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Les Amis de Marigny

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

And the Nominees are....

Our thanks to Gary de Leumont and the nominating committee for their work in finding candidates for this upcoming election for the Board of Directors of the F.M.I.A. The committee has recommended two current board members for election and two new faces to round out their slate of candidates. Additionally, four members were nominated from the floor. We've asked all candidates to state their position regarding the 501 Elysian Fields project, the Master Plan and the Riverfront District Overlay. Please familiarize yourself with the candidates, and come out to vote. The candidates are:

Nominating Committee Recommendations

John Gutekunst

Katherine Kuroczko and I moved to Faubourg Marigny in 2010 from Pennsylvania, along with our two cockapoos Bayard and Foley, because we had fallen in love with the city during our many visits. We continue to operate our graphic and web design company, which we have done now for 20 years.

I have volunteered with FMIA for the last two years by doing the design and setup of the monthly newsletter and Programs for the Walking Tours, and by sending out the weekly eblast.

I support the Master Plan goals of consistency and standardized zoning citywide, and the stated commitment to balance innovation with preservation. While I am not against the development of 501 Elysian Fields or any other property in Faubourg Marigny, I believe any development should follow all zoning laws. The Marigny is a wonderful neighborhood, and I look forward to the opportunity to help the FMIA preserve its unique character.

Peter Horjus

I have been a Marigny resident for the past 12 years, and a home owner for the past six. I work as a statistician, mainly as a consultant to the United Nations to design, implement, and analyze survey and economic data. In recent years, I have become active with the FMIA in a variety of capacities. I worked closely with the FMIA as the Healing Center came on-line to help ensure a synergistic co-existence between

the neighbors and the businesses. I have also worked on the FMIA newsletter team. My background as a statistician has bridged into a fascination for development indicators in the Marigny and the city. I have learned a great deal about zoning and the enormous impacts it makes on our current lives and the future of our neighborhood.

If elected to the board, I will work hard to ensure that residential and commercial development in the Marigny is balanced with the needs and desires of the community. As a supporter of the recent "Size Matters" campaign, I believe that the FMIA has a key role to play in coordinating the future of our neighborhood. I hope to have the opportunity to moderate disagreements and collaborations between businesses and residents. With friends living in other neighborhoods, I also hope to foster collaboration and communication between organizations.

Mark Malouse

I have been a homeowner in the Marigny Rectangle since 1989, and before that lived in the Bywater since birth. I do welcome newcomers to the neighborhood and feel that the current mix of denizens make better neighbors than the more homogenous crowd that I remember from growing up. My wife, Julie, served on the board about 20 years ago, which gave me some alone time with our first baby.

My feelings on the proposal for 501 Elysian Fields Avenue is this: follow the rules. While I see many attractive elements to the current plan, we have to be careful about allowing precedents to be set that we may well regret later. Regarding the master plan and the riverfront district overlay, I want the force of law to support our people who have invested the sweat equity to make Faubourg Marigny the great place to live that it is. I will side with the close neighbors of objectionable new construction, as I would hope they would side with me. If we must have progress just for the sake of progress, let's do something that will benefit everybody, like going sub-surface with all of the utilities, as is the situation in the French Quarter.

*This election will take place at the
General Meeting on September 17th
and will start promptly at 7:15 pm —
so be there to cast your vote!*



And the Nominees are continued from page 1

William (Bill) Walker

I am running to help maintain the delicate balance that we all enjoy in our neighborhood of living, working and playing. As a small business owner, I feel that I bring a slightly different voice to the mix. But as a resident, I hope to lend a voice to my neighborhood, to move forward as our city gets stronger, while also protecting the integral charm that makes the Marigny wonderful. Combining my experience as business person and resident, I feel that I have a unique ability to help solve problems and bridge the gaps we may face. You will find in me someone who is always open to hearing from my neighbors about how we can work together to strike that balance.

I am in favor of the Elysio Lofts project, providing that it is built within zoning that currently exists. Master Plan — I am in favor the City of New Orleans having a vision. Proper urban planning is part of the solution to maintaining a good balance of history and progress. There are a number of documents that make up the Riverfront Vision 2005. I have not studied them all at length, and at this point, I defer to the opinion of the Board and the FMIA constituency.

