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Les Amis de Marigny

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

FLAP IN THE FAUBOURG

By Donna Wakeman

Some businesses in the Faubourg Marigny are complaining that the FMIA is out to get them. Quoted in various news media and outspoken at the last two FMIA general meetings, Nick Scramuzza from Lost Love Lounge and Benny Naghi of the Mardi Gras Zone expressed their concern about the FMIA's interest in their businesses.

The FMIA, whose membership includes residents, renters and businesses, has historically been involved in how and where businesses function in the neighborhood. In 2001, far-sighted leaders of the organization developed and had passed by the City Council the Residential Diversity Overlay (RDO), which allowed neighborhood compatible businesses to reoccupy corner buildings in the Marigny. This approach has been so successful in permitting businesses appropriate to a residential neighborhood that it has been copied in other neighborhoods such as Treme, while other neighborhoods such as Bywater are looking at adopting it.

The RDO allows for a variety of small businesses to open. The primary intent of the zoning is to provide for neighborhood businesses such as coffee houses, small grocery stores, laundromats and bakeries. Also greatly desired are doctors' offices, dry cleaners and pharmacies. In short, the thrust of the RDO is to attract the kinds of businesses that improve the quality of life in the Marigny.

"The RDO is a great tool to allow neighborhood friendly businesses to repopulate many of the vacant corner stores that coexist in our neighborhood," states president Chris Costello.

Benny Naghi, on the other hand, feels there is a disconnect between the FMIA and the needs of the neighborhood. He cited as an example his belief that 90% of the neighborhood doesn't know who is the president of the FMIA or who is on the board. This is despite the fact that all of these people are named in every issue of the FMIA newsletter, which can be picked up for free at any of the local coffee shops. Additionally, Benny gave the opinion that the views of some people are not listened to at FMIA meetings. He ended by saying, "I'm here to serve the neighborhood. We don't intentionally do anything to upset them." The building in which the Mardi Gras Zone is located is zoned residential, and thus is a non-conforming use.

Bill Walker and Geoff Douville of the Lost Love Lounge expressed some similar complaints about the FMIA. "I don't feel that the FMIA agenda is inclusive of citizens of the neighborhood," Bill said. They both said that they have

responded to every legitimate complaint, and don't feel as though they've received credit for the positive things they've done. They asked, "Where is the FMIA when we are accused, when are they going to stand up for us?"

Nick Scramuzza, the third partner of the Lost Love Lounge, accused the FMIA of filing anonymous, false complaints against the business at an FMIA general meeting. This accusation was repeated by Bill and Geoff, but they couldn't explain how they knew that the anonymous complaints came from the FMIA.

Some have also blamed the FMIA for the closing of the Iron Rail and Plan B, located at 511 Marigny St. Others blamed the NOPD, claiming retaliation for the brouhaha involving the Krewe of Eris during Mardi Gras. Chris Costello said he was "surprised to learn the businesses did not have proper permits to operate" and has offered assistance with the city. At the last general meeting Officer Alsina explained his actions in closing both businesses, citing the complaint came from Councilmember Jackie Clarkson's office. Julian Mutter, owner of 511 Marigny St., has recently filed to change the zoning on the building as part of his efforts to renovate the building which will include mostly apartments with some retail on the ground floor.

From the FMIA'S perspective, all of these issues boil down to the legality of a business and its operations and whether or not they are a good neighbor. Doing business without the proper permit or license is likely to draw the attention of the organization especially if the actions of the business are a nuisance to the surrounding neighbors.

Present live music (which under city code includes using a DJ) without the proper permit, leave doors open so sound reverberates down the street (in violation of sound level rules) or conduct business from the second floor of your business without the fire marshal's ok, and you're likely to hear from the FMIA. Chris Costello explains the FMIA has a policy for complaints which it follows so it may try to solve the problems before they reach the city. Communication is key in solving issues he explains. "Our approach to the neighborhood has been that we are reactive to complaints and proactive with projects."

Editor's note: The related 'Lost Love Lounge Complaint Log' on page 2 is a compilation of complaints received by the FMIA from members regarding the lounge. This log was compiled in response to a request from the owners of the Lost Love Lounge.



Lost Love Complaint Log

Date	Complaint
1/19/10	Notified of New Bar
3/20/10	Loitering 11:30 pm
3/21/10	Resident Spoke With Jeff about Loitering
4/4/10	Loitering 1:04 am
4/4/10	Resident Spoke with Bill about Loitering
4/11/10	Loitering 1:15 am
4/11/10	Door Open with Live Music
4/16/10	Loitering 9:11 pm. Resident Spoke with Nick about Loitering and bikes
4/18/10	Chris spoke with Geoff about issue/ Set Up Meeting
4/20/10	Meeting with business & residents @ LLL
5/9/10	Bicycle on Resident's Fence/Resident told business
5/16/10	Resident Spoke with Business about issues
5/20/10	Bicycle on Resident's Fence/Resident told business
6/24/10	Loitering/trumpet between 1:30 – 2:30 pm NOPD Called
7/11/10	Loitering 5:30 pm
7/24/10	Loitering 11:30 pm
7/24/10	Live Music 11:00 pm/Loitering/Resident Called Bar & Bill, finally went to bar/Residents request action
7/25/10	Loitering around midnight/Called Bar & Bill, Called Police/Residents Request Next Steps
7/27/10	Meeting with Residents to advise them of next steps
7/30/10	Loitering/Bikes on fence 11 pm
8/17/10	Costello spoke with business about issues
8/18/10	Loitering around 11 pm
9/4/10	Live Music 1:10 am
10/5/10	Loitering 10 pm
10/6/10	Resident spoke with Nick about issues/bike rack purchased
10/7/10	Door open, neighbor closed and Nick became irate screaming and yelling
10/30/10	Live Music 10:24 pm/Resident went to bar/ Texted Bill
12/4/10	Live Music 2:44 am
12/5/10	Meeting requested for next steps
12/10/10	Doors Open
12/11/10	Doors Open
12/13/10	Loitering 11:15 pm
1/7/11	Live Music until 2:30 am
1/8/11	Loitering about 11:17 pm
1/19/11	Meeting with Residents about next steps

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Classified Rates: \$5.00 per each 25 words.

All advertising must be received by the 15th of each month for publication in the next month's issue. For information regarding advertising, contact the business manager at ads@faubourgmarigny.org.

Classifieds Now Available

The newsletter is now accepting classified ads. Personals, however, are not being accepted. Contact ads@faubourgmarigny.org for prices.

About the Newsletter

Les Amis de Marigny is the newsletter of the Faubourg Marigny Improvement Association, a 501(c) non-profit, all-volunteer organization committed to the preservation of the unique architectural and cultural heritage of our historic district, and to improving the quality of life in our diverse community. Contents, editorials and opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect the official views of the FMIA, its Board or its members. The FMIA does not warrant the legality of any business advertised in its newsletter. Contents of *Les Amis de Marigny* are copyrighted. Permission to reprint any of the newsletter, including photographs and original artwork, must be obtained from the editor and/or byline columnist.

Manuscripts, photographs and articles dealing with topics of interest to the Marigny neighborhood are encouraged. The editor reserves the right to reject submissions including editorial and advertising content. Submissions must be received by the 7th of the month for inclusion in the next month's issue. Send contributions to: FMIA Newsletter, 2401 Burgundy St., Box 10, NOLA 70117 or editor@faubourgmarigny.org.

The newsletter is published each month except August and January. Back issues are available online at www.faubourgmarigny.org.

