

## **11-2- 2022 FMIA Board Meeting 7 PM**

**Members Present:** *Allen Johnson, Jeffrey Seymour, Lisa Faatland, Kip Hollar, Bobby Moffit, Dr. Maurice Sholas, Mark Malous, Phillipe Lege*

**Place: Latter & Blum, 912 Elysian Fields**

### **1. President's Report - Allen Johnson**

Feeding the police - Nonna's fed 25 officers. When feeding the cops in the future, Allen would like to include other small business besides Nonno's to provide meals.

Allen needs a topic for the next meeting as he needs fresh ideas

Mimmi's has no money to open, so the project is not going forward. Mimmi's received double conditional uses. The bar is being sold with the double conditionals. However, if the space is not used for one year, the conditional use is lost.

Trash pick up with IV Waste starts this Monday. If you don't have a recycle bin, go to 311 and request the blue bin or stickers for old can. The Marigny Triangle pick up will be Thursday, the Rectangle on Friday for both trash and recycle.

Sanitation for city - Matt Tory is passionate about garbage. For large items like sofas, we can call or write 311 but writing is better to have a written record.

A great deal of money is being provided for code enforcement and blight - If there are code enforcement or blight issues, we should call this in.

Home tour - the last one was in the rectangle and already planned, but was cancelled due to Covid. We should reach out to Lisa Suarez.

### **2. Treasurer's Report - Phillipe Lege**

We received a \$250 check from Hancock Whitney for the Night Against Crime.

Phillipe will provide a new budget for the next year basing it on the previous year. Allen can be on the committee.

We currently have about \$52,734.26

The treasurer's report was approved unanimously.

### **3. Committees - Kip Hollar**

Allen sent Kip the previous committee assignments. We have ten standing committees:

5th and 8th district liaison committees to the police.

-5th District Chair - Leslie Seymour. Leslie may need to reach out to Leonora Chong to be a committee member again. Kip is on the committee.

-8th District Chair - Allen Johnson. On the committee are Lisa Faatland, Bobby Moffit, and Jason Paterson. Kip will reach out to Brock Andersen to see if he wants to be on the committee.

*Blight and Code Enforcement* - currently no chair. The unhoused population could come under Code Enforcement and Blight as there seems to be more overlap with this committee rather than Quality of Life. Kip and Allen are on the committee. Allen will reach out to Emily Davenport as well as Sunny for this committee.

*Communications and e-blast (was newsletter) chair* - Mark Malous. Allen will help Mark get started. Ryan Harms, a new member, could be asked to join the committee and run the website.

*Finance Chair* - Phillip Lege. Jeffery will help if needed.

*Land Use Chair* - Jeffrey Seymour. Rick Fifield and Allen are on the committee. Doc will be happy to help as it overlaps with Infrastructure.

*Infrastructure Chair* - Doc is on on this committee. It combines well as he is on the Sewage and Water Board. S&W includes telephone poles, communication devices, street construction works, when public works block a street, and dare I include street tiles?

*Marigny Green Chair* - Deborah Oppenheim.

*Membership Chair* - Robert Sonnier. Leslie Seymour, Deborah O., Gary de Leaumont, and Kip are on the committee.

*Short Term Rental Enforcement Chair* - Margaret Walker. Committee members are Nora Natale, Allen and Kip. Nora does fantastic research on people claiming homestead exemptions on a property when they actually live somewhere else.

*Washington Square Park Chair* - Guy DeLamouth. Committee members are Bobby and Kip. Perhaps Parks and Parkways could be added to Washington Square which is also part of Parks and Parkways. Guy will need to be consulted. Parks and Parkways reached out to FMIA to do plantings in two triangular patches one of which is Burgundy and Franklin. Allen and Doc did the plantings, and Doc will volunteer to do more plantings as needed.

*Quality of Life Chair* - no one yet. Kip and Allen will get it started. We need to have the right person/s for this position who who would manage the issues with Erika Delarge at the

City Attorney's Office. We don't want her bombarded with a slew of emails from the neighbours. We need to stay on point and try to bring the bars into compliance.

We could ask John Searles to be the point person for the John Bar and be on the committee. Allen will speak with John.

Mark Lewis came to the Board meeting and laid out what's happening with Iggy's. We could ask Mark Lewis to be the point person for Iggy's. Note: Most of the neighbours around Iggy's moved during Covid; Mark bought during Covid. As per Mark, the situation at Iggy's has gotten aggressively worse (recent armed robbery), and there are only a few people to support him. Allen has a folder on Iggy's from when a petition was filed and what Iggy's had to do to comply. Allen will copy the Iggy's file which includes the history and what was done: letters, proof with videos, photos, etc and give to Mark.

