

MINUTES OF THE BYWATER NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD MEETING
March 2, 2021

Attendees: John Guarnieri, Mary Ann Hammett, Shirley Young, Arlene Hines, Amy Noll, Carolyn Craft, Jason Richards

Absent: Michael Wawrzycki

The meeting was called to order at 7:06 PM.

Minutes

Minutes of the February meeting were discussed. Since not all attendees had a chance to review the minutes prior to the meeting, it was decided that members would review the minutes by March 3rd and a vote to approve would be held by email.

Finance

Arlene H. presented the Treasurer's Report, which indicated a net loss for the month of \$440.14 due to expenses paid for the virtual home tour filming.

Virtual Home Tour

John G. reported he is currently finishing up the final editing of the home tour video. He indicated that he is working on issues with a final house before finalizing the video. John will keep the board updated on progress. The home tour may include only four houses if issues with the fifth house cannot be resolved. He also reported that the video will include a background piece that features the sounds of Bywater. The plan is to finish up the video and begin promotion within the next two weeks. The Board discussed the need to make sure the link to the video is easily accessible to those that pay to view it.

Future General Membership Meetings

The Board discussed possible options for future in-person general membership meetings, the current CDC guidelines, and when it might be safe to gather again in person. The current local guidelines provide for up to 75 indoors. Options for locations to gather were also discussed. John G. will reach out to see if Bywater Brew Pub may be a possibility. It was agreed that masks would be still be required if in-person meetings are scheduled.

Markey Park

Mary Ann H. reported that there is no agreement yet on the cooperative agreement with NORD on Markey Park. She indicated that she and Michael W. are still waiting on language from the city lawyer following their meeting with him a couple of weeks ago.

Arise Hotel

John G. reported that test pilings are currently underway at the Arise building site at Chartres and Mazant. The developer indicated to John that once the tests are completed, that construction will begin and that the a 15-month timeline for construction is expected and an opening in June, 2022 is anticipated.

Hano Site

John G. reported that the project is currently in Phase 2 and a lengthy report was recently provided that includes a history going back to the 1700's. The report is publicly available. The project continues to move forward. Funding has been secured and the developer expects to start construction by the end of 2021 or early 2022.

Zoning

Mary Ann H. reported that City Planning did not approve the zoning request at 1032 Montegut. The next step is a City Council vote. Mary Ann noted that opponents of the project far outweighed supporters at the recent City Planning meeting.

Short-term Rental Update

Shirley Y. provided an update on the status of the violations at the Poland Ave. rental. No updates have been provided on the city's website that indicate that the fines have been paid. Mary Ann H. indicated that since this property had gone through adjudication, the city had an obligation to follow their administrative procedures for adjudication and she would review the rules to assure that the city was properly following up on the matter.

General Membership Meeting

John G. reported that Allison Cormier of the Mayor's community engagement office reached out because she received a request from someone who was interested in addressing the neighborhood about flood prevention. The Board discussed other possible speakers including the new Fifth District police commander, Captain Regina Williams, and the developer for the Arise project. John G. will follow up to see if they are available to provide an update at the meeting. Jason R. will check with the developer of the Hano site to see if he is available to provide an update. Shirley Y. suggested polling members at the next meeting to find out what topics they are interested in and also to possibly include introductions in the round during the next meeting so attendees can get acquainted with the others that are on the zoom. The Board agreed this was a good idea.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:49 PM.

Minutes prepared by,

Carolyn Craft