President's Report

By Chris Costello

The good times rolled this past Carnival. It was great to see everyone enjoying the season especially Mardi Gras. It is what makes New Orleans in part a great city. I am always in awe of the costumes and with them the abundance of creativity. And this year as the stars prescribed, St. Patrick's Day and its associated festivities were only four days later which was barely just enough time for my liver to recuperate. But I am not complaining.

I am happy to report that **5th District** has a new commander, Christopher D. Goodly. I would like to thank Major Bernadine Kelly for her service and the partnership she forged with our neighborhood. I look forward to working with the new commander and will invite him to come speak at a general meeting so we can forge another successful relationship.

The construction at **Colton School** is moving full steam ahead but it has not been without its ups and downs. Of concern are the issues with vibrations that may cause damage to surrounding buildings and the possibility of harmful contaminants in the dust that is being created and blown throughout the neighborhood. There was a meeting on the 31st of last month to address these issues and we are hopeful that they will be mitigated for the health and safety of the residents and our historic neighborhood.

Thank you to the owners and staff of the **Friendly Bar** for hosting another installment of **Meet the Neighbors**. It was a fun event and great to see so many new faces many of which were the bar regulars. It is at events like these that I am amazed by the diversity of our neighborhood and with it the unique perspectives. I was encouraged as well that despite our neighborhood growing we are not losing our identity; we are adding to it.

For those that attended the last **General Meeting** you witnessed Democracy in action: residents bring up issues followed by an open discussion for all to give their insights and perspectives. I strongly believe in discourse but when it becomes uncivil and personal it detracts from solving the problem and derails the democratic process by dissuading others from participating. Regardless of the poor judgment of a few, I look forward to continued dialog about the issues and concerns we face in the neighborhood. Working together we can solve any problem.

Our **Spring Home Tour** which will be on **May 15, 2011**. This year's theme is *Artists and Their Spaces*. A big thank you to Deborah Oppenheim and Csaba Lucas for organizing the homes and to the rest of the planning committee for putting the rest of the event together. We are still looking for volunteers the day of the event. If you would like to help volunteer please contact us.

Washington Square Park is our neighborhood living room. It is a place where we can relax or play. Over the last few months some who come into the park see it as their own and vandalize its contents or worse, use it as a bathroom. If

you see someone destroying the park or its contents please call the police. Our neighborhood is great because people care enough to stop people from destroying it but it takes all of us to make this happen. Please do your part.

We are always looking for **volunteers** to help out in ways big and small. If you have some time to help make out neighborhood better please get involved. There is so much more we can do but we have to put it aside because we do not have the man power. If you can help please contact me.

If you have not already **renewed your dues** please do so. For those have not paid, newsletter delivery will be disrupted. Last month we included a loose leaf membership form and self addressed stamped envelope to make things easier. Please take a moment to renew.

Spring has sprung although some days it feels like summer. We have a lot to look forward to in the coming months such as French Quarter Festival, Jazz Fest and our Home Tour to name a few. I look forward to seeing everyone out and about enjoying what we have created: a great place to live, work and place.

Food Co-op Update

The New Orleans Food Co-op is now up to 1,064 member-owners and \$93,500 in member-equity. While this is great progress they still need to raise \$31,500 in equity and 336 more members by April 17.

To meet this goal, they are launching "**Join Your Co-op Week**" on Monday, April 11 through Sunday, April 17. This will be their final push to reach our goal of 1,400 member-owners, without which they will not be able to secure the financing to open in May.

The promotional week will be capped off with free food, music and fun at the **Healing Center Community BBQ** to be held Sunday, April 17 from 2 - 6 pm. Interested parties may become member-owners online at www.nolafoodcoop.org/join or may join at the BBQ.



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NO MORE BLIGHT

By Alexandre Vialou

Have you noticed what's on the vacant lot at the corner of Press and North Rampart? Did you pass in front of the historic blighted house at the corner of Burgundy and Marigny? Well if you don't know what I am talking about you should check it out.

In both places interesting installations have recently been set up. These installations question us and are not meant to stay there forever. On Press Street, Eric Dallimore created his own version of a Louisiana pipeline. One that is sustainable and recyclable; contrary to the oil and gas pipelines that have been destroying Louisiana coastal wetlands. I was able to help Eric — who was a visiting artist at Studio in the Woods — find some sugarcane bagasse for his installation. In his installation the sugarcane bagasse — from the Raceland Raw Sugar Mill — is used as an unique bedding to a variety of seeds. Open to the elements, the structure is slowly falling apart which may let the seeds sprout on the ground.

At 900 Marigny, Candy Chang (who collaborated with Marigny Green to create the Sexy Tree Calendar) transformed the ugly boarded exterior walls of the blighted property into a gigantic chalkboard with the inscription: "Before I die _____" for passers-by to fill the blank with provided pieces of chalk. Her work has received a lot of attention and the chalkboard gets filled quickly with

statements until erased. Candy contributes a novel perspective in discussions on how we could raise an awareness of the many blighted properties in our neighborhood. I am very glad she was able to complete this project.

Both of these installations have been done with the authorization of the respective property owners and the City of New Orleans. It is unfortunate that 900 Marigny is still blighted. Similarly too many vacant lots are sitting idle. Luckily these two installations send us a clear message: one can be creative in dealing with all of the unused spaces that surrounds us.

The City of New Orleans hasn't yet scheduled any hearing for the many blighted properties we reported. Feel free to contact me at blight@faubourgmarigny.org if you want some assistance with a blighted property or if you have any suggestions.



Louisiana Pipeline on Press Street.



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Bylaws and Policy Clarifications

MEMBERSHIP VOTING: Article I C. 3. states that "Active members have the right to vote at membership meetings ...thirty days after payment of dues." Active members are defined in Article I B. 1. as "Individuals, businesses or organizations who own property or a business or reside within the boundaries and are current in their dues." The policy adopted by the Board of Directors requires proof of identity and residency of voters such as driver's license, utility bill or copy of lease, similar to proof required by the Sewage & Water Board or city parking permits.

MEETING POLICIES: It has been a long-standing policy of the FMIA that all attendees sign in at general meetings and that visitors so identify themselves. The policy regarding Board meetings states that non-members may attend when invited to make presentations.



IMPROVEMENT

ASSOCIATION

39th Annual FMIA Home Tour

*Co-Chair Csaba Lukacs
& Co-Chair Deborah Oppenheim*

You are invited to **volunteer** for the **Faubourg Marigny Improvement Association (FMIA) 39th Annual Home Tour**, May 15, noon-4 pm. The theme for this year's tour is *Artists in Residency*, showcasing the homes, gardens and workspaces of artists who live the Marigny Triangle. This Home Tour is dedicated to a dear friend and long time resident who passed unexpectedly, Lloyd Sensat. At previous home tours, Lloyd would appear in full period costume as Bernard de Marigny and at FMIA's Candlelight Caroling, he was our French Papa Noel, dressed in the Creole style. Lloyd was a teacher, artist, author, tour guide and preservationist.

Watch for the Press Release announcing the houses, participants, special events, and more.

VOLUNTEERS are needed for house sitting, event day activities, physical set-up/take down, and promotion. Volunteers will receive a free ticket to the tour. To volunteer, please contact Deborah deboraho@faubourgmarigny.org.

*You know you're
a New Orleans native if . . .*

*. . .you don't worry when
you see ships riding higher in
the river than your house.*

NONPAC Meetings

5th District Report *By John Luckett*

Due to Mardi Gras, there was no District 5 NONPAC meeting in March.

