



Les Amis de Marigny

Helping to make the Marigny a better place to live, work and play

2010 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

FEBRUARY

Board Meeting • February 3
7:00 PM • Location TBA

General Meeting • February 22
6:30 Potluck • 7:15 Meeting
St. Paul's Lutheran Church

MARCH

Board Meeting • March 3
7:00 PM • Location TBA

General Meeting • March 15
6:30 Potluck • 7:15 Meeting
St. Paul's Lutheran Church

APRIL

Board Meeting • April 7
7:00 PM • Location TBA

General Meeting • April 19
6:30 Potluck • 7:15 Meeting
St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Meet the Neighbors

2nd TUESDAY • 6:30 - 8:30 PM
See Website for location

NONPAC MEETINGS

5TH District
2nd Wednesday • 7 PM
2372 St. Claude Avenue

8TH District
2nd Thursday • 5:30 PM
Maison Dupuy Hotel
1001 Toulouse

ST. CLAUDE AVENUE MAIN STREET MEETINGS

Call 616.7637

UPPER 9th WARD GREEN MARKET

Saturdays • 1 - 4 PM
Frederick Douglass High School
3820 St. Claude

PRESIDENT'S REPORT — Chris Costello

Happy New Year! Happy Carnival!

Krewe Du Vieux will kick off our Mardi Gras season with its satirical and highly irreverent parade that will roll through our neighborhood on January 30, 2010. Dr. John will reign as king with Mother Miriam Chamani of the Voodoo Spiritual Temple queen. A great time will be had by all. (See page 2 for more details and parade route.)

Big congratulations to Kellye Soto, our Caroling Queen, and Ken Caron for organizing another memorable caroling event for the neighborhood. Also, a big thank you to Reg Medellin who organized the Holiday Art Market and all those who helped make the day run smoothly. It was a wonderful time. I would also like to thank Roland and his staff from Marigny Brasserie for providing cookies and the refreshments for the event. He and his business are a great asset to our community. Please remember to return the favor and spend an evening dining at the Brasserie - or enjoying cocktails with friends. (more on page 2)

Washington Square Park, exclusively in our care since Katrina, is a jewel in our neighborhood and we all appreciate the green space. Thank you to all our trash monitors who clean the park and take out the garbage every week. We are again collecting donations for our Save Our Trees program to spray the trees this spring. The spraying is to fertilize them and rid them of the stinging buck moth caterpillars to keep them healthy. Please consider making a donation (now tax deductible!) to help us keep our trees healthy and beautiful. We will also begin repairs to the fence and purchasing additional benches and trash receptacles. It will be a great year for our park. (More page 7)

For the waterfront park, we have been working diligently to gain protections for the neighborhood to offset the negative impact of the proposed entertainment venue, as well as guarantee the

— continued pg. 2, col. 1

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT - continued from page 1, column 2

park contains the recreation courts and playground equipment we were promised. We have sought the advice of experts with firsthand knowledge of running large-scale events to help us understand the impacts we will face. The agreement we have offered puts forth solutions that mitigate our concerns that are based on successful implementations not only in the city, but also throughout the country. I am confident that our elected leaders will want to make sure this project is a success, and part of that is making sure the neighborhood we have worked so hard to maintain is protected. (more on page 3)

The vote on the new Master Plan was postponed until January so that it could be updated based on public comments. This plan will be one of the most important documents post Katrina, as it will give guidelines to City Hall on how to develop our city. The revised plan is online at the city's website. I encourage everyone to take a look at what is proposed. (more on page 3)

I would like to thank all those who answered our call to pay their membership dues before January. It is a great help to the organization and frees up our time for other tasks. If you have not already done so, please take a moment to renew your dues. I would also like to ask each member to invite a neighbor to join the organization. We would like all residents and businesses, whether renters or owners, to be a part of our efforts. Together we can build the neighborhood we all want. (more on page 6)

The Main Street program is steadily making headway to bring back our commercial corridor, St Claude Avenue. In November they held the third annual Chalk It Up to St Claude event in conjunction with the Fringe Festival, to get people thinking about St. Claude as a place to shop. Thank you and congratulations to Eva, our official new Main Street manager for moving the program forward and to Kathy Connolly and the Good Children Carnival Club for bringing more awareness about the Main Street program. (more on page 4)

We have a great year ahead of us and will approach it with a renewed spirit and increased opportunity to do more good. I hope I can count on you to be a part of our endeavors to continue our charge to make the Marigny a great place to live, work, and play.



Krewe Du Vieux rolls Saturday, January 30, 2010. This year's theme is Krewe du Vieux's Fired Up which is in reference to the den fire and the all the excitement over the change in leadership.

The parade starts at 6:30 pm so get all your ducks lined up in a row early on Saturday especially if you are on the parade route as the Department of Public Works will be posting No Parking Signs to keep the route safe for revelers and Krewe members. Please be prepared to move your car off the parade route or it will be towed! Also, the parade will close some streets such as Elysian Fields off to traffic while the parade rolls.

This year Dr. John will reign as Krewe du Vieux's king with Mother Miriam Chamani of the Voodoo Spiritual Temple on N. Rampart St. as queen. They will escort the 17 sub krewes through our neighborhood and end up at Michalopoulos Studio (527 Elysian Fields Ave) for their ball. For those that want to be

The FMIA's 2009 Art Market & 25th Annual Candlelight Caroling

- Kelley Soto

Considering New Orleans took in almost 5 inches of rain the night before, our Holiday Seasonal event was still a success! The 2nd Annual Holiday Art Market got off to an early start Sunday morning. Washington Square soon filled up with local art, live holiday music, a trapeze performance by Christmas Elves, an amazing ice sculpted Reindeer, a children's tent that produced Christmas decorations, and much more! Papa Noel was sporting a brand new suit and a good time was had by all!

The Boys Town Louisiana joined us once again this year. Their part of the program began as the Art Market came to an end. We were most grateful for their contributions - especially the Christmas tree and the Menorah!

The children of Boys Town led us into the Caroling event. After the lighting of the tree they sang the first carol, "Joy to the World." Then, accompanied by the Phister Sisters, who have become a regular part of our Christmas event, we all lit up the neighborhood with not only candles, but also our Holiday Spirit and festive tunes!

A BIG thanks to Ken Caron, my caroling partner, and the coordinators - Gretchen Bomboy for setting up in the park, Reg Medellin for assembling the artists, Ron Petty for coordinating the volunteers, Chris Costello for the public relations, and to the neighbors who gave so generously of their time and hard work to make this year's event such a success! (Joan Guccione, Linda and Tom Belou, Maureen and Tom Steffek, Leigh and Jim Crawford and Eva Campos.) A special thanks to Bill Whiting who has never missed a Candlelight Caroling. Not only has he attended all 25, but he is always there each year to help decorate the park. He makes sure that everyone receives a program and a candle, and he even stays until the very end to help us clean up and get everything back into the kiosk. Bill, thank you!



in on the fun, tickets are \$30 and available from Krewe members, Louisiana Music Factory

(210 Decatur Street), Up in Smoke (4507 Magazine Street) and Miss Claudia's Vintage Clothing & Costumes (4204 Magazine Street). Doors open at 9 pm. Tickets are NOT available at the door. Music by The Lower 911 Band and Los Po-Boy-Citos, recipient of the Offbeat Best Emerging Artist award.

For more information visit www.kreweduvieux.org • Les Bons Temps Rouler!





NEW MASTER PLAN AND ZONING ORDINANCE UPDATE

NO MORE BLIGHT —

Join Us in Our Fight

The City Planning Commission (CPC) voted unanimously to delay consideration of the Master Plan until the January 26, 2010 meeting. Public comments received before the Oct. 28 deadline will be considered as amendments at the Jan. 12 CPC meeting. A reformatted and shortened version of the Master Plan has been posted to the project website at www.nolamasterplan.org. This version addresses formatting and reader-friendliness issues and contains few substantive changes. CPC will consider adoption on January 26, 2010.



— *Alexandre Vialou, Blight Committee*

In 2009, nine (9) properties have successfully been removed from our "Blight List." Several of these renovations have taken place without fines from Code Enforcement. We welcome these efforts and encourage all other property owners to do the same. There are still many properties in serious neglect in our neighborhood. We are in the process of contacting 10 additional homeowners whose properties have recently been added to our blight list. If no voluntary compliance is undertaken, we will continue to work with the City to issue citations. This is the first step in a process that can lead to adjudication.



DECEPTION ON THE RIVER?

