

Minutes General Meeting, 6 November 2014

The meeting was called to order by President Julie Jones.

There was a brief report on the survey conducted at the last meeting regarding the riverfront. 100% of those responding supported NFB's position on height limits along the riverfront.

Sr. Ann LaCour, MSC, the Superior General of her order, addressed the group. She stated that the numbers of her order were dwindling and that the average age of the nuns is now 80 years old. They have established a task force to prepare for the future; the recommendation is for them to sell the property currently known as Holy Angels with the exception of the St. Joseph building where the nuns still live. It is her wish to sell to someone who will use the property for the benefit of the neighborhood. The group thanked her for the many years of generosity that they have shown to our organizations. The projected sell-by date in 2017.

Matt Thompson, along with Michael and Glenn Owings, spoke regarding the proposed restaurant on Dauphine and Independence. It will go before the city council this Thursday, but the final date for a Council decision has already passed, meaning that the proposal has been defeated. He encouraged any who could to attend the meeting in opposition. One member of the audience stated that he favored the restaurant.

HANO executive Greg Fortner spoke regarding the "Mazant Royale" property. He has been here with HANO since July of this year. They have released a Request for Proposals (RFP) for

the development of the property. All former plans are now off the table. The city is now in charge of the agency. He stated that the requirements set by HUD are for them to provide affordable housing and that the property produce income. Many neighbors spoke in favor of open spaces and a park.

Mr. Fortner assured the group that all RFP's would be shared with the neighborhood and we would be allowed input. "We are not locked into anything." Mr. Jay Addison, president of the Louisiana Land Trust described other areas where HUD and the Land Trust have worked together to maintain green space.

There is a meeting on Nov. 25 at 12:30 in the HDLC office regarding a proposal for the development of the 3900 block of Burgundy. This will be a revision of a rejected proposal.

John Andrews and Brian Lockett gave an update on the CZO. There is now yet another bonus offered to developers of land in the proposed Riverfront Overlay. It involves a dramatic increase in the Floor to Area Ratio (FAR.) This will potentially increase not the number of units in any development in the Overlay, but instead the size of those units. That's why we call it the "Luxury Bonus." The height bonus is still on the table.

Officer Franklin of the 5th District spoke. There is a fund raiser for an officer who was wounded in the line of duty. A class of new officers will graduate in December, and a new one will begin soon.

Meeting adjourned.

Anthony Eschmann,

Secretary