8th District Report

A volunteer is needed to attend and report on the 8th District NONPAC meetings. Contact volunteer@faubourgmarigny.org if interested.

Orchids & Onions

ORCHIDS

-  Bobby Moffett for continuously cleaning Washington Square Park
-  All the ladies on the FMIA Board for all their hard work
-  The Membership Committee
-  The residents who want to make the Marigny a great place to live
-  Clive, FMIA's AARP worker for all his work
-  5th District Crime Walk

ONIONS

-  Buildings that are boarded up and not used
-  People who leave their cars parked for days
-  Cars that are parked in people's driveway
-  Washington Square Park palm tree killer
-  Graffiti on Aids Memorial



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Salvage Store

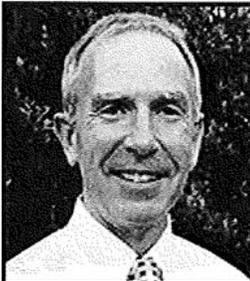
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FOCUS ON BUSINESS

By Rachel Smith

Maypop Community Herb Shop

The Marigny now has its own dedicated herbal store. Maypop Community Herb Shop was started last month by Amy Seifert, Rachael Reeves, Wendy Hounsel and Jen Stovall. Two of the women are nursing students, and the other two work in clinics. All have at least ten years of experience in herbal training and practice. They named the shop after the maypop flower, that beautiful purple passion flower native to the American South.

I met with Rachael on a quiet Thursday afternoon. Maypop rents the front portion of a large camelback. The space gives an immediate feeling of tranquility far from the hustle and bustle of nearby St. Claude. The walls are painted a gentle green accented by natural wood shelving, lending a cottage-garden feel, with the cheerful sunflower bouquets and drying flowers in the corners. A large spice rack occupies the center of the room, and can be wheeled to the back when they need to open up space for classes and workshops. Large armchairs invite you to sit and peruse the in-house library of herbal reference books. The shop is clean and well-organized, and redolent with the fragrance of herbs.

It is a delight to contemplate the contents of the jars and their names. In addition to the medicinal herbs and tinctures one would expect of an herbal shop, it also offers culinary herbs and spices, smoky paprikas, coarse sea salts, teas both green and black, yerba mate, incense resins and an assortment of body care products. If you want something and don't see it, you need only ask, as there is not room on the shelves for all. For their products, the emphasis is on high-quality bio-regional and "wild-crafted" herbs (i.e. sustainably harvested from their natural habitat as opposed to being cultivated).

Rachael, Amy, Wendy and Jen will offer workshops such as Herbal 101, Women's Health, Tincture-Making, Plant Botany and Holiday Gift-making (wreaths, dried floral arrangements and herbal gifts). Seated massages as well as certified NADA (acupuncture detoxification for substance abuse) are also available. Most importantly, all four women are experienced herbalists and able to provide an extended personalized consultation grounded in western medicine, nutrition, herbal knowledge and a holistic body-system approach. A 90-minute consultation is \$75 and it is \$60 thereafter. Their focus is on western traditional herbal practice as opposed to Chinese or ayurvedic, and has a strong grounding in the folk tradition of the South. Maypop Shop is also available to rent out for healing-related presentations and classes.

I entered Maypop solely with the intent to interview them about their products and services. After overhearing Rachael consult with a man who came in for his allergy symptoms, I was curious to bring up my own recent medical complaint.

I had recently developed acid reflux. The Ear, Nose and Throat doctor I visited had immediately put me on Prilosec, then Nexium, neither of which did a thing for me. Rachael patiently heard out my litany of physical symptoms, and then asked me a number of questions about stress, diet, physical manifestations, etc. She was very deliberate and careful as she questioned me, and then she thought for a few moments and selected various tinctures to create a blend that would address the reflux symptoms. She also made a blend of herbal tea. She explained the various benefits of each, and how to take it, and counseled that I would not see instant results, as herbal healing requires more patience than pharmaceutical interventions.

This was my first experience using an herbal approach and while it has only been two weeks since my meeting with Rachael and starting my new regimen, my symptoms appear to be alleviating, and I would definitely consider a consultation for any future medical problems. I am also looking forward to taking one of their classes.

Maypop Community Herb Shop

1036 Franklin Avenue
New Orleans LA 70117

<http://maypopherbshop.blogspot.com>
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IMPROVEMENT

ASSOCIATION

Fruits of The Marigny

The New Orleans Fruit Tree Project is part of Hollygrove Market & Farm's mission of increasing access to healthy foods by underserved populations. The program calls for city-wide harvesting of local fruit trees and edible plants from community space and private residential property. Harvested produce will be donated to local food banks, homeless shelters and families in need.

Tree owners in the Marigny are asked to register fruit trees they do not intend to harvest from their property. Trained and supervised Hollygrove Market & Farm volunteers would schedule a harvest date with tree owners and deliver the harvested produce to Second Harvest Food Bank. Tree owners and volunteers would be welcome to a portion of whatever is collected.

Hollygrove Market & Farm is looking to increase awareness of this new service and to help get fresh, local produce to those who need it most (and before it goes to waste!). To access their online Tree Registration visit <https://spreadsheets.google.com/viewform?formkey=dHIRSnRLR XoxODdSSjIGX2FiS3BWcHc6MQ> or you can go to www.hollygrovemarket.com and look under the Programs tab.

Supporting your neighborhood is a great way to help make the Marigny a great place to live, work and play.



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Blight: blight@faubourgmarigny.org

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Frenchmen	Membership	Web Site
	Neighborhood	

For comments — email info@faubourgmarigny.org

Meet the Neighbors

By Lisa Tabb



Let's give a big thanks to the **Friendly Bar**,

which opened its doors to the Marigny community and provided snacks and drink specials for our March Meet the Neighbors. We had a good turnout, and everyone enjoyed themselves.

Don't forget to come to the **April 12 Meet the Neighbors** at the new hot spot, **Mojitos Rum Bar & Grill**. Located on the corner of Esplanade and Frenchmen, it features rum (surprise!) and food with a Creole/Caribbean flare. Join us on their lovely patio.

Please join us for the Meet the Neighbors on **Tuesday, May 10** between 6:30-8:30 pm. It will be held at **Marie's Bar**, a great local spot, located at 2483 Burgundy. Our monthly meetings are a great way to socialize with friends and meet newcomers to the neighborhood. Join us!



Magnolia Physical Therapy is **locally owned and operated** by Lisa George and Beth Winkler-Schmit. Our Physical Therapists at Magnolia have successfully treated almost every painful musculoskeletal condition you may be experiencing. The following is far from a comprehensive list, but it should give you a pretty good idea of the types of conditions we treat:

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- Fractures
- Herniated/Bulging Disc
- Sciatica
- Muscle Spasm
- Cervical and Lumbar Sprains and Strains
- Post Op
- Sacroiliac Joint Dysfunction
- Radiculopathy

HIP

- Post Op Total Hip Replacement
- Femoral Fractures
- Labrum Tears
- Osteoarthritis
- Bursitis
- Piriformis Syndrome
- Groin Strain

KNEE

- Post Op Total Knee Replacement
- Osteoarthritis
- Tendonitis
- Patellofemoral Pain Syndrome
- IT Band Syndrome
- Chondromalacia Patella

ANKLE

- Stress Fractures
- Sprains
- Plantar Fasciitis
- Shin Splints
- Achilles Tendonitis
- Posterior Tibialis Tendonitis
- Post Op
- Bunions

SHOULDER

- Post Op Rotator Cuff Repair
- Fixation
- Rotator Cuff Problems
- Impingement Syndrome
- Labrum Tear
- Biceps Tendonitis
- Frozen Shoulder

ELBOW, WRIST AND HAND

- Tennis Elbow
- Golfer's Elbow
- Carpal Tunnel Syndrome/Release
- Trigger Finger

TMJ

- Lock Jaw
- Clicking or Popping Jaw
- Neck Pain and Headaches
- Ear Pain

WOMEN'S HEALTH

- Pregnancy/Post Partum Lower Back and Pelvic Pain
- Public Symphysis Separation
- Urinary Incontinence (Men and Women)
- Pelvic Organ Prolapse
- Chronic Pelvic Pain
- Painful Bladder Syndrome.