— *Chris Costello*

As we have stated all along, we support the riverfront park. Our support has never been the issue, but some make misleading statements about it have led to confusion. The issues are:

1. The intensity of the use of the Mandeville Street Wharf and the associated impact caused by it (noise, trash, safety & security, lack of access. etc).
2. The lack of a park with ball courts and playground equipment that were promised to the community.
3. The lack of a business plan and operating budget for the park and its ongoing maintenance.

If the New Orleans Building Corporation would (1) return the recreational equipment to the plan and (2) if there was a business plan and operating budget that mitigated the concerns regarding the venue, which we brought up to them at the public meetings, we would not be at this juncture. It is remarkable that this development was put forth without these, the most basic elements for any project's success. It is the old way of doing business in New Orleans: build it and we will figure out the rest later. Great examples of this are Armstrong Park and the Piazza Di Italia, both of which fell into disrepair because of a lack of funding.

As a neighborhood we already have to bear the brunt of quality of life issues with the current slate of public events in our neighborhood and/or area. We are experts at knowing how our neighborhood is impacted and our concerns are based on our experience. All we are asking is to have them mitigated in a way that does not run down our neighborhood or its properties.

The fact remains that the city is unable to enforce its own laws and does not have the funds to provide the basic service functions necessary to keep the neighborhood clean and safe. The French Quarter neighborhood's quality of life is handled very differently from the rest of the city and thus has a different experience with trash and police protection. We do not have the same protections, and adding this venue without such protections would greatly diminish the quality of life in the Marigny.

What we have put forth in the agreement was based on expert advice and much of it comes from successful implementation in other parks and cities. We hope that our city leaders will look at the facts and work with us to protect our neighborhood. We encourage everyone to check out the latest agreement on our web site.

Our goals are simply to have the riverfront park we were promised, to put in protections so our neighborhood will not be negatively impacted by the venue, and to ensure the park will have the necessary funding to maintain and operate it.

Below are the results of previous adjudication and code enforcement hearings - as well as the upcoming hearings. It is important that we show a strong presence at these hearings. The Hearing Officers need to hear how these properties and the continued lack of their maintenance affect our neighborhood and our lives. You can find the latest information with respect to future-hearings directly at the Code Enforcement website: www.cityofno.com/Portals/CodeEnforcement/portal.aspx or you can also contact us at blight@faubourgmarigny.org.

If you know of a property that has visible damage and/or is vacant, please let us know so we may add them to the list. You can e-mail us at blight@faubourgmarigny.org with the address of the property, or call us at 888-321-0812 with the same information.

We all want to live in a safe and healthy neighborhood. We are asking these neighbors to help us in rebuilding our neighborhood and City by taking care of their property. Finally, much thanks to the efforts of Howard Allen and Eva Campos for cataloging and monitoring the progress of properties as they move through the process.

Status from Code Enforcement Hearings through 12/16

- 2900 Chartres St.: Guilty
- 2424-26 Dauphine St.: Guilty
- 2604-06 Dauphine St.: NOL PROS. Howard filed a new complaint.
- 2109-13 Decatur St.: Case Reset
- 1729 N. Rampart St.: Case Reset
- 1029 Port St.: NOL PROS.
- 2005 Royal St. : Guilty
- 1920-22 St. Claude St.: Guilty
- 2501 St. Claude St. : Case Reset to 02/24/10

Status of Demolition By Neglect through 12/16

- 1518 Pauger St.: Guilty of Demolition by Neglect

ST. CLAUDE AVENUE

MAIN STREET

Eva Campos, Manager



St. Claude Ave Main Street has been very active these past few months. Look at our progress!

Operation Clean Sweep has been working hard to keep St Claude graffiti free. The mural that was illegally painted on the side of Hank's Seafood was removed with 24 hours. Thank you to the owners for working with Operation Clean Sweep on this.

We have entered into a partnership with The Green Project and others to initiate a Reuse District in and around St Claude Avenue. If you have a business that sells or uses recycled material contact the office to be included.

Unfortunately we lost another business on St Claude Avenue. Scooter's closed in the middle of December. No official word on a new tenant. Fortunately we are slated to have a new restaurant at 2714 St Claude. The restaurant will have a bar and serve barbeque and soul food. No word yet on the name but we are working with owner Tracy Williams and will keep you posted.

Board member Ray Nussbaum is working on the history of St Claude Avenue. If anyone is available in helping with this interesting project or has information or pictures about the street from times past please contact the office.

St. Claude Ave Main Street has gained one more board member. Maurice Slaughter has property on St Claude in the Marigny (Main Street) and in the Bywater. He renovated those wonderful homes on Lesseps at the corner of Chartres. He also has a background in finance and is a great addition to St Claude Main Street.

We went to a planning meeting held at the RTA concerning the proposed streetcar line on St Claude. The issues discussed were the location of the stops, the design of the stops and the fact that the rails will be laid in the street. The stops are Colton, St Roch Market/Healing Center, Franklin Avenue, and close to Press St at the end of the line. The RTA and Manning Architects should hear if our spur is a go or not toward the end of January and they have promised neighborhood meetings. We will keep you posted of these meetings and ensure everyone's voice is heard.

We still need representatives for the Stay Local map being created for the St Claude area. We are recording all businesses in the area and deciding on which points of interest will be included on our map. If you are interested in having a say about what is included on this map please give us a call at the office - 444-8313, or contact us at eva@stclaudemainstreet.org.



Yours Truly in a Swamp

The First Christmas After

by

Leonard Earl Johnson

The bar on Saint Charles Avenue had tried all season to coax yuletide spirit from the Storm-weary City. Their effort was great, but the task was greater. It re-opened a few weeks ago and in time it will again be filled with song. But not this night. This night, December 17, 2005, streetcars are silent and military convoys comprise most all the traffic moving on the avenue or any other street in New Orleans.

All over The City, neither stop lights nor street lights work, and homes are splayed open like huge fish with their innards spilling out for the world to see. Occasionally a cascade of generator-powered Christmas lights pour over some brave heart's intact gallery. They cast faint light over a forest of refrigerators sitting along the curb, wrapped in industrial strength tape and the sweet smell of a Mafia funeral.

Inside the bar, sparkling blue snowflakes dangle from the rafters, along with toy, gray helicopters lifting little plastic refugees from little blue-tarped roofs. The bartender sports a red baseball cap with cotton around the rim. A silver bell dangles from its bill. A great effort, indeed, but the bell rings hollow and the bartender looks weary as some Papa Noel dashing up-and-down The River rescuing the hopeless with the promise of gifts not always delivered.

We have come to this bar to meet an old friend, who has just arrived aboard Amtrak's City of New Orleans from Chicago, that broad-shouldered city at the other end of the railroad track. He rode down on this train as a show of support for Arlo Guthrie, who made famous the late Chicago song-writer Steve Goodman's song, "Riding on The City of New Orleans." Guthrie was on board, too, with his "Arlo Guthrie and Friends" benefit tour for Louisiana musicians. The train stopped along the way giving fund-raiser concerts from Kankakee to New Orleans. Tonight we are making our donation and hearing him at Tipitina's.

When we open the French doors, we spot our old friend at the far end of the bar. He is over-dressed and over-served. He wears a camel hair topcoat, wool suit, silk shirt and tie. A fast-paced Chicago uniform in a Storm-slowed New Orleans parade -- a parade none too swift in the best of times. These are not the best of times.

A mural behind the back bar twinkles with tiny blue lights sprinkled over a snowy hillock of white deer nibbling mistletoe berries dotted among the evergreen trees. The mistletoe berries are represented by tiny red lights.

"Mistletoe's poison," our friend is telling the bartender, "and those berries should be white."

A beer representative from Saint Louis, Missouri, is also behind the bar. He is wearing a sport coat that looks to be made from Anheuser-Bush Beer labels. He is passing out free samples of Red Wolf Beer. My friend takes a free one and lifts it towards us. We move down the bar and accept the brew.

"Must be a Santa after all," our friend says loudly to the largely empty room.



From a green felt covered table, an elderly couple we often saw here before The Storm look up and smile. No one is dealing. His cards are laying face up. We tip our beer towards them. They are wearing evening clothes and his gold studs are set with diamonds that flash back at the mural. She is blond, well painted, and wearing a red sequined gown. She unzips the gentleman's tuxedo.

We nod and say in stage-whisper that she is an expensive date.

He laughs and says, "How better to spend my FEMA money." She laughs and slaps him playfully.

"Where is the vice squad," our friend asks in a real whisper, "protecting patrons from FEMA?"

"Or the Canal Street Brothel," we say.

