

NFB

NEIGHBORS FIRST FOR BYWATER

NFB Minutes for General Meeting Wednesday 9/7/16

The meeting was called to order.

Julie Jones apologized for the lack of email notification re meeting due to a major computer glitch. [We are now using MailChimp for email blasts and expect that will take care of the problem. Incidentally, such information is also posted on the website—nfbywater.org—the FB page and Nextdoor Bywater.]

Devin Dewulf spoke about a social media geared protest against whole house short-term rentals. The protest will be held on Tuesday, September 27th at 10am outside City Hall. The City Council will hold its hearing and vote at its regular meeting, Thursday, Oct.6.

The NFB position, reflecting the will of the membership as voiced in a recent poll, is to oppose whole-house rentals and insist that to get a license any owner must have a homestead exemption, showing she/he lives on the property. [Incidentally, information for contacting councilmembers was sent out to all members September 12 by MailChimp. That information will also be posted on our nfbywater.org and our Face Book page.]

While there is some funding for the project, we are open for donations, which are tax deductible (NFB is a 501c3 organization) and can be made personally or through our website. In the spirit of fair pay, artists who are making props and actors who will be taking time out from other jobs will be reimbursed. If there is funding beyond the protest at City Hall - a permit has already been obtained - then there will be a parade/march in the neighborhood(s). Organizations in other neighborhoods have been and are being asked to participate in the activities. We will keep you updated.

Jeff Goodman, an urban planner who is working with various cities across the county on the legal conundrum presented by the regulation of STR's, gave an in-depth and clear history of this issue with the latest attempts at how to maintain neighborhood culture where there is an influx of visitors. The different users and uses were explored, with particular focus on how to draft protections that are actually enforceable.

Mark Gonzalez then shared a VICTORY in the world of off leash-ism for Cabrini Park - there has been approval for an off-leash park there - after much work on the part of citizens. The area will have to be fenced and the fencing and other amenities paid for by private donations. There is a possibility that NORD will consider setting aside a similar area, under the same restrictions, in Markey Park. Ourh Our next General Meeting will be held, as usual, the first Wedneay of the month, in this case, October 5th, 7pm, Stallings Center.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy J. Thacker
Co-Secretary