

BNA Board Meeting – April, 2017

Present: MH, NL, JL, JF, MM, DB, JC, LL DT, RM; LL has TB's proxy

No minutes were read

JF explained the Treasurer's Report: a charge for the new Website for formatting and preparation for ads and a donation to Refuge Church

ZONING

MAH sent a notice about the Riverfront Overlay meeting. She explained to the Board about the FMIA lawsuit against the Overlay and how the City Council had directed City Planning to do another study. The Council passed an Interim Zoning District which reverts to a new base zoning and it seems like City planning is rethinking different zoning for different neighborhoods. MAH suggests that this Board needs to decide if it will support previous Board's zoning sentiments and wants to suggest to City Planning that Bywater has its own zoning overlay. The density bonus and affordable housing options are not working. The option for access to the river is to build another bridge but we need access that is ADA compliant with grade access to the river. It was suggested that we have more access to the river. The City Council wants suggestions for the new Overlay and this is our opportunity to influence City Planning with our thoughts before they finalize their study. It was suggested that we ask for a deferral of the study so that we can submit our comments; the Zoning Committee will get back to the Board on the general statements to present to the City Planning.

There was a NPP on Sunday, April 2, about a property on Montegut. Information about this NPP was requested and the Zoning Committee will get back to the Board on this.

Quintron is having an NPP about his property on St. Claude: he wants to have a bar and need conditional use.

CRUISE TERMINAL

MM adopted a position from the Board and presented this to the Port. Port accepted the receipt of our position and they are beginning outreach events over the next few weeks. There are some conversations to push to a full Section 106 and the next step is to have another conversation with other organizations so that we can have a central position statement to present to the Port. They haven't offered to establish a 106 review but are proceeding with small meetings. It was suggested that we stand together with the other neighborhoods and be on the alert for new developments.

COMMUNICATIONS

The pricing structure for advertising on our website has been established and the data base has been cleaned up. We will now be able to collect dues online. DT moved to accept Babette H as Chairman of the Communications Committee; JL seconded; all voted to approve.

EVENTS

Home Tour is scheduled for April 23rd. We still need two more houses for the tour. JG is asking for another house on Royal and one on Congress; discussion about where. Stefanie Bruner has a story on one of the houses.

May 20th is the Bar Stroll. Oxalis is trying to get Sazerac to sponsor. MP is trying to get Royal Beer to sponsor also.

Discussion about how to raise money for the Mirliton Festival. If a sponsor gives \$2500 - \$5000 then he could advertise on the BNA website and the Mirliton Facebook page for 6 months (also twitter and Instagram) for \$5000 - \$10000 it would be 12 months. All T shirts and merchandise should have months of exposure. Discussion about filling out online a grant application sponsored by the Jazz and Heritage Foundation. Discussed a Go Fund Me page; it was suggested to offer 4-8 instead of 6-12 months

There will be no N7 fundraiser.

PARKS

LL explained that we have lost a considerable amount of our foliage at Markey Park and suggested having the soil tested. Discussion about getting sponsors for each individual garden and having the sponsor's names on a clear coated sign; different businesses in the neighborhood were suggested as sponsors. Getting an estimate on an irrigation system installed was suggested as well as talking to Parks and Parkways about getting their help. A budget statement is needed first.

TRANSPORTATION

The committee is in the process of organizing a petition to the railroad. One of the committee members wrote a letter to the Public Belt and did an interview with the Times Picayune.

STR

The regulations about STRs went into effect on April 1. 368 properties out of 5,000 applied. The phone numbers for enforcement should be put out on an e blast. You can go to One Stop Shop website and type in an address and see if that person applied. Number is 504-658-7144; nola.gov/str

LOCK REPLACEMENT

The Corps of Engineers wants to widen the canal. This is a 13 year process once funding is in place and all the neighborhood associations are against it. Only about 7- 8 businesses are positively affected. There would be a temporary bridge and the existing bridge would be out; some families would be

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moved out of their homes; Holy Cross neighborhood is extremely opposed. All comments are due on April 7; the time has been extended. MH will edit the Holy Cross letter and JL moved to adopt a position similar to Holy Cross. MM seconded; all approved.

It was stated that Crescent Park wants to start charging for parking at Piety with the first 90 minutes being free. Apparently, people are parking their vehicles there overnight and after hours; some people are sleeping in their cars there and the construction site is using it as an overflow parking lot.

At the General Membership Meeting KC will talk about the parking situation at Crescent Park and Quintron will talk about his development.

MH moved to end the meeting; JC seconded; all approved. Meeting adjourned at 9:00