He laughs. Our friend is in his cups and hanging his observations with dull Chicago bluntness. "Christmas in New Orleans is not like going over the river and through the woods to grandmother's house, is it?"

"It's a good system," we say, "it's the city that works."

"Cops protecting brothel patrons," our friend says, "and people in evening clothes entertaining themselves for free." We both look back at the couple and laugh. He mutters, "Maybe not free, but a lot less than the cops charge."

The beer rep hands us two more Red Wolfs. He wants to finish and leave. Our friend asks, "Shouldn't you call this stuff Red Riding Hood?" None of us are quite sure what he means by this, but we all laugh the laugh required of our station.

The beer distributor gives us two full six packs of Red Wolf and smiles, "Please, I gotta catch a plane back to Saint Louis."



The bartender says, "Let me put that on ice for you gentlemen."

We get up to go to the restroom as our Chicago friend yanks a hanging blue snowflake from its tether. He bellows at the bartender, "What fathead told you to hang blue snowflakes in this swamp-flooded city?"

The bartender is startled and blurts back, "The fatheads in Chicago who own this bar!" Of course he does not know he is talking to fathead number one.

The Saint Louis beer distributor smiles weakly and moves towards the French doors. Through the glass we see a waiting limousine with rental license plates. The man in the tuxedo falls from his chair. The woman in the red gown helps him to his feet and they stumble outside, balancing themselves by holding onto an article of each other's clothing. They lunge into the limo and motion for the Saint Louis beer man to join them. He shrugs and climbs in.

Coming out of the restroom, we drop a quarter in a slot machine. The last of our FEMA money whirls away. We don't care! It is Christmas and our friend is in town to wine and dine us for three fat days. We have known each other since our fabled Sixties college days in Carbondale, Illinois. He likes having, as he puts it, "A writer bum for a friend." We like having a rich one.

In a wastebasket beside the slot machines, we spot seven paper teddy bear tree ornaments. Each bear has the name of someone lost in Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. We pick up one and read the name, "Senegal Breaux," printed across the bear's stomach. Underneath is, "August 29, 2005." We gather the teddy bears and put them in our shirt pocket.

Back at the bar, we sip our beer in silence. The bartender is smarting from our friend's harsh words and punches up "Blue Bayou" on the jukebox. He pushes a remote-control button and one of the gray

helicopters opens its bomb bay and lets red-and-green glitter fall in our beers.

We stand to leave, and tell the bartender to keep the remaining Red Wolfs. Our friend gives him a one-hundred dollar bill and his business card. "Tell those fatheads in Chicago to go jump in Lake Michigan," he says. "New Orleans is in a swamp not a snowy wonderland."



Outside, our friend stares at the empty curb. "Where the hell's my driver!" he yells, throwing his arms in the air.

We say, "Forget it, let's walk."

He slips out of his topcoat and hands it to a bewildered Mexican man in dirty blue jeans and a T-shirt that reads: "FEMA, Find Every Mexican Available."

We walk beside mounds of rubble towards Tip's. Our friend accepts a paper teddy bear and holds it up to some ambient Christmas light. "Ah, Christ, what am I supposed to do about this?" Then he hands it to a passing pair of National Guardsmen.

"Let's distribute them like hand bills," he says.

It seems all those who are back are heading to Tipitina's, too. We start singing, "We three kings of Orient are . . ." When someone says, "Where is your other king?" We hand them the teddy bear named, "Senegal Breaux," and keep on our way.

"Bearing gifts we traveled so far . . ."

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New Orleans images, Coleen Perilloux Landry Coleen Perilloux Laundry's on-line Gallery

For more LEJ, visit www.lej.org

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DUES RENEWAL: Help Us Get A Leg Up On The New Year

— By *Chris Costello*

A new year is upon us! This means Mardi Gras is around the corner and it is time to renew your membership dues.

Dues are an important part of the organization in that they offset the cost for the newsletter and provide us with the working capital to put on the events we have throughout the year, as well as underwriting projects such as our Blight program.

We are always looking for ways to save money and time so that our limited resources can go further. One way is to have members pay their dues by January so we do not have to incur the expense of stamped return envelopes and extra newsletter postage. We are asking members to renew before January by one of two methods.

1. If you have no changes to your contact information that includes your telephone number and email address, simply cut out your mailing label and return it to us with your dues by one of the methods below.
2. If you have changes to your contact information which includes your telephone number and email address, simply cut out your mailing label, annotate your corrections/additions on the mailing label and return it to us with your dues by one of the methods below.
3. Renew online at www.faubourgmarigny.org

The 2010 dues rates are:
 Individual - \$15
 Individual Senior (65+) - \$5
 Household (2+ individuals) - \$20,
 Senior Household (2+ seniors) - \$10
 Business - \$25

You can mail your renewal to our post office box (listed below), drop it off in the mail slot at 535 Mandeville St, 2020 Burgundy St or bring it to a general meeting. (The next one is January 18, 2010). We appreciate your support.

FMIA • 535 Mandeville St • New Orleans LA 70117

Special Thanks to these Early Renewals

Brian Begue
 Michelle Benoit & Glen Pitre
 Mary Louise Benson
 Robert & Ann Bidwell
 Gretchen Bomboy
 Vick & Polly Brown
 Eva Campos & Tim Fitzgerald
 Angela & Russell Carl
 Ken Caron
 Gene Cizek & Lloyd Sensat
 Linnea Collins & Peter Carter
 Terrell Corley
 Mina Lea Crais
 Betty & Vohn De Cell

— cont'd. in col. 2

John Deveney & Chris Costello
 Thomas & Barbara Douglass
 Matt Easley
 Marie Erickson & George Cholewczynski
 Fanchon Properties & William Seewald
 Becky Flores
 Eddie Frick & Colleen Lindsey
 Victoria Froeba
 Joann Guidos & Lisa Thomas
 Simon & Shelly Gunning
 Steven Halpern
 Dan Harris & Diane Lease
 Lynn & Dan Hochradel
 Arden C. Kilgore & Maynard Garrett
 Paul G. Killgore
 Margaret Lang & Phyllis Scarsone
 David Lida
 Brenda Martin
 Reg Medellin & Ron Petty
 Ken Mentel
 James Michalopoulos
 Bill Nelson
 Joseph O'Sullivan
 Jason Peavy
 Charles Raymond
 Michael & Terri Rousey
 Pamela Pilaroschia
 Ray Ruiz & Kim Pedersen
 George Schaeffer
 Rachel Smith
 Samuel Spencer & Jenny Takakura
 Pat & Bob Stelz
 Casey Stuart
 Lisa Suarez & Dr. Bob - et al
 Miles Swanson & Adrienne Wheeler
 Jerry & Daphne Tassin
 Jimmie Washburn
 Michael Weinberger
 Gino & Vickie Williams

— as of 1.8.2010 —



— Colton School Renovation —

— *Chris Costello*

The Recovery School District (RSD) has tentatively scheduled another meeting to be held on January 19th at St Paul Lutheran School to report back on the progress to the plans and solicit more public input. We will keep you posted.

The school is being designed to house preschool through 8th grades; however, the actual grade levels, the operator of the school, whether public or charter, and the specifics on curriculum are not known at this time. The school is slated to open in the fall of 2011.

We will continue to monitor the progress and work with the RSD to incorporate the comments and suggestions provided at the meeting. If you would like to make a comment or suggestion please email us at info@faubourgmarigny.org.

Business in the Marigny

— Paula Higginson

In New Orleans, and particularly in the Marigny, coffee shops become a hub where residents can not only drink coffee, but grab snacks, use an ATM machine, mail off a letter, hold a meeting and stay “in the know” for what’s occurring in their neighborhood.

HALLOWED GROUNDS located on the corner of Mandeville St. and Burgundy St. is one of the “newest” businesses in the Marigny. It sits where Marigny Perks used to be and is the recent acquisition of former Perks’ barista Jason Simpson. While working on his Master’s at UNO, Jason was working part-time at the shop as a barista when then-owner Bob Patience approached him about buying the shop.

“Bob was ready to retire, and I happened to be in the right place at the right time,” said Jason. “I have never run a business before, so this is all a learning experience for me. What has impressed me most is the willingness of the shop’s neighbors, customers and staff to pitch in and make sure it works.”

All of the Perks’ staff still work at **HALLOWED GROUNDS** and the shop still maintains the same charm - while slowly Jason works to make some much-needed improvements. Recently, the shop has been painted, some new menu items have been added, the coffee has gotten appreciably better, and there are more good things on the horizon. The shop also showcases some work by local artists Johnel Logan and Craig Nero.