Nominations From the Floor

Benni Naghi

Benny Naghi is a community leader. He has been a resident and business owner in the Marigny since 1999. Benny opened Mardi Gras Zone Supermarket in direct response to Hurricane Katrina, to provide our neighborhood access to the essentials of healthy food and basic living items. Benny’s commitment to this community remains steadfast today. Benny rose to quickly respond to Hurricane Isaac and power outages that lasted up to one week. Mardi Gras Zone Supermarket was up and running and one of the best stocked supermarkets in the city less than twenty-four hours after power was restored. As a farmer, Benny believes in planting seeds, consistently working the land, and knowing that these seeds will grow into sustenance for the community. His vision is profound and long-sighted: He invests in the future of the community for generations to come. Benny understands the importance of negotiation and dialog with investors and residents. He has integrity and is a fair person who cares about people. Benny sticks to his principles, never backs down from challenges, follows through with his decisions, and stays with a project until it succeeds. Benny Naghi is a great asset to this community, and will continue to work to benefit all Marigny residents and business.

Dwight Norton

With twins due any day now, Dwight has withdrawn his nomination. We look forward to his participation in the future.

ADVERTISING

Commercial Advertising

Per-month Rates (1-2 times/year)

	Full Page	1/2 Page	1/4 Page	Business Card
FMIA Member	\$110	\$55	\$40	\$25
Non-Member	\$113	\$58	\$43	\$28

Per-month Rates (3 or more times/year)

	Full Page	1/2 Page	1/4 Page	Business Card
FMIA Member	\$90	\$45	\$30	\$18
Non-Member	\$93	\$48	\$33	\$21

Ads should be photo ready, or in jpg, tif or pdf format.

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. Classified Rates: \$5.00 per each 25 words.

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 *Alexandre Vialou*

Bonjour,

September 17th is our election meeting. Thank you to our candidates for offering their time to help us continue our chance to make the Marigny a great place to live, work and play. The election will start promptly at 7:15 pm so be there to cast your vote. Please check inside this edition of our newsletter to read the bios of who is running.

I'd like to thank all of our board members, especially those helping us in making this year another success. From the signing of the Community Benefits Agreement with the performing art centers, Café Istanbul (located on the residential side of the New Orleans Healing Center), to preventing a City of New Orleans ordinance that would have allowed one of the three buildings that compose the Elisio Lofts to be built at 75 feet (the project was eventually approved at 50 feet), this was another very busy year. Like always, the FMIA takes pride in engaging in educational campaigns on any issues in our neighborhood that affect our quality of life, threaten our architectural heritage or our social fabric. Thank you very much to all of you that have helped us disseminate these values!

I would also like to thank the several other neighborhood associations from Uptown, Mid-City, Downtown, Algiers that have also supported our efforts in having our existing zoning respected, which to a large extent is the safeguard of the Faubourg Marigny we inherited. In the next coming weeks, the New Orleans City Council will review the Draft Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance that has been proposed by the City Planning Commission. It is thus important to stay engaged in these issues, and we will.

October 21st will be our Fête Marigny, a special celebration of our neighborhood at the time our organization reaches 40 years! We are looking for volunteers to help with the many activities we will be offering. From raffles, tours, kids tents and many more, if you can help, please contact Marshall Gries.

Merci!
Alexandre Vialou

2012-13 Budget	
Income	
Membership Dues	\$ 5,000.00
Direct Public Support	\$ 5,000.00
Investment Income	\$ 200.00
Newsletter Advertising	\$ 4,300.00
Program Income	\$ 9,000.00
Merchandise Sales	\$ 1,500.00
Total Income	\$ 25,000.00
Expenses	
Automobile Expense	\$ 101.00
Bank Service Charges	\$ 732.00
Casual Labor	\$ 1,368.00
Charitable Contributions	\$ 1,200.00
Cost of Sales	\$ 1,000.00
Dues & Memberships	\$ 250.00
Insurance	\$ 1,000.00
Gifts	\$ 200.00
Meeting Expenses	\$ 500.00
Neighborhood Development	\$ 5,000.00
Office Supplies	\$ 600.00
PayPal Fee	\$ 200.00
Postage & Mailing	\$ 1,500.00
Printing & Reproduction	\$ 4,800.00
Program Expenses	\$ 4,000.00
Repairs & Maintenance	\$ 1,000.00
Supplies	\$ 150.00
Taxes & Licenses	\$ 5.00
Website Costs	\$ 100.00
Total Expenses	\$ 23,706.00
Profit/Loss	\$ 1,294.00

Announcement

Meet New People, Do a Good Deed

The newsletter has openings on its staff for photographers, reporters and ad people. It's an opportunity to get involved with your neighborhood, meet new people and generally have fun. If you are interested, contact editor@faubourgmarigny.org

Meet the Neighbors



Our last *Meet the Neighbors* was August 14th at **The Friendly Bar** at 2301 Chartres St. They

greeted us with some terrific food, and the big news that they are now smoke free! The Friendly Bar is now even friendlier.