RHEUMATOLOGIC

- Rheumatoid Arthritis
- Fibromyalgia

NEUROLOGICAL

- CVA (Stroke)
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- SCI (Spinal Cord Injury)
- Multiple Sclerosis (MS)
- Foot Drop

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IMPROVEMENT

ASSOCIATION

CALENDER OF EVENTS

APRIL

Board Meeting

April 6, 7 pm, 2011 Burgundy Street

Meet the Neighbors

April 12, 6:30-8:30 pm, Mojitos Rum Bar & Grill,
Corner of Esplanade & Frenchmen

General Meeting

April 18, 6:30 Pot Luck, 7:15 Meeting
St. Paul Lutheran Church, 2624 Burgundy Street

MAY

Board Meeting

May 4, 7 pm, 2509 Burgundy Street

Meet the Neighbors

May 10, 6:30-8:30 pm, Marie's Bar, 2483 Burgundy

General Meeting

May 16, 6:30 Pot Luck, 7:15 Meeting
St. Paul Lutheran Church, 2624 Burgundy Street

39th Annual Home Tour

May 15
10:00 am – 4:30 pm - Art Market and music in the park
10:00 am – 4:30 pm - Kids Activity Area
11:00 am – Music starts
11:00 am – 3:00 pm - Tour tickets available
in Washington Square Park
12:00 pm – 4:00 pm - Home & Garden Tour

NONPAC MEETINGS

5th District — 2nd Wednesday,
7 pm, 901 Bartholomew Street

8th District — 2nd Thursday
5:30 pm, 1001 Toulouse Street

GREEN MARKETS

French Market

Wednesdays &
Saturdays
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Marigny Green

By Deborah Oppenheim



Thank you to the new people who have signed up for information on Marigny Green and visit the website www.marignygreen.org.

Marigny Green is a committee of the FMIA to provide information and resources on living green in the Marigny. With the news of recycling coming to our neighborhood, Marigny Green volunteers could help educate all the residents of the Marigny to recycle. Our goal is to be a neighborhood that completely recycles. We would appreciate your ideas on how to educate and promote recycling in the Marigny. Please send your ideas to deboraho@faubourgmarigny.org and include what day of the week and time would be convenient for a recycling strategy planning meeting.

Great news on the recycling front: the city will resume recycling services in the second quarter of 2011. The city will provide 64-gallon, wheeled receptacles with lids to all residents who sign up by visiting <http://recycle.nola.gov>. Residents also can fill out the form by hand and mail it to 1300 Perdido St., New Orleans, LA 70112, or fax it to 504.658.3801.

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COLTON SCHOOL

The following is a letter written by Councilwoman Kristin Gisleson Palmer to the State Superintendent of Education. The KIPP schools referred to in the letter are KIPP Renaissance High School and KIPP New Orleans Leadership Academy, an elementary school, both in the old Frederick Douglass school, 3820 St. Claude Avenue in Bywater. KIPP Leadership Academy is currently slated to move into Colton School when it opens.

Dear Mr. Pastorek,

We would first like to acknowledge the hard work by BESE (Louisiana Board of Elementary and Secondary Education) and the RSD (Recovery School District) in enacting essential post-Katrina reforms in education.

In District C, recent concerns regarding the charter assignment of the Colton School on St. Claude Avenue highlight the need for further work, discussion and measured reflection on the issue. Members of the surrounding neighborhoods have tried to be engaged by attending meetings and attempting to have their voices heard. They have been repeatedly rebuffed because the building's assignment had already been decided on, without public input. Mr. Paul Vallas had already promised Colton to KIPP, who in turn promised it to their families. This lack of open community discourse resulted in miscommunications and emotions running high on both sides.

We see the Colton issue as a perfect opportunity for a thoughtful dialogue about the role education plays in our communities and our future. Our public school system currently sees 91 percent of our children bussed outside of their own neighborhoods. Ours is a disjointed system, out of step with the city's deep connections to its neighborhoods.

When an administrator for a charter operator tells Downtown residents, including families and homeowners who have lived in the area for years, made considerable investments in their neighborhoods, rebuilt homes after Katrina, built their own parks, that they can move Uptown and rent an apartment if they do not like their educational options in their own community, the discussion is broken (see Times Picayune Feb. 7, 2011). The passion of these residents for their community and children should not be dismissed and they deserve a voice. "Take us or leave," is not a viable position.

On the other hand, neighbors are portrayed as anti-KIPP. As you know there are currently two KIPP school successfully operating in these communities with the support of residents and public servants. Of members of the community have a different vision, one that embraces diversity at all levels, they should be allowed to pursue it and create a dialogue; and dialogue cannot occur within a diatribe.

We are respectfully requesting from you a six-month review period on the Colton School discussion. The school is currently gutted, slated for massive renovations and to

reopen in the fall of 2012. We have time for a thoughtful, well-informed discussion on this incredibly important decision. We are proposing that neighborhood groups work with a third party from the RSD to create a community process.

With the Colton school, situated at the intersection of many diverse and historic neighborhoods, we have an extraordinary opportunity to create a school that unites these neighborhoods instead of further dividing them. This decision is too important to be made for expediency sake behind closed doors. Many of the significant and enduring strides made throughout the city over the past five years have been bottom-up initiatives and not top-down decisions by people working outside of the affected communities. We need a real conversation about what the community wants for its own schools. When it comes to our schools and our children, we should be ambitious in our vision, demand excellence and try to provide a landscape of choice for families in every neighborhood.

Sincerely,

Kristin Gisleson Palmer

Also signed by: Susan G. Guidry, Jon D. Johnson, Jacquelyn Brechtel Clarkson, Cynthia Hedge Morrell (all New Orleans City Council); Jim Tucker, speaker of the Louisiana House of Representatives; State Rep. Jared Brossett, District 97; State Rep. Helena Moreno, District 93; Thomas A. Robichaux, vice president, Orleans Parish School Board; State Sen. Karen Carter Peterson, District 5; State Sen. Jean-Paul Morrell, District 3.



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FMIA Board Meeting Minutes February 2, 2011

Board members Present: Chris Costello, Eva Campos, Gene Cizek, Jim Farr, Gretchen Bomboy, Deborah Oppenheim, Ken Caron

Board Members Absent: None

Chris Costello, President called the meeting to order at 7:01pm.

Guests: Angelique Vialou, Michael Pizzolatto re Colton School

Angelique: There are many young parents in this area that feel frustrated that RSD has not listened to the parents in the community. She said that they would like to have a voice in the process of choosing an operator for the school which was promised at the initial meetings. She would like to have our support to be able to have a dialogue with State Superintendent Pastorek regarding their concerns.