These new improvements did not come without some effort and growing pains. Learning to run a business as you go is no easy task and the two recent armed robberies did nothing to help. “I really didn’t want to discuss the robberies with the Times-Picayune,” says Jason, “I didn’t want people to be afraid to come to the many businesses in the Marigny because of my shop’s misfortune. Luckily, no one was injured and these incidents seemed to have caused everyone to look out for each other more in the neighborhood and stay on a first-name basis with each other. So something good has definitely come of it.”

If you haven’t had a chance to meet Jason and welcome him to the neighborhood, please stop in to do so. **HALLOWED GROUNDS** is open seven days a week from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Everything Old Is New Again
Marie's Bar St. Roch & Burgundy
 WATER PATROL BAR
 BEER PARLOR
 CIGARS - CIGARETTES - COGNAC
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PLUS - HOME MADE HOT TAMALES
NATHANS HOT DOGS - HOME MADE CHILE
AND DONG PHONG BAKERY MEAT PIES! YUM!

We Have 53 New Trees!!

— Speck Green

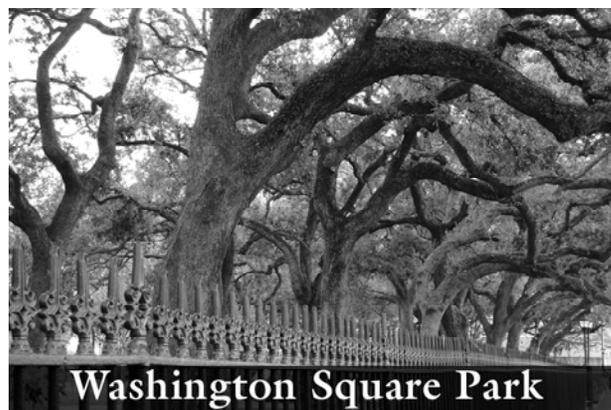
Our tree planting program, Marigny ReLeaf, was begun in September, 2008, as part of the neighborhood environmental initiative, Marigny Green. We have just had an active and successful Fall 2009 planting season! This past month we received 53 free trees from the Parkway Partners ReLeaf program. The new trees are tall and beautiful and include such species as Savannah Holly, Japanese Magnolia, Sweetbay Magnolia, Redbud, and Crepe Myrtle. This season’s plantings bring our total to 150 new trees planted in the neighborhood since Fall 2008.



Many people have contributed to the successes of our tree planting program. The Marigny ReLeaf organizers, Rebecca “Speck” Green and Raymond “Moose” Jackson, heartily thank all residents who have planted trees in our neighborhood over the years.

Marigny Green’s organizers, Deborah Oppenheim and Rick Fifield, have provided visionary leadership in forming a neighborhood environmental initiative of which ReLeaf is a part. We sincerely thank Parkway Partners for free trees, Bourg Lumber for discounted equipment rentals, and volunteers who recently helped pick up trees, including Rachel Smith, Raz Popescu, and Jamie Midgley.

May we all continue to Green the Marigny and celebrate our urban canopy!



Washington Square Park

— Robert Moffett

We have started! The FMIA has contracted with an iron works company to repair the gate at Frenchman and Dauphine. Recent rains have hampered our progress, but the repairs are in the works. It turned out to be much more complicated than anticipated. Many thanks to Gene Sizak for his engineering and architectural advise. In addition we are working on purchasing more benches and trash cans. Chris Costello is working on this with me, so you may look forward to a much improved park. If you would like to help, or have any suggestions, please contact me rkmoffett2003@yahoo.com.

Orchids & ONIONS

Orchids



Thanks to Volunteers for the Walking Tour, and Chairperson, Reg Medellin



Thanks to Gene Cizek, Lloyd Sensat, and Bill Hyland for the Walking Tour information and route.



Thanks to Gretchen Bomboy, coordinator of the site preparation and her committee.



Thanks to Marigny Green for having a recycled event and "green" informational area.



Thanks to Eva Campos for the preparation of the Walking Tour book, Art Market and sales.



Thanks to Chris Costello for his contribution to public relations.

ONIONS

To owners who do not remove graffiti on their property.



To people who do not pick up their trash in Washington Square Park.



By Donna Wakeman

LA PENICHE

1940 Dauphine St.
Faubourg Marigny
943-1460

My nephew, home for the holidays, came to New Orleans for the Saints game on Saturday (boo hoo) and for some partying. Having been young once myself, and remembering what it was like to stay out late drinking, I suggested La Peniche for a hearty Sunday brunch.

The décor is perfectly 'comfortable neighborhood restaurant' with a New Orleans touch. The clientele runs the gamut from children to grandmothers, locals to tourists, college kids to retirees. As usual, the place was packed. While we arrived around 11:00, most of the breakfast specials were sold out. From the menu, my nephew chose sausage gravy (good) with biscuits (dry), and waffles (very good). I had two eggs over easy (cooked perfectly) on cheesy grits (disappointing as it was just grits with grated cheese on top) and crisp bacon (again cooked just as ordered). The prices were very reasonable, and the wait staff very attentive and personable. Overall, we rated it 'would come again'.

Reservations are not taken, but it might be advisable to call ahead to make sure they are open at the time you want to go. They do have a full bar so you may have a bloody mary with your brunch.

From My Sketchbook

This is the second in a series of drawings to show the rich architectural inventory of Faubourg Marigny. I will be featuring drawings from my sketchbook of Bernard de Marigny's historic neighborhood. Eventually, it will become a coloring book to teach children and adults, too, how "to read" a building by type and style and how to identify the components of a building. The houses illustrated will represent what I consider the best examples in Marigny. It is my hope that this will aid in a better understanding of architecture and foster a love for old buildings and demonstrate the importance of historic preservation.

— Lloyd Sensat, Sun Oak (in Faubourg Marigny), Dec 2009

THE SPANISH COLONIAL STYLE (1762-1802)

Spain gained control of Louisiana from France in 1762, therefore the rebuilding of New Orleans after the great fires of 1788 and 1794 was done by the Spanish. After the fire of 1788, the rebuilding followed the traditions already established by the French. But after the fire of 1794, the Spanish decided that their colonial building guidelines and laws must be put into use in order to fire proof the city. Rigid building laws requiring that tile and slate roofs be used on all buildings and that two story buildings be constructed either of brick or briquette entre poteaux (brick between post), usually covered by plaster or cypress weatherboards. Structures built with common walls must have brick parapets to keep fires from spreading. Cypress or any other flammable materials were not allowed for roofing. Many of these houses were initially built with flat tile roofs frequently used as sun decks and extra living space.

Terrace house at 1037 Esplanade

Faubourg Marigny, New Orleans, LA
By Eugene Cizek & Lloyd Sensat

As Ned Sublette stated in his book, *The World that Made New Orleans: Vera Cruz, Mexico; Havana, Cuba; Cartagena, Colombia; Lima, Peru* established the old colonial trading routes and New Orleans was the capitol of the Caribbean for this part of the world. Spain ruled Louisiana from the Spanish style Cabildo on Chartres St. in the Vieux Carre. Faubourg Marigny has one building in the Spanish colonial style, a rare terrace house. Though this house was built after the colonial Spanish period, it represents a style of building that was once very prevalent in New Orleans and can still be seen in great numbers in Havana and Carteghena. At the front and rear of the third floor is a flat terrace made of overlapping tiles. The mortar used in Latin America was usually of volcanic origin and had natural water proofing qualities while the sand used in New Orleans was usually river sand and did not have this quality. Over time the terraces often leaked and the terrace was filled in usually with the addition of dormers or narrow horizontal windows. The corner and terrace railing were terra-cotta half cylinders stacked in a triangular pattern held together with mortar and strengthened with plastered brick columns. The top of the railing was covered with plastered brick creating a distinctive style that was Spanish Creole at its best. Many one story Creole cottages had this same type of parapet wall with gently sloping flat terracotta tile roofs that provided a place to enjoy the sun, dry laundry and extend the size of the small, intimate courtyards at the ground level. Only one of these cottages remains intact