The next *Meet the Neighbors* will be at **Mojito's**, 437 Esplanade Ave on September 11 from 6:30 to 8:30. With Isaac gone its a good time to get out and meet your neighbors.

Audit

August 23, 2012
 Alex Vialou, President,
 Faubourg Marigny Improvement Association

Dear Alex,

This is to confirm that I audited FMIA Treasurer records on July 31st. The method of the audit consisted of verifying a random sampling the hard copies of the invoices and comparing the invoices with the recordings in the Deposit & Check Detail Report. Twenty two percent of the entries and all entries greater than \$400.00 were inspected in the audit.

The Deposit & Check Detail Report is consistent with the hard copies of the invoices with the following exceptions:

- The hard copies of the Frischhertz Electric invoice for \$5,660.06 and the Victor Stanley invoice for \$1,982.00 were missing from files.
- The hard copies of the Bank statements for January and May were missing from the files.

Since the audit, Chris Costello located the missing invoices and bank statements and he added the hard copies to the files. This concludes the open issues related to the audit.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Thanks,
 Bob Reddington
 504-417-3442

Orchids & Onions

ORCHIDS

to the neighborhood organizations who supported our opposition to the many waivers requested for 501 Elysian Fields:

- Algiers Point Association
- Maple Area Residents Neighborhood
- Faubourg St. John Neighborhood Association
- Vieux Carre Property Owners, Residents & Associates (VCPORA)
- French Quarter Citizens (FQC)
- Faubourg St. Roch Neighborhood Association

to City Council: Stacy Head, Jacquelyn Brechtel Clarkson, Susan G. Guidry, Diana Bajoie, Cynthia Hedge-Morrell, Ernest F. Charbonnet, and especially Kristin Gisleson Palmer.

ONIONS

to developers who don't respect existing zoning regulations.

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Les Amis in the 21st Century

This newsletter, Les Amis de Marigny, has finally entered the 21st century! If you are a current member of the FMIA, you may now chose to have your copy of the newsletter delivered promptly (and early) to your email box. If you have already paid your 2012 dues, just contact treasurer@faubourgmarigny.org to let us know you want to receive future copies by email. Otherwise, mark your choice when you submit your new or renewed membership form.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: As of the April edition, only current members of the FMIA are being sent copies of the newsletter.

NONPAC Meetings

5th District Report No Report

8th District Report

With the 8th District assuming responsibility for the majority of the Marigny, it is more urgent than ever that someone volunteer to attend and report on its NONPAC meetings. Anyone interested please contact editor@faubourgmarigny.org.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

September 2012

Board Meeting

September 5, 7 pm,
Who Dat Café, 2401 Burgundy Street

Meet the Neighbors

September 11, 6:30 – 8:30 pm,
Venue TBA

General Meeting

September 17, 6:30 Pot Luck, 7:15 Meeting
St. Paul Lutheran Church, 2624 Burgundy Street

October 2012

Board Meeting

October 3, 7 pm,
Who Dat Café, 2401 Burgundy Street

Meet the Neighbors

October 9, 6:30 – 8:30 pm,
Venue TBA

General Meeting

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

NONPAC MEETINGS

5th District — 2nd Wednesday,

6 pm, 4015 Burgundy St.