Michael: Michael said that he has been following this issue for many years. At the meeting in 2008 they were told which schools were going to stay open which included Colton. In 2009, FEMA had meetings to view plans and talked about neighborhood concerns. A major concern of the parents was who would operator the school. The group was told that the neighborhood could choose their operator. At the final school construction meeting in late August 2010 they were told that KIPP was selected and the decision was made two years earlier without neighborhood input. Parents who wanted choice of an operator said that they have tried to have reasonable dialogue with KIPP but they were refused. The group from St. Roch, Bywater Smart Group, Faubourg St. Roch Improvement Organization and the Marigny said that the idea of public input has been disregarded and they want transparency. They are thinking about two schools in the same building, School Choice and School Reform. Where are they now? 1) The group is working on their own Charters Application 2) They are looking for other experience local operators 3) The group meets weekly and 25- 50 parents attend. Michael is asking for support for having public input.

Announcements:

Administration

1. Approvals by email
 - a. Motion to support John Deveney as our HDLC Commissioner - Yes
 - b. Motion to allow funeral service/death announcement to be sent via email - Yes
2. Approval of minutes from 1/5 Board meeting and 1/17 General Meeting- Chris moved to approve the minutes with the corrections. Vote: Unanimous
3. President's Report:
 - a. Meetings:
 - i. Website: Carlos, Katherine, John - discussed and working on a new website
 - ii. Legal Counsel - Attorney, Brad Spedele is reviewing our various agreements regarding blight, agreement with Cano, and Washington Square Park monument,
 - iii. Riverfront Alliance: Chris met with the architect and Kristina Ford to express our concerns with another meeting scheduled.
 - iv. Alex, Angelique, Michael to discuss Colton School and invited them to a Board Meeting
4. Treasurer's Report: Will send via email
5. Committee Reports: Chris moved we accept the Committee Reports. Vote Unanimous
 - a. Newsletter: Donna has new layout people for the newsletter.
 - b. Orchids: 5th Crime Walk, Clive, Newsletter Committee Onions: Washington Square Park palm tree killer, graffiti on Aids Memorial
 - c. Blight: No action is needed.
 - d. Home Tour: The Home Tour will be in the Marigny Rectangle. We need houses and volunteers. We have Chairs of these sub groups Physical Site, Gretchen; Music, Jason; Art Market, Eva; PR, Chris; Kids Tent, Reese; and Brochure, Clive.
 - e. Marigny Green: No action is needed.

Old business:

Projects

- a. Parking Permits in the Marigny: Chris wrote a letter to the parking division for the triangle.
- b. Washington Square Park Trashcans: We need money to purchase the remainder of the trash cans.
- c. Historic Markers: No status
- d. Land Use Survey: Clive is working on this.

- e. Healing Center Bar/Club: A bar/club in the Healing Center was not presented to the community in the original organizational documents. The zoning indicates that a bar/club applying for a liquor license is conditional use at this address. The zoning does not allow music. Chris moved that we investigate the feasibility of having live entertainment on St. Claude Ave. Donna suggested to create a committee to look at the various opportunities on St. Claude. Chris amended his motion and moved that we form an ad hoc committee to investigate what we would really like to see on St. Claude. Vote: Unanimous

Interested members to join the committee, please contact Chris.

- f. CANO meeting: Gretchen went to the meeting on Jan 11. The discussion focused on money - income source to maintain and keep up the building. Suggestions were made to rent out studio space, permanent renters, and have performances. They do not have parking. Gretchen moved that we are not fiscal capable of being a partner but we want to be involved and support their endeavor. Vote: Unanimous
- g. Colton School: Gretchen moved to write a letter that we have been left out of the process that we have no community input. Vote: yeas 6 No 1
- h. Buckmoth Spraying: The city is taking the responsibility this year.

Issues

- a. 2300 Block of Royal: No status

New business:

Issues

- a. Washington Square Park Palm Tree Killer: She is back destroying the palm trees. We brainstormed ideas such as signs, call the 8th District, and cameras. Jim moved that we produce the signs and post on the Washington Square Park gates and to receive the reward, the person must be arrested. Vote: 5 Abstain 2
- b. Spot Zoning: Request from Burtheville Association of Neighbors re zoning change uptown on Henry Clay. We have always said no to a spot zone. Gretchen moved that we send to CPC and City Council that we do not support spot zoning. Vote: Unanimous

Events

- 1) Memorial Notices: To allow death notice and funeral announcement to be sent via email. If requested by a member, we will publish a brief statement and no picture and for a long time resident a submission is requested.
- 2) Events: Artist Inc., Interstate Fringe March 18-19; April 20-24; and Red Bean Parade, March 6. Vote: Unanimous
- 3) Carl Mack: Under the RDO a corner building no larger than 2000 sq. ft. allows for a business to operator. 2100 Chartres Street was supposed to be divided into two spaces to have 2,000 sq. ft per space.
- 4) General Meeting in Triangle: Donna moved that we hold a General Meeting in the triangle provided that Ken can find a location. Vote: Unanimous
- 5) Redistricting: We talked about this under 1 or 2 districts in the House of Representatives. Donna moved we support our current status of two districts

Vote: yeas 6 abstain 1

- 6) Reimbursement: Gretchen submitted an invoice for \$55.28 for purchasing a box of envelopes, stamps, pack of paper.

Adjournment: Jim moves for adjournment at 9:25pm.

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FMIA General Meeting February 21, 2011 Minutes

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

Speaker:

Councilperson Palmer: She introduced her staff, Mary Cunningham and Emily Jensen. Councilperson Palmer discussed issues that affect the Marigny: 1) Colton School: This has been a long process with a lack of community input with the Recovery School District. An engaged group of parents in the downtown neighborhoods want the opportunity to have a conversation about their vision for a community school. Councilperson Palmer attended a meeting at Craig's School. Councilperson Palmer said that 91% of the RSD students are being bused to school. She feels that this is not sustainable. She is an advocate for an open conversation 2) Rough draft of the noise ordinance. It is being vetted by the legal department. This is not an anti-music ordinance but a noise ordinance that is applicable across the city from sounds of a weed eater and/or a drum. All rights must be respected. It was a diverse task force, fair and equitable. 3) Riverfront Park: Councilperson Palmer sits on the French Quarter Corporation and the New Orleans Building Board. She said they have just signed the lease regarding the park. There are servitude and egress issues. Long term maintenance plan and funding still has to be worked out. There is an 18 month window from construction to completion to work out the maintenance plan and funding. Deputy Mayor Cedric Grant is in charge of this project. 4) Crime: Councilperson Palmer deferred to the Police. She believes in Community policing. Captain Defillo is interested in bikes which would have police on the street. They are looking to raise money for 10 special bicycles. There is talk about rezoning the police districts. We should engage with the NOPD. 5) Zoning Enforcement: Councilperson Palmer discussed quality of life issues. If businesses do not following the law, there are consequences. 6) Street Car: This is going forward.

QUESTIONS to Councilperson Palmer: 1) The area designated for the bathrooms blocked the visual from the Marigny side and we are requesting for an alternative placement 2) The Marigny has donated bikes in the past. A: Yes, they were destroyed from the storm. 3) Why can't the ABO permit be with the operator and not the building? A: This is a zoning issue and the law needs to be rewritten. This is the time to do it. 4) Census - What is the idea for the rectangle and triangle? A: Councilperson Palmer feels that Bywater, Marigny, Tremé, and the French Quarter should be one district. There are 55,000 people in the Algiers area. 5) Land at Poland Ave. A: This is Federal Land and has to be utilized for housing and about 1/2 acre would be used as a homeless shelter. 6) Street car A: Councilperson Palmer is working to bring the streetcar to Poland Ave. And this would be a transformative project. She said that the street car and Colton would have long term ramifications for this community. These are worth the fight. 7) Lost Love Lounge - Nick said the businesses make this neighborhood what it is. He claims that people are making false reports and it needs to stop. 8) Mardi Gras Zone - Beni wanted to get a liquor license and had people signing petitions. Gary said he was a bead store before the storm and now has become a grocery store, deli, and sells pizza.