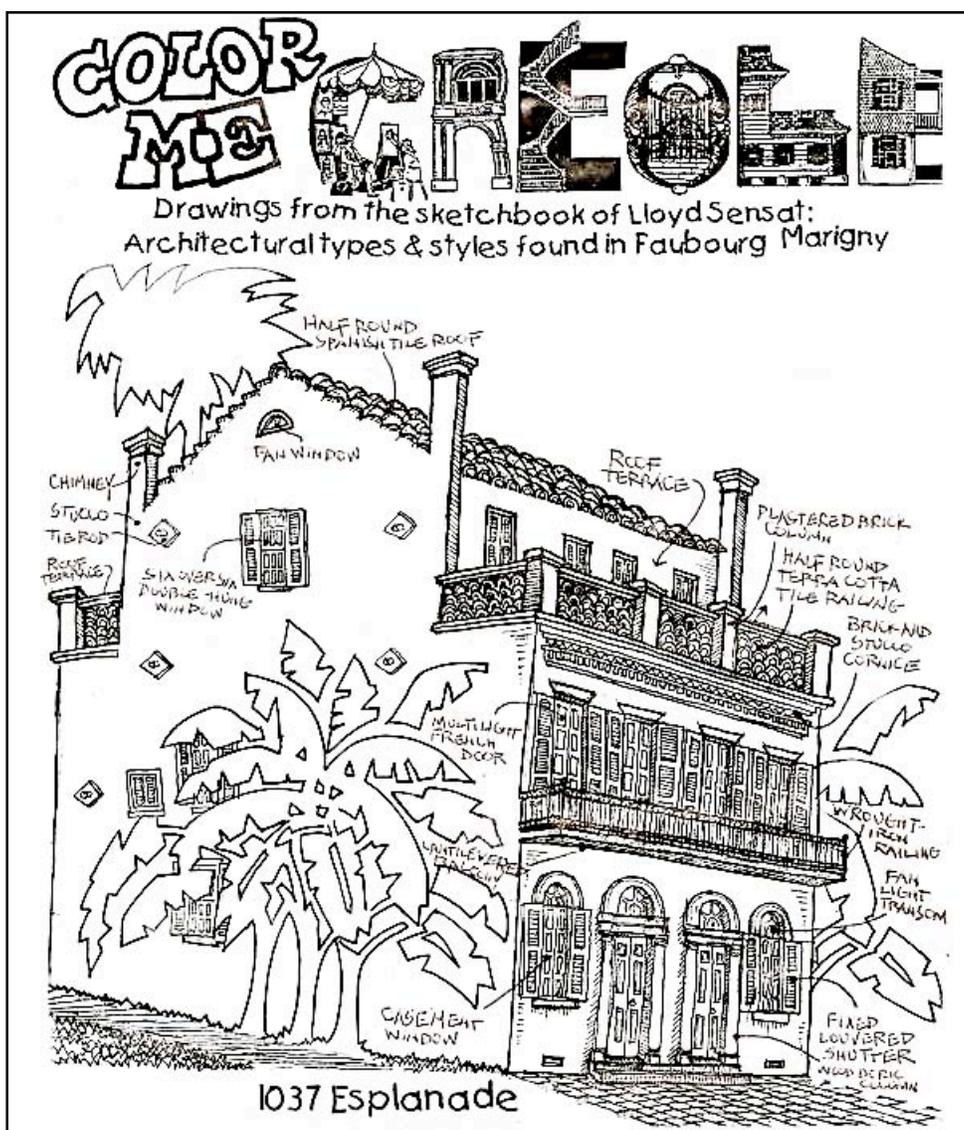
in New Orleans and can be seen on Dumaine Street between Bourbon and Royal Street in the Vieux Carre. Many other cottages have their terraces converted to steeply pitched roofs creating attic space and appear to be like the majority of the Creole cottages.

The lot where the house now stands was willed to Charles Kosselius by a native of Santo Domingo, free woman of color, Petronille Monsignac, alias Modeste Bordrier. In her will recorded by notary Carlile Pollock (Jan 1, 1832) she declared that she had never been married and had no children. She made Kosselius executor of the bulk of her property, including the creole cottage at 1029 Esplanade and another one at 1039 Esplanade (now demolished). Amid these confusing circumstances and unusual relationships, the building at 1037 Esplanade was built circa 1833-36. The three story structure was built as a double Creole town house with beautiful spiral stairways, perpendicular slave quarters and courtyards each having a cistern and separated by a wooden cypress fence.

After passing from the Kosselius estate, the house was owned by the Antoine Bienvenu family of St. Bernard parish. In the 1860's, it became part of the large holdings of Edouard Edmond Bermudez, the Creole Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Louisiana (April 5, 1880- April 5, 1882). He mentored Edward Douglas White, the only man from Louisiana to become Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States. Bermudez's primary residence was 732 Frenchmen Street, where he lived with his wife and 9 children. He died there in 1892 at age 60 and was buried in St. Louis # 3.

Over time, the house was transformed into a three story double Creole town house with dormers in the attic. By the 1900's, it had been completely mutilated with the ground floor fine entrances converted into a commercial facade. The interior had been subdivided into many small apartments. In the late 20th Century, 1037 Esplanade was restored by Dr. Bill Krajcirik and Ed Athay as a single family residence. Eugene Cizek was the restoration architect. The house was structurally sound but in much need of restoration to reveal its original Spanish colonial design. Today the house represents one of the rarest forms of Creole architecture in New Orleans and is one of the great architectural treasures of Faubourg Marigny.

Illustration below: after 1837 archival drawing by J.A. Guerard used in an advertisement for the estate of Charles Kosselius



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MEETINGS

FMIA General and Board Meetings are open to the public. Committees and committee meetings are also open to anyone who is interested.

BOARD MEETINGS are the 1st Wednesday of each month at 7:00 PM. Location TBA (see www.faubourgmarigny.org)

GENERAL MEETINGS are the 3rd Monday of each month and begin with a potluck at 6:30 PM at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 2624 Burgundy Street. The meeting starts at 7:15 PM. (There are NO general meetings in July and December.)

ADS AND ARTICLES

Ads and articles for the monthly newsletters are due by the Friday following the Board Meeting.

TO ADVERTISE IN THIS NEWSLETTER..

Member rates listed below are "per month" charges and dependent on the number of times you place an advertisement. Non-members pay an extra \$3 per month.

Size	3 - 10 Times/yr.	1 - 2 Times/yr.
Full Page	\$90	\$110
Half Page	\$45	\$55
Quarter Page	\$30	\$40
Back Quarter Page	\$45	\$55
Business Card	\$18	\$25

If we can be of any assistance with your ad, please send a request for info to the website at www.faubourgmarigny.org. We will handle your request as quickly as possible.



FMIA BOARD MEETING AGENDA December 2, 2009

Board members Present: Reg Medellin, Ron Petty, Eva Campos, Ken Caron, Gene Cizek, Gretchen Bomboy, Deborah Oppenheim, Chris Costello.

Board Members Absent: none

Guests: None

Call to Order: Chris called the meeting to order at 6:35pm

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. Meet the Neighbors Feelings on Dec 8th 30th anniversary 6:30 – 8:30
2. Community Issues

ADMINISTRATION

1. Approvals by email
 - a. Elysian Fleas use of the FMIA equipment – Yes
 - b. Accounts Payable Expenditures – Yes
2. **Approval of minutes** from 11/4 Board & 11/16 General meetings. We discussed the importance of protocol and deadlines for the newsletter. There is a three tier process for the recording secretary: 1st – typed as recorded and sent to the Board as an unedited draft; 2nd – recording secretary edits; and 3rd – minutes are sent to Board for corrections for the final minutes. The Board will vote on the final minutes. Chris moves that Deborah resend the minutes from November for Board editing by December 7th. Deborah will revised and resend for email approval. Second: Gretchen Vote: Unanimous
3. **Treasurer's Report:** Eva gave the report with ATM details, deposit details, profit and loss and membership's renewal. We are asking our memberships to renew early.
4. Committee Reports: Report must be provided if you want to be on the agenda.
 - a. **Caroling:** Ken reported that there were no expenses for the Holiday Market and Kid's area. We discussed donations and payment structure for entertainment. The budget request for the caroling has changed. Chris moved that we accept the revised budget Second: Gretchen Vote: Unanimous
 - b. **Newsletter:** Ron sent his report and there is no action needed. The previous editor had resigned. Ron would like to remind everyone that the Newsletter Committee had submitted a deadline schedule. There was trouble with the last newsletter. He wants to encourage everyone to respect the deadline. We are looking for writers. Chris said that there is a way it should work and there is reality. We need to be flexible. We do not have the option to say that it won't go out. At the next Board meeting, the Newsletter Committee will give their report.
 - c. **Orchids:** We thank all who made our caroling a memorable event; Caroling Queen Kellye Deel, Co-Chairperson Ken Caron, Gretchen Bomboy, Site Manager, Ron Petty, Volunteer Coordinator, Reg Medellin, Holiday Market Coordinator, Eva Campos, Holiday Market day event. We especially want to thank Sheriff Guzman for all the help with Washington Square Park.
Onions: Dog owners who do not pick, owners who do not remove the graffiti on their property.
 - d. **Marigny Green:** Marigny Green has partnered with Phoenix Recycling to provide recycle bins for our public events. We thank Phoenix Recycling for their commitment

and the importance of curbside recycling in greater New Orleans.

