

FSJNA EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES – October 2015

Tuesday, October 6, 2015

I. The meeting was held at Bricolage Academy (formerly Holy Rosary School) and called to order by President Steve Mardon at 7:03 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 Officer – Officer K. Gill: Officer Gill is now the Quality of Life Officer for the entire First District. He can be reached at kgill@nola.gov or 504-658-2141 (o) or 504-952-1870 (cell). Officer Gill was asked to check on school buses blocking the RTA bus stop on Esplanade in the afternoon and about an illegal hotel in the 2800 block of Ponce de Leon. Officer Gill said they were not enforcing illegal rentals, but if noise is an issue he can respond. He recommended the neighbors call in any streetlights that were not working and clear away trees blocking the light.

NOPD – Sergeant K. Temple and Sergeant G. Lewis: Sgt. Temple (ktemple@nola.gov or 504-658-6012) and Sgt. Lewis (glewis@nola.gov or 504-658-6399) addressed the recent surge in auto thefts and armed robberies. Sgt. Temple said that tow trucks could be involved in some of the recent auto thefts. He also reminded neighbors to keep their vehicles secured and move property to the trunk of the car. Sgt. Lewis reported that NOPD was doing surveillance in our neighborhood in response to the armed robberies. They noticed neighbors walking pets late at night by themselves, and advised pet owners to walk in groups. He said recent crimes are not gang related. NOPD has high success rate solving crimes using video surveillance cameras and encouraged neighbors to let Officer Gill know if they have a camera system.

Fairgrounds Patrol Update – Captain Scott: Captain Scott went over crime statistics for the area patrolled by the Fairgrounds Patrol. He distributed a 3-page handout showing crime statistics for a 30-day period covering 9/1/2015 - 9/30/2015, and compared our numbers to the city as a whole. He reminded neighbors not to resist or antagonize an armed robber.

1148 Moss Variance Requests –Mary-jo Webster: The owners of 1148 Moss Street are seeking two variances for new construction: (1) a 10' wall that separates the back of 1148 Moss from 3342 Bell and (2) a 1' variance for distance of 1st floor porch roof line from the property line. President Mardon said neighbors could attend the hearing to show support or voice their opposition.

Pitot House Proposal for Partnership with FSJNA on Marches des Fetes – Walter Gallas: Le Marché des Fêtes is scheduled for December 5, 2015. Louisiana Landmarks Society is asking FSJNA to become a partner in the event. The admission for the event is \$5.00. The proposal is to offer individual and family memberships to both FSJNA and the Louisiana Landmarks Society for a reduced price, and admission to the event would be free. For example, a family membership to both groups would be offered at \$45.00 instead of \$55.00 if joined individually. FSJNA would get \$10.00 and La. Landmarks would get \$35.00. Vendor costs for FSJNA members

would be \$75.00 instead of \$85.00. Mr. Gallas also said they want to be good neighbors in terms of events at the house and if there is ever any problem to call Mr. Gallas.

Landscaping Proposal for DeSoto and Capdeville Parks – Robert Thompson: Robert Thompson is seeking a donation from FSJNA to improve the landscape at the Esplanade median near Broad, at DeSoto Park and at Capdeville Park. He said the parks have been neglected and neighbors have contributed about \$1600 of their own money to improve the appearance of the parks.

Motion made by Linda Landesberg, second by Gloria Martin: Create a new restricted fund for triangle parks in the neighborhood; starting with transferring \$1,000.00 from unrestricted funds as seed money. 10 in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.

Fortier Park Fountain Maintenance – Ronnie Brinks, Jim Danner: Tabled until next FSJNA Board meeting.

Energy Wise Alliance: Cutting Energy Costs – Brandon Muetzel: Mr. Muetzel distributed brochures on a new program in New Orleans called Energy Smart (EnergySmartNOLA.com), an alliance between the New Orleans City Council and Entergy New Orleans. Homeowners can receive rebates and discounts with contractors. Mr. Muetzel also demonstrated several products that could save energy for homeowners and shared tips for reducing energy costs in the home.

Lafitte Greenway Bar Plans – Sarah Stogner: Postponed.

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

VI. Committee Reports/Updates/Actions

Nominating Committee- President Mardon said to send any recommendations for the Executive and Advisory Board to him at president@fsjna.org .

Membership Committee – no update

Events Committee – Bounty on the Bayou on October 31, 2015. The event will cost about \$3,000.00. There is \$900.00 in the budget from the 2014 Bounty on the Bayou and a \$600.00 donation from the Fairgrounds.

Motion made by Greg Jeanfreau, second by Gloria Martin: To fund Bounty on the Bayou for \$1500.00. 8 in favor, 1 opposed. Motion passed.

Desmare Playground – The City signed the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement (CEA). The construction plans will be reviewed in the next three weeks and then let out to bid.

Landscape Committee- no update

Public Safety – no update

Zoning Committee – no update

VII. Old Business – Steve Mardon made a motion to approve the minutes from the September Executive Board Meeting and General Membership Meeting. Nancy Shepard made the second and the motion passed.

VIII. New Business

- Discussion on the FSJNA membership partnership with Louisiana Landmarks Society and sponsorship/donation to the Le Marché des Fêtes event.

Motion made by Gloria Martin, second by Kerry Tully: Partner with Louisiana Landmarks Society and donate \$500.00 to the 2015 Le Marché des Fêtes event at the Pitot House. All in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.

- Discussion on funding Night Out Against Crime events on October 13, 2015.

Motion made by Linda Landesberg, second by Nancy Shepard: To fund two Night Out Against Crime events within the neighborhood (DeSoto Park and triangle park) as reimbursable expenses up to \$150.00; and to fund one Night Out Against Crime event as reimbursable expenses up to \$250.00 at Fortier Park. All in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.

IX. Adjournment - A motion to adjourn was made by Linda Landesberg. Nancy Shepard made the second and it passed by unanimous consent. The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.