In Memory: Linda Swindle, past president; Russ Henderson, a lobbyist for many issues that were hard to get funded; Ralph Marchetti, the owner of the Easter Egg House and first person who put his heart and soul on the outside walls; Lloyd Sensat, our Papa Noel, Bernard de Marigny and Gene Cizek's partner. Lloyd Sensat's memorial will be at the Chapel 411 No. Rampart 12:30 pm visitation and burial St. Louis #1 No. 1. In lieu of flowers, Gene requested donations to FMIA, Our Lady of Guadalupe Chapel or Francis Xavier Seelos. Gene and Lloyd have a shrine to Father Seelos which has been a comfort to many people in difficult times. FMIA will plant a Royal Palm in Washington Square Park in Lloyd's memory.

Announcements:

- 1) Sign-in please. We have a raffle tonight of T-Shirts from the Race Against Crime.
- 2) Chris welcomed the new people; Jonathan, and Jane and Peter.
- 3) Meet the Neighbors was on February 7 at La Maison. Neighbors came to have great food, hear music, and meet their neighbors. Please join us on March 15 at the Friendly Bar 6:30 - 8:30 pm.
- 4) Krewe du Vieux: Captain Lee said, "It is an honor to walk through the Marigny and hope we did not cause any problems and THANK YOU SO MUCH for letting us parade through your neighborhood."
- 5) T-shirts and Mugs are for sale.
- 6) Camp Restore, Kathy Wendling: Camp Restore has thousands of volunteers from across the United States and the world volunteering year round to work with communities, plantings trees in the wetlands, mentoring youth, house restoration, and work with over 60 partner nonprofit organizations. Pastor Goodine who is not new to the Marigny has returned home to become the director of Camp Restore. Camp Restore has scheduled

volunteers to work in Washington Square Park this year. Kathy said that the volunteers expressed that they enjoy volunteering and meeting the residents. When you see the volunteers in the park working, please stop and say hi.

- 7) St. Joseph Alter: March 17 at Lost Love Lounge.
- 8) February 23 at Wilson School 6:30 pm sponsored by the Neighborhood Partnership Network a meeting to discuss school choice.
- 9) Colton School: Angelique has letter of support for Colton requesting dialogue. There is a Tuesday community meeting to discuss Colton School at St. Roch Community Church.
- 10) NOPD: Quality of Life Officers, Officer Alsina of 5th District and Officer Franklin introduced Officer Roberson who will be working with Officer Rogers. There is no NONPAC meeting this month. The website Ask NOLA is not an authorized website for the city. Q: We are experiencing more crime in our neighborhood and what is being done to address this? A: The last NONPAC meeting, the Captain has a map of what is happening and they send man power accordingly. Q: I live on the same street as Mardi Gras Zone and people live in their vehicles in front of my house. Is it allowable to sleep in public places? A: It is not allowed to sleep in one's car. A car has to move every 24hrs.
- 11) 1036 Franklin Ave: Rachel, Jen, Wendy, and Amy are herbalists and are interested in opening an herb store at 1036 Franklin Avenue to sell high quality western herbs to make teas, tinctures, bath and body herbs. They will have herb classes and individual appointments.
- 12) Proposal by CVS to put a store at Frankie and Johnny, 8plex, double shot gun, empty lot. Chris read their letter from Steve Hartford Realty. They need to come to the next meeting with plans.
- 13) Blight: Alex said that 10 properties will be at Code Enforcement this March. If the property is near your house and you could provide information, please contact Alex. We have a policy to first send a letter to the property/owner. If they can't repair, we assist them. We are reactive to complaints and proactive to the issues.
- 14) Marigny Green: Deborah mentioned Marigny Green's effort to plant trees in the Marigny. She reminded people that using energy efficient bulbs is helping the environment as well as being cost efficient. By 2012, most incandescent bulbs will not be sold.
- 15) Lead: Angelique and Christine discussed the issue of lead that affects the entire downtown area. The issue is big and it just takes a little exposure. The soil is a big issue here. Washington Square Park is also a concern but not like Markey Park. How to fix this? Remediation is possible. The next step is to form a Committee and to come up with a strategy for remediation.
- 16) Home Tour: Home Tour is May 15 and will focus on the rectangle. Volunteers are needed and please contact Chris at president@faubourg-marigny.org.
- 17) ReDistricting: There are two thoughts should we continue as is and/or should we become one district? If you are interested in helping with research and development, contact Chris Costello.
- 18) Riverfront Update: Councilperson Palmer has requested a meeting with Christina Ford to discuss the Riverfront Park.
- 19) Quality of Life Update: The city did a sweep on Frenchmen Street and the rectangle. There are 150 businesses in our neighborhood. Some businesses choose not to follow the law. It is their responsibility to follow the law. Chris said we are reactive to complaints and proactive to the solutions. He mentioned the article in City Business and the flyers that are distributed with intimidating information. This is not the right path to go. Chris is the mouthpiece for the organization and he said if you want to attack that does not get to a place for dialogue. If the law needs to change, let's change the law and not break the law.

Nick of Lost Love Lounge was very upset and felt singled out. He said that the music is not loud, they pick up trash, and there is no graffiti. Nick has put in bike racks and watches the door and knows everything that is going on. Many people spoke expressing their view of the situation. Chris said that people can make changes and attitudes need to be changed. However, if neighbors are still complaining, then there is a problem.

Adjourned: 9:15pm.



FMIA Board Meeting Minutes March 2, 2011

Jim Farr called the meeting to order at 7:15 pm

Board members Present: Jim Farr, Gretchen Bomboy, Ken Caron, Donna Wakeman, Jason Paterson, Deborah Oppenheim, Eva Campos, Eva Campos

Board Members Absent: Gene Cizek

Call to Order

Announcements:

a. Community Requests: Howard Allen came to discuss his perspective on issues that involved the Marigny. Chris reiterated that FMIA is reactive to written complaints. It was suggested that if he has a complaints to please put it in writing.