- e. **Marigny Green/ReLight:** Ron moves that Green Light New Orleans be invited to come to a meeting Second: Chris Discussion: Marigny Green/ReLight wants educational outreach for the neighborhood by inviting Green Light New Orleans to discuss the various types of energy efficient lights. Vote: Unanimous Chris moves that we asked Green Light to buy the bug CFLs Second Gretchen Vote: Unanimous. Logo exchange Chris moves that we list Green Light to the Marigny Green Page on our website Second Gretchen Discussion: This would be a logo exchange for FMIA and Green Light. Vote: Unanimous

OLD BUSINESS:

Projects

- a. **Reinventing the Crescent:** WE WANT A PARK ! Chris talked with Bob Becker of City Park and he said a venue generated funding is not a good idea and funding should be from "consistent and steady" revenue source. Resource sources must come from multiple places such as a millage. For example, City Park gets State funding plus gambling taxation funds which could be another possible revenue option. Chris discussed with VCPORA & FQC and BNA how to deal with the issues of enforcement, maintenance, quality of life, parking, and security. Chris has met with Ron Forman of Audubon Institute to discuss our issues.

CEA: Revised CEA: A review and discussion followed on issues FMIA expressed many times in prior meetings concerning frequency of venues, maintenance, noise, parking, and security. The Board discussed how to work with NOBC in general considering the absence of NOBC's business plan. FMIA's concern is not with the park but with the venue usage of the park and City/NOBC responsibility for such usage. The CEA is a realistic option that would assist the FMIA to legally deal with NOBC and any third party interests. Chris encouraged fine tuning the CEA thereby giving FMIA legal standing in case of non-compliance. The Zoning ordinance is coming up to City Council in January. However, FMIA feels that the CEA should be signed given reasonable revisions from FMIA. Discussion continued on various issues for CEA revisions to be submitted such as the formation of a Crescent Park Improvement Association to oversee management and maintenance of the Park, adding another entrance, and optional revenue sources for management and maintenance of the Park.

Chris is to submit revisions to Robert Rachal and the CEA will be forwarded to NOBC for review and comments and CC to City Council.

- b. **RDO for 2300 Chartres Street:** Carl Mack has rented 2300 Chartres Street. He wants to use it as a performance space and studio, in the building. This is not listed in the RDO. This would be a text amendment to the RDO. We know that there are some uses that need to be added such as the yoga studio. Gene Cizek, Chris Costello and Stephen Fowlkes identified other buildings that are more than 2000 sq. ft. Deborah moved that we create a committee to resolve the RDO issue to include new usages, identify properties and other recommendations. Second Reg. Discussion: We have formed a committee to work on the text amendment for the RDO to include Gretchen Gene, Deborah, and Chris. Vote: Unanimous



c. **Walgreens:** We are working to get the CEA. There are many issues that involved their previous negligence regarding the trees, poor drainage, broken gate and fence. We have discussed what Walgreens is required to do before proceeding with their expansion.

ISSUES

- a. **508 Frenchmen St:** Complaint that the music was too loud. Mike Powers said that the band was playing in the wrong area. According to the Frenchmen Street Overlay they are suppose to be a restaurant. We have been told that 536 Frenchmen St. is opening as a restaurant with a small plate menu. It is not a big space. A question was asked if they are using the upstairs as part of the commercial space. We were told that the upstairs will be residential which Chris will verify. We are also checking with HDLC about the issue with the dormer.
- b. **Marie's Bar:** We have received a complaint that Marie's Bar is having live music, karaoke, and keeping the doors open.

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1. **Projects**
 - a. Nominations for missing Board Member. The president is supposed to appoint Board Members if there is a vacancy. A suggestions on possible board members were given.
- 2. **Other**
 - b. Email list: A request for email membership list to be used for commercial use was discussed. Motion that the email list is only for FMIA and those who want access to FMIA's membership and email list could place an ad in the newsletter and/or insert a flier. Second Chris Vote Unanimous

Adjourned at 9:30 pm



**FMIA BOARD MEETING AGENDA
November 4, 2009**

Chris Costello, President called the Board Meeting to order at 6:38 PM.

Board members Present: Reg Medellin, Ron Petty, Eva Campos, Ken Caron, Gene Cizek, Gretchen Bomboy, Deborah Oppenheim
Board Members Absent: None

Guest: Jeff Treffinger, owners Julie and Jon Skjolaas, jkug@novonordisk.com 931-8160 2242-46 St. Claude and Marigny. The building was a nail salon. They would like to put in a boutique cinema like Movie Pictures in the building. The distributor is out of New York and has an agreement with a European distributor to download from the internet to show artsy films. They would have available about 20 a month. This is in the early stage of development but they are thinking about two viewing rooms (600 sq. ft.) of 40 people, which is 15 people per sq. ft. and have 5 showings a day.

Questions/Answers:

Q: Will the movies be staggered? A: Yes, they will be stag-

gered.

Q: Parking A: No requirement on parking in HM2 but probably would have to put in a handicap spot.

Q: What would you sell? A: Some food, pizza, candy, ice cream.

Q: Alcohol? A: Yes, would need this to make it work. We would like a full bar. Chris said that they would have to be restricted to their use.

Q: Would they have special events in the building? A: Julie said for private parties. She would like to do kids' parties. Art gallery showing once a month is an idea.

Q: Hours of operation? A: Julie said that she does not want it open after midnight.

Q: How many floors? A: It would only be one floor. They would use one address as the entrance. They said they will landscape and have lights. They see couches and chairs in the lobby. It would be a coffee crowd in the day and full bar. This area is like a cocktail lounge attached to a theater. They would have a concession stand, rest rooms, handicap area, and vending area. The industrial side is the viewing room – handicap area, vending areas. The corner of the building is where the lounge would be. The building is 3600 sq. ft.

Q: Music? A: No. They want a Cabaret License which allows the full bar.

Q: Smoking A: No smoking

Q: If you do not have parking, people won't come. A: The side street is Marigny that has parking and maybe use the Roberts parking lot. Maybe it is a reason to encourage a parking garage on St. Claude.

Q: Would you go into an agreement that they would not morph into a bar? A: Yes

Guest: Bobby Moffitt, Conflict of Interest Committee: Bobby is reviewing FMIA's conflict of interest policy. Chris said that as Board Members we cannot have a conflict of interest. It was suggested to start with the agendas from past to present. A question was asked about being a fiscal agent for other non-profit group. Bobby will check the requirements for being a fiscal agent, liability, and responsibilities.

Announcements:

- 1. Meet the Neighbors: TBA
- 2. Community Issues

ADMINISTRATION

- 1. Approvals by email
 - a. APA Award Certificates: yes
- 2. Approval of minutes from 9/2 & 10/7 Board & 10/19 General meetings. Deborah will send the minutes by email with corrections. Chris moved that we approve the General Meeting minutes for 10/19/09 Second: Reg Vote Unanimous

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

3. **Treasurer's Report:** Chris stated that we are so fortunate to have Eva as treasurer for her expertise with the software program. If money is involved, the treasurer should be involved. Eva counted every size, color, style of T-shirts. We discussed having an inventory of all merchandise purchased and sold. There was a discussion of ordering different styles of T-shirts such as tank tops, ladies style t-shirts and adding the top 10 best neighborhood in American 2009.

4. **Walking Tour:** We discussed the need to have a different counting system for tickets, brochures, merchandise, and volunteer tickets. The double entry system needs to match. Eva



suggested that for the Walking Tour, the tour guide would collect a slip from the attendees. She also suggested two cash boxes- merchandise and tickets. Eva said she will research and develop a policy.

5. Newsletter Committee: Ron Petty is Chairperson for the Committee. Ron has engaged volunteers to help with the Newsletter Committee. Chris said that he needs help writing the reports for the newsletter. He would like to have other people write articles. Ron thought a system that encourages reports from the chairperson or writer could work. The list of needed writers are Meet the Neighbors, Blight, Marigny Green, President's Report, Business Spotlight, Events, and Special Topics. Chris clarified that he would need to have all the articles before he writes the President's Report. Sam is the Newsletter Committee business manager. Eva and Sam will meet to work out protocol and responsibilities.