8th District — 2nd Thursday

5:30 pm, 1001 Toulouse Street

GREEN MARKETS

French Market

Wednesdays & Saturdays, 10 am - 5 pm

Sankofa Market

Saturdays, 10 am - 2 pm
Holy Angels Complex, 3500 St. Claude Avenue
(at the corner of Gallier Street and St Claude Avenue)

FREE FUN

St Claude Arts District

2nd Saturday: see www.scadnola.com

Chess Lessons

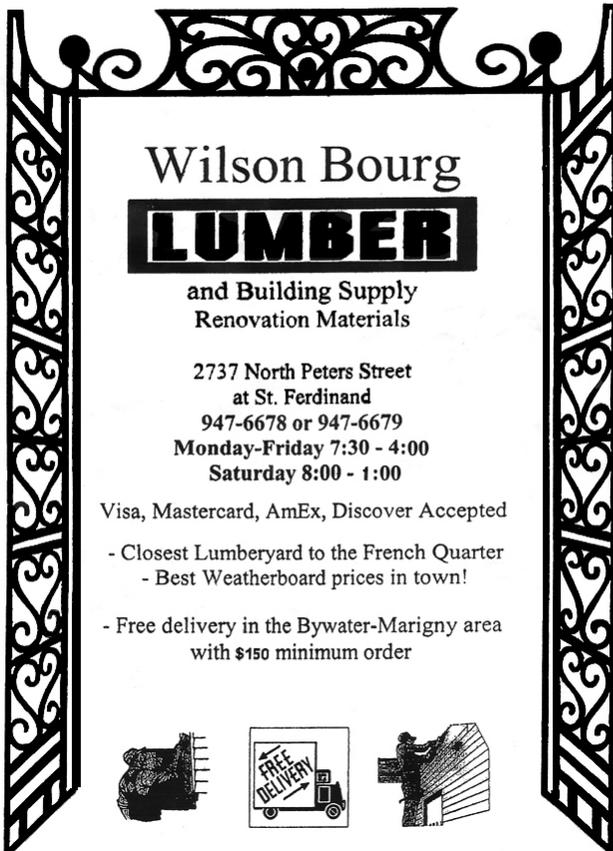
Thursdays, 5 pm,
Alvar Library, 913 Alvar Street

*If you have an event for the calendar please send it to
Donna Wakeman at editor@faubourgmarigny.org*

It's a Blast!

An email blast that is. FMIA sends out an email blast every Sunday with important news about what's happening in the Faubourg Marigny and surrounding area — news that you need to know! To sign up for this service email news@faubourgmarigny.org to be put on the list.

IMPORTANT NOTE: You may need to change your email settings to allow news@faubourgmarigny.org as an approved sender or add it to your contact list.



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 Miles Swanson, Co-Vice President: MilesS@faubourgmarigny.org
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- Advertising: ads@faubourgmarigny.org
 Blight: blight@faubourgmarigny.org
 Marigny Green: marignygreen@faubourgmarigny.org
 Newsletter: editor@faubourgmarigny.org
- | | | |
|--------------------|--------------|------------------------|
| Caroling | Fundraising | Special Projects |
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| Crime Prevention | Home Tour | Walking Tour |
| Development | Hospitality | Washington Square Park |
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For comments — email info@faubourgmarigny.org



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Marigny Green



By Deborah Oppenheim

Parkway Partners is a non-profit organization with a partnership between the community and the city committed to improving and expanding green spaces in New Orleans for thirty years.

Parkway Partners, with the kindness of volunteers from all neighborhoods, corporations, and businesses has planted over 10,000 trees in 38 areas since Hurricane Katrina. Our neighborhood proudly participated in planting 150 trees in 2009. Trees are important to our health and city because as Jean Fahr, Executive Director of Parkways Partners said, "There are direct links between a robust urban canopy of trees and our health, as well as the overall livability of New Orleans." The large canopy of trees provides shade and greater removal of storm water and air toxins. Each tree can capture 350 gallons of storm water and 20 pounds of urban pollutants annually according to the Alliance for Community Trees. Jean Fahr announced at the 30th Anniversary Celebration their five year plan to expanded restoration of New Orleans' canopy, further reforest Orleans Parish, and strengthen neighborhoods by planting a minimum of 10,000 more trees in the city's neighborhoods. To kick off this plan, the effort will begin with the planting of 150 trees along St. Claude Avenue.

Parkway Partners' five-year tree planting initiative includes:

- Educational programs that help residents select the right trees, properly plant them and maintenance
- Tree Troopers Training program
- Support for the city in maintaining neutral ground trees, adoption program, and volunteer efforts.
- Emphasis on tree planting in eastern New Orleans, Gentilly, 9th Ward where trees were most affected.

Parkway Partners' ongoing programs include ReLeaf New Orleans, Adopt-A-Neutral-Ground, Save our Trees, Community and Schoolyard Gardens, Tree Trooper Training, and the Second Saturday Program. For more detailed information, visit www.parkwayspartnersnola.org.

