurer’s Report – Treasurer’s report is on file. Matt Amoss mentioned the \$5000 donation from The Hearin Fund for Rebridge.

Public Safety – Jim Danner reminded neighbors about the crime camera grant. You can contact him at safety@fsjna.org.

Zoning Committee – Sarah Stogner reported that a house in the 3000 block of Dumaine is applying for a Bed & Breakfast license. The owners need a conditional use permit.

Cynthia Scott brought up concerns with Articles 7, 5 and 18 in the new Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance for the City of New Orleans. Specifically, Article 7 which allows for permitted use of all public parks for commercial projects. A main concern is development in City Park with no public input. The Board asked Mike Martin, Council Staff, to get a response from Councilmember Susan Guidry before the May 14, 2015 vote. Cynthia provided a handout for board members summarizing the concerns. A copy of the handout is filed with the minutes.

VI. Old Business – Steve Mardon made a motion to approve the minutes from the April Executive Board Meeting. Brenda London made the second and the motion passed.

VII. New Business – no new business

VIII. Adjournment - A motion to adjourn was made by Steve Mardon. Nancy Shepard made the second and it passed by unanimous consent. The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.