6. Caroling: Ken Caron is co-chairing this committee with the Caroling Queen, Kellye Soto. The caroling budget last year was \$1764.11 and \$500 was for the banners. Kellye and Ken are trying to get sponsors. At the Committee's last meeting their concerns were lightning in the park. Chris said Parks & Parkways got money to repair the lights but the two on Royal and Elysian Fields have electrical issues that still need to be fixed. Chris said he has climbed up in the tree to place lights for past events. They will add lights in the tents. Another issue is the sink hole near the playground equipment. The situation is getting worse plus the street drains on Dauphine Street are not working. Mary Cunningham with Councilperson Carter is aware of the problem. Decorations- have Christmas decorations for Washington Square Park – please contact Kellye or Ken or Gretchen, site manager. The committee has scheduled a meeting with Boys Town to discuss their participation. Another aspect of Caroling is food/beverages and contacts are being made with the local businesses. The Song Book is an essential part of the Caroling Event and they are looking for sponsors. The second Holiday Art Market from 10am – 4pm is being chaired by Reg. Ken and Kellye had an idea to ask the SPCA to have a display and possible holiday pictures with pet. The jingle of Papa Noel tells us that he is coming 12:00 – 4:00 pm. Ken wants to get the residents at the Christopher Inn involved. Chris is in charge of the press releases. Gretchen said that the tents are scheduled. Marigny Green will have recycle bins for the event. Elysian Fleas is working on performers. Ron, the Volunteer Coordinator is seeking volunteers for the event. The Committee is working on music and the Master of Ceremony. Chris moved that we accept the budget of \$1500 Second Gretchen Vote: Unanimous

7. Newsletter – Orchids: Volunteers for Walking Tour, Chairperson, Reg Medellin, Gene Cizek, Lloyd Sensat and Bill Hyland for the Walking Tour information and route, Gretchen Bomboy coordinator of site preparation and her committee, Marigny Green for having a recycled event and 'green' informational area, Preparation of Walking Tour book, Eva Campos, Art Market, and sales and Chris Costello for his contribution for public relations. Onions: Owners who do not remove the graffiti on their property, people who do not pick up their trash in Washington Square Park

8. Walking Tour: We had a good constructive discussion on ideas to improve the Walking Tour. 1) It is important for all tour guides to take the review session 2) Smaller area to focus on 3) The tour groups were too large 4) One building should be open 5) This is a multi facet event 6) Suggestion not to sell tickets in advance 7) Improved record keeping 8) Something to sell such as excerpts of tour with photos and text 9) Is the tour

priced correctly?

9. Marigny Green: Marigny Green will have recycle bins at all public events. Deborah is working on having the Marigny declared a 'green neighborhood'. A traffic study in the Marigny is needed. Marigny Green is researching how to proceed with this project. Ideas included UNO, Tulane, Gene's students and Marigny Green volunteers. Donations may be made to Marigny Green/FMIA Hike for KaTreena Tree fund. Deborah was asked to research recycling of batteries. There were two options 1) to pay a pound fee per type of battery or 2) to pay \$100 for 55 lbs included shipping. Motion made to fund this program for the next six months. Second Chris Discussion – Monitor this for two payment cycles and then re-evaluate. Gene said we need to do this as an education tool. We can make a sign for donations for recycling of batteries. Amendment to the motion: Monitor the program for two payment cycles and re-evaluate and pay \$100 for 55 lbs shipping included. Second: Reg Vote: Unanimous. Beth Stelson, Green Project has introduced the idea of the Reuse District to the downtown communities. We support their idea of the Reuse District. Metro Bicycle Coalition is working with YLC in placing new bike racks throughout the city. Donations can be made to YLC for a bike rack in your area or business. For more information on the bike racks contact mbc-nola.org.

OLD BUSINESS:

Projects:

a. **Reinventing the Crescent:** Cooperative Endeavor Agreement: We viewed the redline copy (deleted lines) and lines underlined is what was added. We have submitted our draft. Sean said he will give it to the city attorney. This will benefit all of us as a neighborhood. We are very consistent with our issues and concerns. We want to thank Chris, Robert, and Rick for all their work. It was suggested that we have a special meeting once we get another CEA from NOBC.

b. **Elysian Fleas:** Reese would like to have Elysian Fleas monthly. FMIA received complaints about parking. Chris will talk to Reese about following the city laws, talk to all neighbors, and have a parking strategy.

c. **Bike Taxi:** He is asking for support of a bike taxi. We discussed that this would be a great service. They would have to provide parking for employees, follow the laws, and travel streets that are not too narrow. This was brought at the General Meeting that they are not giving tours but offering a service. Chris moved that we support the bike taxi as long as they follow the traffic laws and secure off street parking for their employees. Second: Reg Vote: Unanimous

d. **Washington Square Park:** Bobby Moffitt has gotten bids for repairing the gate at Frenchmen/Dauphine Streets. The contractor, Ironworks Specialist gave a price of \$980 for restoring and welding. Gene looked at the foundation and felt it was ok. He recommended having the post secured and the braces re-welded. The gate post is loose and needs to be triangulated. Ron moved to spend up to \$1500 to fix the gate and re-weld the fence to the gate, and the foundation. Gretchen second Vote: Unanimous

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Projects

FQMAHD: Taxing District rebate from the State and pumped back to them. The State said no. They are trying to capitalize on the safety and security issue (crime). They did not want Marigny representation but wanted to include the



Frenchmen St. Overlay area. Chris has been FMIA's representative. FQMAHD did not to include the whole triangle and/or the entire Marigny. An email was sent to the Chairperson asking why is the Marigny/Frenchmen area so important to the Commission, any money raised in our area be kept in the Marigny, and we need more representation for the entire Marigny. He never responded. Motion: To exclude ourselves from FQMAHD Second: Gretchen Vote: Unanimous

2. **2242-46 St. Claude** - Theater Concept: We need to check on zoning and conditional use for liquor. We will give them conditional support of the project based on their oral presentation as the theater concept. We requested them to submit a business plan, we require an agreement that liquor license is only use for the theater and that they would not become a bar if the building was sold.

3. **Traffic Study** – talk with Bywater and coordinate

Meeting ended at 11:15pm.



FMIA GENERAL MEETING MINUTES November 16, 2009

Chris Costello opened the meeting at 7:15pm. He welcomed everyone to the meeting.

This is the last General Meeting for the year 2009. There is no General Meeting in December and we will see you January 18, 2010.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1) **Colton School K-8th**: The meeting has been cancelled and rescheduled for January.

2) **Meet the Neighbors** was at Café Bamboo. This is a great event to meet neighbors and talk about the neighborhood. The next Meet the Neighbors is December 7th at Feelings Café. Please join us at Feelings Café in celebrating their 35th year at Meet the Neighbors event.

3) **Thank you Gary** for selling FMIA's T-shirts, mugs, and CFLs. These items make wonderful gifts for the holidays.

4) **Dues renewal**: We are asking members to help us out by paying before we have to send a reminder. Dues follow the calendar year for 2010 and FMIA has options for paying the dues:

1) Give or send your check and cut label (add corrections) to FMIA 2) go on line at our website, fill out the form and charge it. We thank you for being a member of FMIA.

5) **Marigny Green**: Recycle, yes! FMIA's events are having recycle containers. Presently, materials that can be recycled are paper, plastic, and cans. Need a thoughtful ecological present for the holidays? Marigny Green/ReLight has CFLs bug lights available at the low cost of \$2.50. Stop by the merchandise tent at the Art Market/Caroling Sunday, December 13th and pick up information on Marigny Green. Interested in information on Marigny Green please contact deboraho@faubourgmarigny.org Happy Holiday Season

6) **Blight**: Blight is one of our focuses. Alex and Eva has been working with Howard on Blight. Howard documents, takes pictures of the properties, and Alex catalogues them on the computer. Howard said that there is a hearing on Thursday, November 19th. Don Riems' house next to MiMi is falling down but unfortunately the law follows a process which is long and drawn out. The city gives the owner time to ameliorate the blight. FMIA goes out of way to help owners get their property

back into commerce. There are 15 properties that have been fixed up since we started with this issue. There are complaints forms and please fill them out and check our website www.faubourgmarigny.org for more information.