Administration

1. Approvals by email: Red Dress Run for this next year was approved.
 - a. Join Amicus Brief on Royal Hotel: Yes
2. Approval of minutes from 2/2 Board meeting and 2/21 General Meeting: Deferred to next meeting.
3. President's Report:
 - a. Meetings:
 - i) Membership: Gary deLaumont, Russel deRoche, Eva Campos and Chris Costello talked about membership and issues with the flow of information. The treasurer will keep information, it will be sent in an excel spread sheet to Russel. They also discussed ways to increase membership such as adding a letter in the newsletter, add an envelope in the newsletter, Block Captain to meet and encourage neighbors to join. Chris moved to approve the new process and put a letter with an envelope in the newsletter. Vote: Unanimous
 - ii) Lead in Marigny: Angelique came and talked about the problem of lead in the Marigny. They will discuss this issue with the membership at the next General Meeting. Chris moved to create the ad hoc committee called Lead Remediation. Vote Unanimous FYI - Washington Square Park was a baseball field. It was made into a passive park and the lead was buried when they added new soil.
 - iii) Website: Chris met with Carlos, John, and Katherine to work on a new system for FMIA's website. It will be a contact management system.
 - iv) Proposed CVS: Eva and Chris went to a meeting with Troy Carter, their architect and engineer and two neighbors. The architects said they would not consider adaptive reuse of the existing buildings. They are invited to come to a general meeting when they have their plans finalized.
 - v) FQMAHD: Chris went to the meeting in February. We voted not to be part of this group because they did not include the entire Marigny. The issue will be the boundary on Esplanade Ave. Chris said the boundary of the Marigny is the center line of Esplanade Ave. Rep. Brossett explained that this is a jurisdiction issue.
 - b. Upcoming Meetings: Councilperson Kristin Palmer (TBA) with Norfolk Southern Railroad regarding the streetcar.
4. Treasurer's Report: Eva reported an Out of Date account at Whitney. Eva suggested opening a business account that has no monthly fees, online banking, bill pay, debit card, 250 transactions a month and thirty cents over the monthly allocation. It is the most efficient account. Chris moved that we take Eva's recommendation Vote: Unanimous
5. Committee Reports:
 - a. Newsletter: The Committee is working on the March newsletter.
 - 1) The Board brainstormed many ideas to get the word out about FMIA's accomplishments. It has been suggested that we send a post card as an outreach to all residents called Do You Know? We discussed having on the new website a link to city laws. Plaques could be an effective means to recognize FMIA's accomplishments such as the playground equipment that was repaired by FMIA. Orchids: Bobby Moffett for continuously cleaning Washington Square Park, all the ladies on the FMIA Board for all their hard work, the Membership Committee, the residents who want to make the Marigny a great place to live, Clive, FMIA's AARP worker for all his work Onions: Buildings that are boarded up and not used, people who leave their cars parked for days, cars that are parked in people's driveways.
 - b. Blight: The FMIA Blight Committee reported that 17 blighted properties in 2010 have been remediated and 65 blighted properties remain untouched. In 2011, several additional renovations are expected to be completed. Several blighted properties are also expected to be scheduled for Code enforcement hearings. The Blight Committee will continue to monitor renovations and violations and educate owners about

the City of New Orleans housing standards, the HDLC permitting process and Code Enforcement. The Committee only reports delinquent homeowners to Code Enforcement as a last resort. If you want to help and volunteer in our No More Blight Program, contact Alex at blight@faubourgmarigny.org

- c. Home Tour: Gretchen recommended a rain date. Site Preparation: Gretchen reported that she has a signed contract for Washington Square Park, Pot-of-Gold is ordered, Trustees are scheduled for park clean up, tents are ordered from Sheriff Gusman. Houses: Csaba and Deborah reported that they have many houses in the Marigny rectangle and are looking for a few more. Csaba and Deborah are working on a lovely addition to the Home Tour. Please contact Chris president@faubourgmarigny.org for more information on the Home Tour. VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED and please contact Deborah at deboraho@faubourgmarigny.org.

Old business:

Projects

- a. Parking Permits in the Marigny: We have printed the documentation that is needed and moving forward.
- b. Washington Square Park Trashcans: We need four more trashcans and about 10 4 ft and 4 6 ft benches. We need to pay the electrician. Chris moved that we allocated the additional money and pay the bill of \$5,600 for the electrical work at Washington Square Park Vote 7 yeas and 1 abstain
- c. Historic Markers: no status
- d. Land Use Survey: Clive was working on this.
- e. Healing Center Bar/Club: They submitted an application to the city that Café Istanbul is a restaurant but they were approved for live music and this is not an entertainment district. Councilperson Palmer ordered a stop work permit due to many discrepancies.
- f. CANO meeting: They will be a meeting with the Archdiocese on Peter and Paul's Church.
- g. Colton School: A letter was sent requesting community input for our neighborhood school.
- h. Buck Moth Spraying: FMIA after the storm has paid to have Washington Square Park sprayed for buck moth. Park and Parkway has taken this over.

Issues

- a. WSP Palm Tree Killer: Has not been around.

Other

General Meeting in Triangle: We are waiting for the Deacon at Christopher Inn approval to have a general meeting in Marigny's triangle.
Redistricting: Rep. Jared Brossett asked do we want to have one representative or continue to have two? We will bring this to the next general meeting.

New business:

Projects

- a. CVS Proposal: Waiting for the developer's proposal.

Other

- a. St. Paul Lutheran Donation: The Ice machine at St. Paul Lutheran has been broken for 2 yrs. Chris moved in lieu of our annual contribution we purchase and install the ice machine. Vote: Unanimous

Adjournment: meeting is adjourned at 9:44pm.

Eddie A. Olavarrieta, Jr., LMT

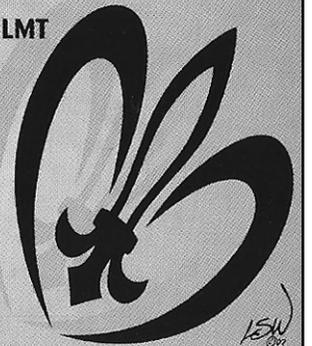
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FMIA General Meeting March 21, 2011 Minutes

Chris Costello, president opened the meeting at 7:25 pm.

Announcement:

1. FMIA thanks the Friendly Bar for hosting Meet the Neighbors on March 15 and it is a relaxed way to meet the neighbors and support our local business. The next Meet the Neighbors will be held on Tuesday, April 12 at Mojitos Bar and Grill at 437 Esplanade from 6:30 – 8:30 pm.
2. Officers Alsina and Franklin from 5th District announced the next Crime Walk on May 28 in the St. Roch neighborhood. Check their website for more information. Officers Alsina said to file a complaint with the 5th District, Hot Sheets are available at the station and/or on-line.
3. Committee Reports:
 - a. Blight – Alex monitors blight in the area. There are 63 blighted properties in the Marigny that went under the radar. He did submit 14 properties that have been vacant for five years and for are being considered for sheriff sale. Alex went to Fight the Blight Day. There were students from Wesleyan College participating in the event. 2222 St. Claude was on the sheriff sale and at the last minute was cancelled. 2633 Chartres corner of North Rampart St. is coming up.
 - b. Marigny Green: Marigny Green Committee is proud of planting 150 trees in the Marigny. Tree planting season (December and January) is over this year but please submit your request for the next season. Most incandescent bulbs will no longer be available and Marigny Green wants residents to take the leap and use energy efficient bulbs. Curbside recycling is coming to the Marigny and to meet our goal of 100% of the residents recycle, we need volunteers to help with educational outreach. Interested, please contact Deborah at deboraho@faubourgmarigny.org.
4. Streetcar line on St. Claude: A meeting is schedule on February 29 at St. Paul Lutheran Church 6-8 pm.
5. Riverfront Update: There are still issues that have not been addressed with the Riverfront Park such as the location of the bathroom, limited recreational area, access, maintenance and security plans.
6. Healing Center/Food Co-op: Their goal is to open a community-owned grocery store that provides access to healthy food at a fair price. Lori said that they are getting close to opening. They have over 1,000 members but need 1,400 to open. They are having a membership drive to reach their goal of 1,400 members. Chocolate and Cheese Reception and Tour is scheduled for Sunday April 3 11am, Wednesday April 6, 5:30pm and Thursday April 14, 5:30pm to see their progress. They are encouraging everyone to join so their opening won't be delayed. Be a member of the Food Co-op community.
7. Home Tour: The 39th Annual Home Tour is dedicated to Lloyd Sensat who unexpectedly passed away. This tour will feature artists and their homes/workspaces in the Marigny Rectangle. Deborah would like everyone to volunteer. We need volunteers to house sit, event day activities, promotion, and site preparation/ take down. A free ticket to the House Tour is included as a thank you for helping. Please contact Deborah at deboraho@faubourgmarigny.org, Chris said that FMIA has other events that need volunteers such as the Walking Tour, and candlelight caroling.
8. Mardi Gras Zone: Beni challenged FMIA's Bylaws and wanted to have a new election to reflect the diversity of the group attending the meeting. Chris said that the board is made up of nine elected people and one past president. Board Members are elected for two years and are staggered. Chris is the President and is the mouthpiece of the organization and decisions are only made by the Board. Chris invited Beni to come to the Board Meeting. Nick, Lost Love Lounge did not have the floor and wanted to suspend procedures and have a vote right then. Nick made a lot of accusations. Chris had to quiet the hecklers. Chris said that FMIA is proactive for projects and reactive to complaints. FMIA's policy is: 1) to have both parties to talk 2) Is to set up a meeting with both parties and FMIA 3) If the problem continues, the person complaining seek enforcement with the City and State. Bill Walker, Partner of Lost Love Lounge 312-213-3257 bill@sftsc.com wants all of FMIA's tax records and all electronic records that have been sent to and from FMIA Board Members since January 2010. Beni heard that CVS was coming to St. Claude. Chris said that we heard about their interest through the grapevine and they would have to get a zoning change. The developers have been invited to come to a meeting. Beni said he had 1,000 signatures to have liquor. Chris said that there was a hearing and Mardi Gras Zone was denied liquor by City Hall. Nick said that reports about Lost Love Lounge are false. He said that he went to the 8th District and there is not a loitering law. He wants copies of the complaints. He wanted to know if membership dues go to our personnel accounts. Nick had a complaint about a neighbor. Chris said to Nick to follow FMIA's policy and first speak to your neighbor.