If you are interested in learning more about trees, a free training "Tree Trooper Training" is open to the public. Topics include planting techniques, maintenance of trees, and selection of appropriate trees. The Tree Trooper Training is free and open to the public. For more information, contact Susannah B. Burley, sburley@parkwayspartnersnola.org and/or call 504-620-2224.

Marigny Green is looking for someone to chair the Marigny Green Tree Initiative 2012. If interested, please contact Deborah at deborah@faubourgmarigny.org.

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Alvar Library Garden

Visitors to the Alvar Library have hopefully had an opportunity to spend some time in our garden reading a book, attending an outdoor program, or even sighting a hawk or two! Recently, the garden has been undergoing a transformation thanks to our lovely gardening volunteer, Jane Rhea. A native of Colorado with limited gardening experience, Jane offered her assistance as an opportunity to learn while participating meaningfully in the beautification of her library. Jane has maintained the weeding of the garden, collected pine needles for use as mulch, and trimmed plants, among other essential tasks.

In turn, the library has provided her with needed resources regarding gardening in Louisiana and the identification and preservation of local plants, as well as a space to hone her skills. We envision the Alvar garden as a community space in which others feel equally welcome and inspired to share their expertise and creativity in order to maintain and beautify the garden, or to simply enjoy the space.

In April of this year, an "Edible Book Contest" was hosted in the garden with great success. This month, we are excited to use the space to provide a hula hoop-decorating and hooping contest for teens. In upcoming months, we hope to enlist your help in the creation of birdhouses constructed of recycled books to adorn the garden, attract feathered friends, and maybe even inspire our young patrons to explore the science of ornithology. In the winter months, we will invite you to help us add a bit of color and whimsy to the garden by crafting decorations of glittering pine cones.

Additionally, we will soon be embarking on a project to create a picture identification book of the various flora and fauna found in our garden for reference use in the library. This we hope to further extend into use as a guide for a children's plant identity scavenger hunt.* Currently, we need help weeding and collecting pine needles and cones. We would also like to collect local arts and crafts for display in the garden. If you have an interest in contributing in any of these ways, please stop by and talk to a librarian!

*Please stop by the library or check our Facebook page for times and dates.



Happ'ns in the 'Hood

2805 St. Claude Ave.

The City Council will be considering an amendment to the Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance to create a designation of wine bar for on-site and off-site consumption, and to add wine bars as conditional use in the Marigny. This will then allow Ms Markel to sell wine by the glass and the bottle at her wine bar. We all expect to be invited to the grand opening.

Hubig's

Not much to report yet on the future of Hubig's in the Marigny. Neighbors are expressing concern about the odors coming from the remains of the food stuff used in production and are hoping for a rapid clean-up of the site. The clean-up apparently depends on the insurance adjustor, something we can all commiserate with.

Comprehensive Zoning Ordinances

The city will be moving forward with the new Comprehensive Zoning Ordinances (CZO) this month. Our input is critical to the future of our neighborhood, and the current ordinance limiting our building heights to 50 feet was critical in the fight over the 75 foot building at 501 Elysian Fields. The current draft calls for a riverfront district overlay which calls for "nodes" at Elysian Fields and at Press St. The "nodes" run two blocks in each direction, making a four square block area wherein 75 foot buildings may be erected. Needless to say, the fight to remove these nodes starts now.



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IMPROVEMENT

ASSOCIATION

First Annual Fete Marigny

The Faubourg Marigny gets its own neighborhood festival! Other neighborhoods such as the Bywater (Mirliton Fest), Gentilly (Gentilly Fest), and Bayou St. John (Bastille Day) have had their own festivals for years. As fundraisers, they raise thousands of dollars for the neighborhood and are the principal source of revenue for some neighborhood associations. For the first year, FMIA will be hosting its own unique home-grown neighborhood festival, the "Fête Marigny".

This first of what will hopefully become an annual festival will take place in Washington Square Park on October 21st, 2012, and will celebrate the original French cultural heritage of the Faubourg Marigny. There will be a French-themed costume contest, live French music performances, French food, a raffle featuring dozens of bottles of wine (including, of course, French wine).

In conjunction with the Fête Marigny festivities, the FMIA will be celebrating its 40th anniversary with a series of speakers and presentations about the Faubourg Marigny which will take place at venues around the Park. The annual Marigny Fall Walking Tour is also scheduled the same day and tickets will be available in the Park.

