

NFB Board Meeting 20 April 2016 at John & Beverly Andrews' house

Present: John Andrews, Beverly Andrews, Michael Owens, Rick Prince, Tyler Harwood, Brian Luckett, Julie Jones, Devin DeWulf, Mark Gonzalez, Rhonda Findley, Nancy Thacker

For the next Board Meeting, scheduled for May 4th, Tyler will confirm the possibility of meeting at his Print Shop.

Food & Beverage for next General Meeting will be provided by Michael.

Agenda for the next General Meeting will include the gentleman from Tulane Architecture, as well as the Inspector General. Both are to be confirmed though Julie. [José Madrid, from Tulane, has confirmed. The I.G. is still up in the air although I've tried. Julie]

Brian updated that the letter in support of Laurel True has been drafted. Plans are not to send the letter until the certificate process with the HDLC is further along - likely sometime in June. [The letter has been sent.]

Devin discussed plans/process for surveying young families in Bywater with a goal of making NFB more inclusive. Creating a sub-list for communication with this group to address concerns, as often new parents are unable to attend meeting was explored, along with positives. This approach to growing our organization is more reflective of the true nature of our neighborhood, challenges some of the images popularized currently, and increases the collaborative nature of NFB.

Brian, as Treasurer noted forms being completed and submitted for non-taxation of NFB. The state form was completed during the meeting, the federal form is done on line.

NFB was approached via email by residents on two issues:

Dancing Grounds and the difficulties experienced by a neighbor re: parking, noise, garbage and general disrespect. The manager of the business (noted in complain on our Facebook page) has been approached by this neighbor; it was not known if owner of the building, Gary Levine has been approached. Devin volunteered to do some early information gathering if there is some form of introduction or explanation given to parties prior to his contact. It was unclear how this would happen.

The Old Iron Works: 612 Piety Street has been steadily increasing its public events/private celebrations which is making life more difficult for near neighbors - especially on Louisa Street. Research via appropriate permits is needed, Nancy and Julie agreed to reach out to neighbors for a clarification meeting. [Since then, Julie and Brian have spoken to different people (Clare Cahalan and Ed Horan) in Safety and Permits. The owner, Gilbert Buras, has been cited for illegal use because he is not licensed for private parties (weddings and the like) although he has gotten permits for Special (Public) Events. An inspection was scheduled for 23 May, but the outcome has not yet been posted.]

Poshtel: Developers reformulating plan/marketing, promise another public meeting, not yet scheduled. City council meeting on May 19th is scheduled to address, letters continue to be encouraged. Details of the use of NFB for helping neighbors with legal funds explored. Rick made motion for John Andrews and Carolyn Leftwich to have the ability to act for NFB - John seconded the motion, all present supported motion. [Since then, the developers have scheduled Monday, May 9, as the date for their

presentation of the new design, but have not settled on a time/place as yet.]

Cruise Ship Terminal: Brian shared some of the very complicated issues surrounding this project - with focus on "Section 106" (a mandated environmental study when any federal funds are involved), an unissued or un-applied for permit for a demolition that has already happened and the lack of a fine for said demolition by the Port. No information is available on line, with even the standing, status of definition of The Port of New Orleans being in question. It was also noted that the whole city needs to be concerned about what is going on with this.

Again, the possibility of coordination with BNA was noted, with both organizations having same concerns re: the terminal.

Follow up from the Graffiti person from BNA has not happened as of yet, Devin still available to work with said person.

For next Board Meeting -

A re-visit to the state of the art of on line communications for NFB. Please bring in ideas and suggestions for what you would like to see posted - articles, links (which were noted to be more user friendly), alters, etc.

Nancy Thacker,
Co-Secretary