9. Ellen Hazer: Clerk of City Court, District D. This court handles civil cases, small claims under \$25,000, evictions, ABO complaints and is user friendly and does not require an attorney. Q: What can this do for a business? A: There is a process. The Quality of Life Officer gets the facts and precedes from there.
 10. Sean Walsh: Iron Rail Book collective. They have chosen to leave 511 Marigny Street. They want to open a dialogue with the neighborhood. They are a lending library and the first to open after the storm. They have been a valuable community resource and celebrated their 8th birthday. They are looking for support in the neighborhood and are appealing to the neighborhood association and not blaming the association for their departure. They want to find a space for their library. It was suggested that they look at the Healing Center. Police Officer Alsina said a complaint was made. He went to the Iron Rail to purchase a book. He asked for their permits which they did not have. Office Alsina gave them a warning instead of pressing charges and said that they needed to produce their licenses. No one from the business has come forth. Victor of Plan B said he is disgusted. Plan B is a non-profit bike repair shop. He said that they have been in the building for 11 years. Willard said there is a lot of confusion about permits. There is a business license and an occupancy permit. The building is designated as a warehouse. The owner of the building, Julian Mutter is responsible for the occupancy permit for the building. Sean, Iron Rail said he has his permits. Chris told Sean to bring his permits and we can go to city hall together to find a solution.
 11. St. Roch Market: The St. Roch Market has to be re-designed to fit within the HDLC guidelines. There is an interested operator who wants to have a seafood market and small restaurant. The operator would have to work in tandem with the Food Co-Op. Q: Is there any way to have any input on the design on St. Roch? A: We can post what is given to us on our website. Q: Is St. Roch Market part of the Marigny? A: Every building that faces St. Claude is in the Marigny. The buildings behind St. Claude are not in the historic district.
 12. Riverfront Park: There will be a park at the end of Poland Street. The six-story building will be put to use as an emergency warehouse, a couple of ships may be docked and government services will be on the West Bank. We thank St. Paul for the use of their space and please help pick up and set up the room.
- Adjourned: The meeting was adjourned at 8:45pm.

Julie's Little India
Kitchen at



Schiro's
Community
Café & Bar

LUNCH & DINNER
mon-sat:
11am-9:30pm

WEEKEND BRUNCH
sat: 9am-noon
sun: 9am-3pm

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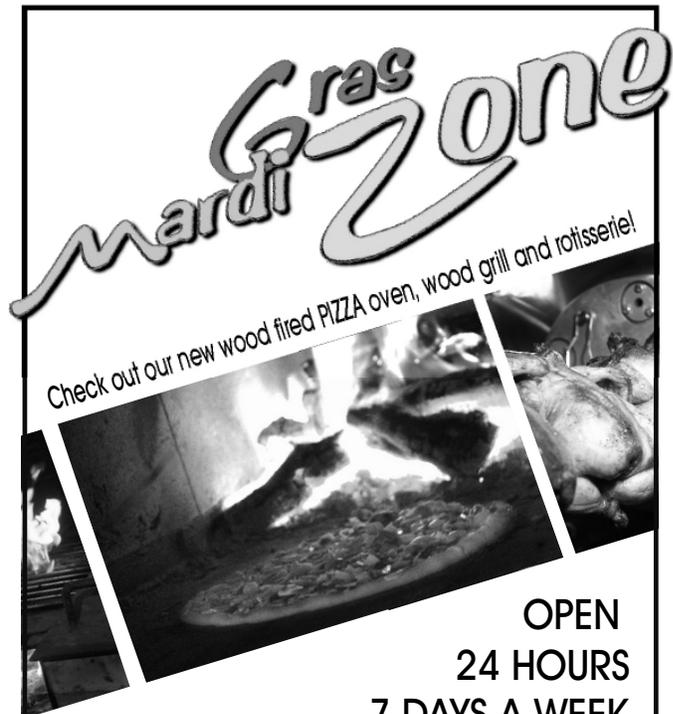
2483 Royal Street | balconyguesthouse.com

When someone has worked very hard to make something happen, it's really nice when it finally comes to life and becomes a reality. For more than five years Benny Naghi at Mardi Gras Zone has been dreaming and working away to bring a world class wood fired pizza oven to the people of the Marigny.

"Just seeing the looks on people's faces when they try our pizza makes it all worthwhile," Benny told us.

Of course there were a few people that didn't want to see this happen and they did everything they could to stand in Mardi Gras Zone's way. "Look, it's just pizza," Benny says. "What could they have against pizza? Hopefully when those folks see how well this has been received by the community, they will be able to appreciate what we are doing here. We are just working to give the people of the Marigny and the surrounding area what they want and need."

One nice thing about having a pizza kitchen attached to a super market is that there is no limit when it comes to specialty pizzas. If you want something unique on your pizza that we have in the store, all you have to do is buy it and they will be glad to add it to your pizza. The possibilities are endless.



Check out our new wood fired PIZZA oven, wood grill and rotisserie!

**OPEN
24 HOURS
7 DAYS A WEEK**

It's more than just a bead store
and way more than just a grocery

It's a SUPER market!

2706 Royal Street in the Marigny
Corner of Port and Royal - Phone (504) 947-8787

Other things to check out:
Fresh produce daily



A deli with meals &
po-boys to live for

Tons of Mardi Gras beads
and other party supplies



**Have a slice
of life on us!**

Fresh from our wood fired PIZZA OVEN

**Buy one for \$3.50
Get one for FREE!**

Limit: One per customer with coupon
Offer expires April 30, 2011

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