Other ideas used with the John: a text chain of neighbours, encourage them to contact ABO, ATC in mass when something occurs, call 911, write 311 so as to have a record

Adding to the above, establish a time line (Google Drive) of what happened. Make the nuisance events trackable with proof to send to Erika DeLarge. The time line should easily be able add events with dates and proof. We also need to keep sending emails to city council re the nuisance bars,

What we don't want is for the nuisance problems with Iggy's and the John to bounce back and forth. They need to be tackled together.

As per Allen: Neighbors - you have a problem with Nuisance A, here's what we know from FMIA and how you should go about the process with the nuisance. Allen has been asked to keep Winston in the loop.

#### **4. Meet the Neighbors - Lisa Faatland**

Pep's Pub will host on November 9, from 6-7:30 pm

Peter & Paul Hotel will host the December 11, Carolling from 6-7:30 pm . Lisa will ask Who Dat to provide refreshments, and also ask Mags for beverage

FMIA Christmas decorations, music sheets, and long table tops are held in St. Paul's storage facility by the church .

The Art Bar (the old Gene's) on St Claude was a suggestion for a future Meet the Neighbours

#### **5. Land Use - Jeffrey Seymour**

*502 Frenchmen* - Allen Johnson

King did not have enough votes for the appeal of adding a roof top, penthouse and terrace. Council members were bombarded with emails re this appeal, and the Council got the message. This issue has been diverted to November 17. An e-blast will be sent out. 502

has received two conditional uses: conditional use for a hotel and conditional use for commercial as its over X square footage. According to the permit, the steel being used on the exterior is for shoring, not for the penthouse.

As an aside, the writer Stephanie Reigel is interested in writing about blight.

*2121 Chartres* - Jeffrey Seymour

They want to get full City Council approval. They received a conditional use from the HDLC for the hotel as it is over 10,000 sf. In addition to that, the CVC gave them a parking waiver for 38 parking spots. The sponsor maintains that they have a parking contract with the group across the street, but that's doubtful. Bobby asked:

1. Is it possible to get a registry of how many projects are counting on the same parking lot.
2. There's about 5 to 6 hotels that he knows of that are asking for parking waivers in a three block radius. How many parking waivers have been given away in a three block radius? Jeffrey will make a list of all the parking waivers that have been given to date.
3. This could be the "Call to Arms" for neighbors being pushed out for STR's, hotels, hotel parking. It's the over tourism of our neighborhood. Could we put in a text amendment like the CBD did which has declared a moratorium on hotels.
4. Mark created FMIA on Next Door.com, and he can post a poll. He needs someone to phrase the question, give the options, and he will post it. There's over 2,000 members just in Marigny. People will vote and comment.
5. The membership committee is working on a mailing to all the membership and (1) it's a membership drive (2) and also a poll survey, though the details have not been worked out.

*440 Bourbon* (at St. Louis) - Fat Catz Bar— Allen Johnson

VCPOA is asking for our support as they gave us support for 502 Frenchmen. Fat Catz Bar wants to add a gallery to this building. It was moved & approved unanimously to write a letter in support VCPOA.

STR - The original motion was to only deal with the appellate court decision which referred to STR's. Both commercial and residential licenses have been put together. Also talked about were density limitations, whether or not certain neighborhoods should have complete bans. The motion that came out is dealing with the entire STR, commercial, and Bed and Breakfast properties. Current rule for bed and breakfast is one per block face.

IZD (Interim Zoning District) - basically a freeze was called for issuing STR licenses.

## **6. Homeless - Allen Johnson**

The wharf encampment at Crescent City Park has expanded; there's a village down there. The elevator doesn't work. Copper wiring cut off professionally. When the river rises, the village will disappear, and the homeless will be displaced.

Officer Guttredge has offered to take us on tour of the "wharf village" and the problems they are running into. The people are not interested in living in regular housing. They prefer living rough. The membership is complaining about the homeless/travellers, and it will get worse. Winston wants us to do a camping ordinance. The general consensus was no.

## **8. Future Meeting Time - Mark Malouse**

Neighbours First for Bywater meets on the first Wednesday. Mark requested if possible to move our Board Meeting to another day so that he can attend Neighbours First. It was agreed unanimously to move the meeting to the first Thursday of each month.

Meeting Ended: 9:10 pm