7) **Caroling**: This is FMIA's 25th year (silver) Candlelight Caroling event on Sunday, December 13th at 6pm. Caroling Queen Kellye Deel is please to have Ken Caron Co-Chair the event. We are happy to have Boys Town join our celebration. They will have their ceremony before the caroling. It is the second annual Holiday Art Market. We are fortunate to have Reg as the Holiday Art Market Chairperson. Interested in helping with the caroling, art market, music, kids' area, please contact Ron, our volunteer Chairperson at volunteer@faubourgmarigny.org. Mark you calendar for November 28th noon-2pm for decorating and clean Washington Square Park. Sunday, November 29th is the rain date. Washington Square Park looks so beautiful and the season decorations add to the majestic quality of the live oaks. If you missed volunteering on November 28th, on December 12th, volunteers are needed 8:30 – noon to clean and tidy Washington Square Park. Please contact Ron, our Volunteer Chairperson at volunteer@faubourgmarigny.org.

8) **Charity Hospital**: Proponents of Charity content that Nagin exceeded his authority in the agreement by obligating the city to secure land, close streets and issue permits for the new hospital. They feel it is cost effective to rehab Charity Hospital. The state facilities have continued to work on land acquisition for a 200 bed VA hospital. Four plaintiffs content the planning process has bypassed necessary input from taxpayers, particularly the residents in the proposed footprint. Judge Julien will rule on their request.

9) **Volunteers**: Ron, FMIA's Volunteer Coordinator is looking for volunteers for the newsletter and caroling. Please contact Ron at volunteer@faubourgmarigny.org.

ISSUES:

1) **Master Plan**: City Commission has delayed it till Jan 26, 2010. Chris went to the last meeting. Chris applauds them for delaying the Master Plan to allow for input and corrections.

2) **Riverfront**: THIS IS A FACT – we all want a park. To understand the neighbors' discontentment is to understand our involved with the riverfront. Our neighborhood attended many charettes and meetings in 2003 and 2004 and endless meetings with Riverfront Vision 2005. Meetings continued because after the storm, New Orleans Building Corporation (NOBC) received \$30 million from block grant money for Reinventing the Crescent to have a linear park from the Mandeville Wharf to Poland Avenue (length has been changed). In 2008, Presentation 2 showed the riverfront park in the Marigny to have 2 basketball and 4 volleyball courts, 2 Bocce courts, and 3 grassy areas. Everyone was excited and in favor of this riverfront park. Since 2008, Reinventing the Crescent has eliminated all components of what makes a park - all courts and playground equipment has been removed. In the current presentation 10/14/09 there is only one basketball court under the shed. The Mandeville Wharf would be an entertainment venue. Please know that FMIA is working overtime to hear everyone concerns and suggestions. We are working with our attorney, Robert Rachal. FMIA wants a Community Endeavor Agreement (CEA) with the NOBC and the operator of the park. It is a legal way to address all the issues and to have recourse. The Riverfront Committee met with Councilperson-at-Large Jackie Clarkson and Councilperson James Carter who agreed with having the CEA. NOBC has come up with a CEA that benefited



them and did not include the concerns of the residents.

Our attorney said: The use of the Mandeville Wharf is slated to become a commercial venue. There is an access problem and only one entrance/exit in the Marigny at Esplanade. They do not have ample parking for the commercial venue which can hold up to 9,000 people. They do not have a business plan and an operating budget. We have to ask, what are we willing to live with?

Questions/Answers:

Q: Parking? A: They say there are '1000' parking spaces available in the Marigny which includes Elysian Fields, flood wall, neighborhood, and Bywater spaces. Onsite parking could work but has not been mentioned. Another idea is to have a residential parking plan.

Q: Residential parking? A: Residential parking could be written the way it works for the neighborhood. Another idea is to have a meter district and the money collected goes back into the district. Robert Rachal mentioned that residential parking and/or meter plan would have to have changed through the city and could take forever or not happens.

Q: Noise problems? A: We will hear the noise because of the location of the stage on the river.

Q: What kind of power does FMIA have? Why is the residents' responsibility to figure this out? A: We need to decide as a neighborhood what we are going to do. Chris mentioned that political people do not like bad publicity.

Q: Are the plans the same for the Bywater? A: They will have a park and not the entertainment venue. They signed the CEA before understanding the situation.

Q: What about developing a parking garage where the warehouses are? A: The warehouses are private.

Q: CBDG money is being used for Saengar, Mahalia Jackson, Armstrong Park, Municipal Auditorium and others and then it all will become a music/entertainment district. A: The zoning was changed to a park.

Q: Does the zoning get changed again for the venue and/or is there a venue zoning?

A: City Council voted on the motion to create the ordinance. The city attorney will come up with the ordinance. The City Council has to vote on that ordinance.

Q: Access points? A: At Esplanade, they can not have street level access according to the railroad and will have to build a ramp to get to the Mandeville Wharf and the river.

Q: This is like horse trading –noise, events etc. A: There is a big difference for 10 – 20 concerts and we have to hear the noise. The more concerts the bigger the issues. We want to keep the number to a minimal amount per month and have the venue give 10% to the community. We also want to have community events at the Mandeville Wharf.

Q: Police protection? A: We have not been given the information we have been asking for; their funding source for the park.

Q: Trash? They will generate a lot of trash A: Good point and it is another issue.

Q: What are the hours? A: It is supposed to be opened 24 hrs.

Q: Will they have food and alcohol beverages? A: We don't know because they have never given us a business plan. The contracts and concessions will be outsourced.

Q: Parking? A: Onsite parking is needed. They have no parking.

Q: What is in it for us? A: As they have outlined, not much. The park is for the community. The Mandeville Wharf is being designed to be a revolting door entertainment venue. It is a mystery how Marigny residents will have access to the park when there is a venue.

Q: Why can't they move the park forward and not the venue? A: We would like that.

Q: As a resident I want to see what is being proposed in FMIA's CEA. A: We will post what we are saying on our website.

Q: Could I write about the major issues to the Times Picayune? A: Certainly.

Q: Where was NOBC and could we have another Riverfront meeting like the one at NOCCA? A: NOBC backed out at the last minute and did not attend the public meeting in October.

Q: It seems that you have done your homework and thank you.

A: Stubbornness is good and taking it public is important.

Chris asked the group: Are we going in the right direction? 1) reduce the number of events 2) adequate parking 3) access point 4) security 5) trash 6) noise 7) playground equipment and sport area 8) appropriate hours of operation Please check FMIA website for more information www.faubourgmarigny.org

3) **Safety and Security:** Crime does come back. People band together and help each other. This works for awhile and then it stops. We need to decide as a neighborhood how we are going to handle the issue of crime. We have more crime now than before 5th District moved to St. Roch at St. Claude. We all want City Hall to work. We need to have a 50 year plan to make City Hall work. We can't wait till this happens and we need to do this ourselves. The idea is to police ourselves. Please think how to do this. What would work for us? Is it 1) Security district – many neighborhoods have them. This needs a steady funding source. 2) Riverfront park security? 3) Crime cameras? 4) Ed mentioned at the 5th District NOPAC meeting – a training course to deter crime – self defense. We are dedicating the January General meeting to crime prevention. **HOMEWORK:** Please bring your ideas for safety and security to the January 18, 2010 General Meeting.

4) **Esplanade and St. Claude:** The project is not in the Marigny. We worked with VCPOA and Treme on this. The project is mixed income 70% market rate and 30% other.

5) **Transients at Washington Sq. Park** are using the bathroom in the park. Please call the 8th district police immediately and try to disrupt them.

Guest Speaker: Beth Stelson, Marketing/ Outreach Coordinator for the Green Project The Green Project is a non-profit retail store which sells recycle building materials, paints, and recycle supplies. They offer Saturday workshops. The Green Project, Habitat for Humanity Restore, Rebuilding Together New Orleans, and St. Claude Avenue Main Street have the idea of a Reuse District to include Marigny, Bywater, St. Roch, St. Claude, 7th and 8th Ward. This idea is in its infancy. It would connect businesses and organizations that have reused materials. The District would increase the awareness, accessibility, and availability of reused materials to all of New Orleans. This creates a different paradigm. The Reuse District presented the idea at the Fringe Festival. We had a sign up sheet for interested people, businesses, and organizations. For more information, please contact Beth Stelson at communication@thegreenproject.org and/or 401-616-7637.

Door Prize: I am sure you noticed that Gary gave everyone a ticket for the door prize drawing – a beautiful croton plant. The winner was Deborah O.

The meeting ended at 8:50 pm.

General Meeting • Monday, January 18

NEXT GENERAL MEETING • Monday, February 22

DELIVER BY 1/15/10

PAY YOUR DUES

F.M.I.A. Membership Form

1. Membership Status: ___ New ___ Renewal

2. Membership Type:

___ Individual (I) - \$15.00 ___ Business - \$25.00

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3. Contact Information:

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

4. Willing to volunteer? ___ Yes ___ No

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