

FMIA Board Meeting
Thursday, September 7, 2023, 7:00 pm
Location: 2817 Burgundy, New Orleans, LA 70117

Members Present:

Maurice Sholas
Gary de Leaumont
Philip Lege
Mark Malous
Bobby Moffitt
Jeffrey Seymore

Members Absent:

Kipp Hollar
Lisa Faatland

Meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm and a quorum was established.

Presidential Report

- I. This is the last meeting of the current Board. Board elections will be held at the September 2023 FMIA general meeting. There have been no nominations from the floor so the slate of officers has been constructed and will be ratified at the September FMIA general meeting.
- II. The new FMIA President is elected by the reconstituted FMIA Board at the October 2023 Board Meeting. It is hoped that the old and the new Board members will attend for a “warm handoff” of organizational leadership.
- III. An update on the neighborhood issues with “The John” was provided. Affidavits have been collected from the neighbors and submitted to the City Attorney.
- IV. There is a code enforcement meeting about 742 Franklin on 9/21/2023.
- V. Code enforcement action on 2114 Decatur has been suspended temporarily to allow time to complete lot cleaning and reinforcement of the balcony.
- VI. The project at 502 Frenchman has some structural challenges as they are seeking to connect the roof lines of adjacent structures and stay in compliance. Updates pending.
- VII. The proposed hotel at 2118 N Rampart is zoned HMC2 and is less than 10,000 square feet in total. As such, it fits a loophole in the statute that allows individual parcels to be condensed into a single project and certified as a hotel. We are monitoring that and its implications.
- VIII. The proposed hotel at 621 Elysian Fields was sent to the HDLC architectural review committee in June 2023. They balked at the 84,000 square feet and how it abuts the residential properties nearby. The plans were re-submitted 9/5/2023 and decrease the mass of the building on the Chartres and Royal sides. But the height on Elysian Fields increased 20 feet and the total project size increased to 94,000 square feet. It is not anticipated the multiple waivers required to complete this project will be granted.

Treasurers Report

- I. The bank account balance is \$54,850
- II. The bench purchased previously for \$2,800 will be delivered in October 2023. We have paid half of the cost of the bench in deposit, and the balance will be paid on delivery.
- III. The utility Box at Elysian Fields and Royal will be painted with art for \$800. The Board unanimously voted that the theme or the art should be parades and krewes centered or housed in the Marigny. Examples include Krewe du Vieux, Boehme, and the Chewbacchus.
- IV. The administration of St Paul's Lutheran Church has asked that groups meeting there pay \$100 per meeting. Even if we continue to meet there for our FMIA General membership meetings, we will have to find another space to store things for the meeting like cups and organizational belongings like the Christmas décor. As we explore those options, the Board is planning to see if Hotel Peter and Paul can be a potential meeting site as well. Gary and Philip have been leading these efforts.
- V. There are two neighborhood enrichment grants receiving applications. One is due 9/9/2023 and the other is due 9/15/2023. We do not have viable ideas to submit at this time, but plan to be ready for the 2024 cycle.

Committee Reports - none

Old Business

- I. The website has been maintained gratis by neighbor and volunteer Ryan. Mark Malous provided the information for the latest update.
- II. The next meet the neighbors is scheduled for September 13, 2023 at Doerr Furniture, 914 Elysian Fields from 6:00 pm – 7:30 pm.

Adjournment – 8:00 pm

Submitted Respectfully,
Maurice G. Sholas, MD, PhD
Board Member