

NFB

NEIGHBORS FIRST FOR BYWATER

Minutes for General Meeting held Wednesday, March 8, 2017 (postponed for a week due to Ash Wed)

Election of board members: Since the limit of board members is 12, and we had 12 candidates, the board was voted in by acclamation. The board members for this year are John Andrews, Anthony Eschmann, Rhonda Findley, Mark Gonzalez, Steven Haedicke, Tyler Harwood, Steven Jacob, Julie Jones, Brian Lockett, Michael Owings, Rick Prince and Nancy Thacker.

A presentation, with slides, was given by Iris Development, who plan to build apartment units on the 800 block of Montegut Street, upriver side. At present, they plan on 98-100 units, with retail on the Dauphine Street side of the building, and art studios on the first floor of the Montegut side. The units will be at least 15% affordable housing (which provides a density bonus). The building will be 55 feet at its highest point. Parking will be included in the rent, and there will be room for one car per apartment with a few additional spaces available. This building (between Montegut Street and the tracks) does not fall within the Historic District. They are not requesting any waivers. They are still adjusting plans and are trying to figure out how to provide a parking exit on Burgundy Street (in addition to the entrance on Dauphine Street) to make traffic move more smoothly. The presenters made an earlier presentation to the near neighbors and have since incorporated some of the neighbors' concerns within the development. Although this number of units will have a big impact on the neighborhood, the developers seem to be making a good-faith effort to work with the neighborhood to reduce the effect of the development. The build will take about 15 months. They hope to start in the summer, but the start date will depend on their lining up the financing.

There were a number of questions after the presentation, and the meeting adjourned at 8:20.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Jones (President)