

Minutes NFB 18 March 2015

Present: Mark Gonzalez, Julie Jones, John Andrews, Rick Prince, Anthony Eschmann, Rhonda Finley, Beverly Andrews, Brian Luckett *Didn't Harold Gee also attend?*

The first discussion of the evening was a proposal by Andrés Duany regarding the CZO. Brian suggested that we politely decline to support his proposal. John agreed with Brian as the attitude reflected in Mr. D's statements was completely against regulation of anything. The board agreed.

John brought up the RDO. He suggested that we send a letter in support of it if the following conditions are met: standard restaurants are eliminated, specialty restaurants remain, no alcohol, no live entertainment unless underlying zoning allows it already. We want to keep the square footage designated in the draft CZO per dwelling unit (1,200 sf). The board agreed; John and Julie will write this letter.

Dannal Perry addressed us regarding a letter in support of Chaz fest. This is a small festival held in Bywater one day between the two Jazz Fest Weekends. The board agreed; Anthony will write the letter.

A motion was made to support changes in the zoning as part of the CZO for the properties in the 3900 and 4000 blocks of Burgundy Street, on the lake side. The change would be from Light Industrial to Mixed Use (actually, PCMU—Planned Community Mixed Use). These properties were part of the old Frey meatpacking plant and are being converted to residential, with some commercial space. This will require an exemption to the 50' height limit we generally try to preserve. We will also send a letter of support for the project to the CPC. It will state that we take this position due to the setbacks.

On the 3900-block of Burgundy, river side, the board agreed to write a letter to the Council requesting that in the draft CZO the designation be changed from HMMU (Historic Marigny Mixed Use) to HMR3 (residential). This will reflect the intent of the developer currently erecting houses on that block.

The board elected officers as follows:

Julie Jones President

John Andrews Vice President

Brian Lockett Treasurer

Anthony Eschmann and Beverly Andrews will share the secretary position.

The BNA has asked us to join them in a proposal that, should the overlay remain in the CZO, the land-area requirement not be applicable. The board decided against supporting that proposal.

Brian Lockett will write a proposal regarding some of the changes as well as getting rid of 18.13 G of the CZO. Some requirements that developers should have to meet are porosity, open space and hidden parking, and giving a bonus on the number of units if it is aligned with a certain number of affordable apartments.

The next general meeting we will invite someone from the development of the old Bywater Hospital and the Cruise Ship Terminal.

Anthony Eschmann,  
Secretary