

NFB Board Meeting, at Steven Jacob's house, May 17, 2017
Meeting called to order 7:19

Lengthy discussion about how to best use the organization in having candidates present to and include Bywater regarding the upcoming elections. The pros and cons of meeting with possible candidates as individuals or as a neighborhood group, as well as the notion that candidates need to understand that more than one view needs to be represented on issues was all explored. All candidates will be extended an invitation - with the time line noted of: Fall municipal elections, qualifying dates for July 12, 13 and 14 for the October 14th elections.

The joint issues of the Corp of Engineers 13-year Lock Expansion Plan, along with the Cruise Ship Terminal were noted as multi-neighborhood issues under the auspices of Federal Representatives and of the Port. Funding for the Lock Expansion goes through Congress. It was noted that a multi-group committee that Brain sits on is talking about the Lock Expansion, along with the BNA, Bunny Friend, FMIA etc. a motion was made (by Rick) and unanimously supported to continue this coordinated effort with other organizations, as a joint issues committee. An invitation to Representative Cedric Richmond from this committee to discuss this project was also discussed, with a request for an extension of the comment period for said Lock Expansion.

Next General Meeting: June 7th. Michael will bring food, with Tyler as a back up if he is out of town. Rick will try to get a city official to speak about enforcement for STRs [Since our meeting, someone from the City has agreed to do so.] It continues to look like monies for STR licenses are going into the general fund, not towards enforcement of STR regulations.

August was identified as a good month for inviting Mayoral hopefuls, September possibly for District C.

July General Meeting: a motion for that to be a Summer Social was unanimously supported, and it was agreed that the meeting should be moved to July 12 because of the July 4th holiday. Details TBA (fun game afoot!)

Brian told us that this Tuesday there will be an event at Vaughn's (7pm) put on by Skip Henderson re: traffic planning in Bywater. All invited.

Riverfront Overlay: Julie, Anthony and Brian attended the CPC Meeting to hear the city planning study on the riverfront overlay, along with some of our membrs. We pressed for a deferral of any decision, as did the FMIA and the BNA. It seems the staff planners have scrapped the idea that increased size would come as a bonus for providing certain, rather nebulous, community benefits and providing some a small percentage of affordable units. Now they just want to give away the 75 foot height and the greater FAR (Floor Area Ratio, an increase in floor area over base). The requests for a deferral were granted. Now the new deadline for written comments is June 9th. We will submit a letter of opposition, arguing that the base height remain and FAR remain as they are and that all variance requests go through the normal process with community input (a percentage of affordable units is already on the books). A motion to write this letter was put forth and seconded and again passed unanimously. Brian agreed to do so, and he also agreed to provide some bullet points for our members to use in their own letters.

Iris Development: They had another meeting with the near neighbors. They have changed the plan slightly to have balconies stepped back from the edge a bit, but the structure will still loom over neighbors' yards and will have an impact on their privacy. As they are not asking for variances, the neighbors are powerless to stop this unwelcome intrusion into their homes. A public letter of disappointment with these choices and their impact on the over-all community may be an option, along with a petition re same. ??? DIDN'T THEY ALSO CHANGE THE INGRESS into AND EGRESS from their parking area??????

Move to adjourn, seconded and done.

Respectfully Submitted
Nancy Thacker
Co-Secretary