Of course, it takes a lot of volunteers to host a festival and the Fête Marigny is no exception. There are dozens of different activities which need to be staffed and coordinated, from set-up to clean-up and everything in



between. With less than 60 days remaining to Fête day we are still looking for volunteers to work in crucial areas such as contacting sponsors and coordinating publicity. Anyone interested in working on publicity, sponsorships, hosting a food booth, an artist booth, donating a gift for the silent auction, donating a bottle of wine for the raffle, or just general volunteering, please contact Marshall Gries at marshallg@faubourgmarigny.org.



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IMPROVEMENT

ASSOCIATION

C4 is Explosive!

The Claiborne Corridor Cultural Collaborative (C4) is a mapping project of the City of New Orleans Mayor's Office of Cultural Economy, funded by the National Endowment for the Arts. The map is an essential first step towards establishing a knowledge and asset-based creative place-making tool. Local Architecture and Planning firm, Perez, APC, has been hired to conduct the work. As a member of New Orleans' formal or informal cultural community, you

have a unique opportunity, through the C4 Mapping Project, to stake your ground. Please visit the C4 website (<http://c4nola.com/>) to get more information, see sample maps in-progress and – most importantly – to take a brief survey on the cultural work you do. Completing the survey will ensure your presence on the map. For those answering the survey as individuals, all responses are anonymous.



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IMPROVEMENT

ASSOCIATION

FMIA Board Meeting Minutes August 1, 2012

Members Present: Alex Vialou, Jim Farr, Marshall Gries, Chris Costello, Miles Swanson, Gretchen Bomboy, Gene Cizek, Donna Wakeman

Members Absent: Jason Patterson

Meeting called to order (time): 7:15 p.m. by Alex Vialou

Previous Meeting Minutes:

Read? No, distributed by e-mail Approved? Yes

ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

COMMUNITY REQUESTS/PRESENTATIONS

None

ADMINISTRATION

1. APPROVALS BY E-MAIL:

Approval of text of petition opposing 501 Elysian Fields: pproved: 5 Yes 4 No

Placing the petition on the website as soon as possible: Approved: 6 Yes 3 No

Purchasing web domaine www.sizematters.INFO domain:Approved: 6 Yes 3 No

Approval of design of yard sign: Approved: 7 Yes2 No

Vote to send letter in response to CPC report re: 501 E.F.: Approved: 7 Yes2 No

Approval to purchase yard signs, t-shirts and bumper stickers: Approved: 7 Yes2 No

Approval not to exceed \$5,000 for 501 Elysian Fields campaign: Approved: 6 Yes 3 No

Approval of Alex Vialou's letter to City Council: Approved: 6 Yes 3 No

Approval of various purchases related to 501 E.F.: Approved: 6 Yes 3 No

2. PRESIDENT'S REPORT: President Alex Vialou reported that the campaign opposing the proposed 75 foot apartment building at 501 Elysian Fields is off to a good start. However, we have to re-double our efforts. Many people are not yet educated on what the 75 foot precedent would mean to the Faubourg

Marigny. Many people he has spoken to are surprised to hear about it. Many are still sitting on the fence. Education and information dissemination is crucial. There is a need to show other neighbors our side of the argument and what is at risk. The City Council must also be kept informed.

The neighborhood needs to focus on the need for good development and stress the negative impact of bad development. There is a real threat from projects which will "de-nature" the Faubourg Marigny – strip it of its uniqueness.

Alex also reiterated the likelihood that the development of 75 foot towers along the river and Elysian Fields would serve to wall-off the neighborhood from the river and the Marigny triangle from the rectangle.

Alex expressed sympathy for all of those affected by the fire at Hubig's. The fire may be considered an Act of God which would allow the company to rebuild in the same location, but subject to new construction code. _____ to write a letter to Hubig's asking them to stay in the neighborhood. _____ seconded. 5 votes in favor. 1 Against.

3. TREASURER'S REPORT: Treasurer Chris Costello distributed copies of the monthly balance sheet, profit & loss statement, and check detail reports. He reported that Robert Reddington has completed the annual audit (details from tape). Chris submitted various invoices for expenses related to the 501 Elysian Fields campaign. After review of the expenses, Jim Farr moved to approve payment. Gene Cizek seconded the motion and all voted in favor.

4. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

a) Newsletter/Communications: Donna Wakeman reported that the latest edition has been finalized. The new assistant editor is now working with her. Ads are starting to increase. Overall cost to produce the newsletter on an annual basis is around \$1,500 if the level of advertising keeps up.

b) Marigny Green: Nothing new reported.

Continued on page 13

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IMPROVEMENT

ASSOCIATION

FMIA Board Meeting Minutes August 1, 2012 — *continued*

c) Blight: Nothing new reported. Alex Vialou has taken a position working for the City of New Orleans Redevelopment Authority. Consequently, we need a new chairperson for the Blight Committee.

d) Parking: Donna Wakeman submitted a letter for the board to review which is to be sent to the Department of Public Works, Parking Division, regarding the Residential Parking District. This is the first step in the process of creating a Parking District in the rectangle. Final approval will still require approval by over 50% of the residents on each block face. There was discussion of the difficulty for those who work businesses within the FM. Chris Costello advocated for a comprehensive solution to the issue (business parking, meters, etc.). The new Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance has no parking space requirements for businesses.

Donna's proposal to the City seeks to expand the existing Marigny triangle Parking District throughout the entire Marigny. The ensuing discussion highlighted the need for an overall parking plan and the need for the CZO to retain parking requirements.

e) Washington Park: Children's equipment is getting in bad shape and needs maintenance.

f) Fête Marigny: Marshall Gries gave an update on the festival. Five bottles of wine have been donated for the raffle. Three prizes have been donated for the silent auction (Royal Street Courtyards B&B, Marigny Brasserie, and the Hotel Intercontinental) but over a dozen more have been promised. The organizers of Gentilly Fest are scheduled to meet with the committees at the next meeting and a representative of the Mirliton Fest will attend the August 10th meeting.

The food and beverage chairperson was unable to continue and the group is actively looking for another volunteer. If you are interested in coordinating the food and beverage concessions or know of someone who is, please contact marshallg@faubourgmarigny.org . There are many vendors and the only thing to do is the leg work.

Anyone who has a contact with a business which might donate a prize for our silent auction should contact Marshall. All those who wish to donate a bottle of wine for the raffle's grand prize "wine cellar" should bring a bottle to the general meetings or contact Marshall at marshallg@faubourgmarigny.org.

g) FMIA 40th Anniversary: Nothing new reported.

OLD BUSINESS

PROJECTS:

a) Master Plan / CZO: We need the Zoning Committee to discuss the draft CZO and RDO and discuss changes and new uses. We need to review the Riverfront Vision and the issue of Nodes. We are now included in the "Historic Core District".

b) Elysio Lofts: There will be a pre-HDLC meeting at the bar Siberia on August 8th from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. to discuss the upcoming hearing before the HDLC on August 10th.

c) Michelle Picou: Requested changes to the RDO to allow corner restaurants will be postponed until it can be reviewed by the Zoning Committee.

d) Noise: Fewer problems have been reported lately since it is summertime and doors and windows are kept closed for the air conditioning. The VCPORA has a list of concerns related to noise which they would like to include in discussions. They would like the FMIA to review their concerns.

e) Colton School: There will be a meeting in August regarding the location of the Homer Plessy School.

f) Mimi's: Pursuant to a meeting arranged by Miles Swanson, Mimi's now has a security guard at nights Thursday through Sunday. A follow up meeting is to be scheduled. Miles will be working on a bicycle rack for the corner.

g) Riverfront Park: Nothing substantive has been decided and discussions seem bogged down in small details. The Marigny's Riverfront Advisory Board liaison Ken Caron is trying to keep the board focused on key issues such as the Marigny Wharf performance venue and parking. Ken is skeptical that meeting every other week is adequate to address all of the outstanding issues. It appears that the park will not open on time but it should be open in time for Super Bowl.

Donna Wakeman made a motion to write a letter to the Advisory Board on behalf of the Faubourg Marigny requesting that they resolve issues important to the neighborhood. Gretchen Bomboy seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

h) Siberia Bar: Siberia has requested the support of the FMIA in their pursuit of a live music permit. It was determined that they are just beginning the permitting process and it is premature to consider a letter of support.

i) Catherine Markel: A conditional use for a wine shop will need to be transferred to any new zoning that is eventually approved in the CZO process.

NEW BUSINESS

There was a general discussion about a new Art Mart that is taking place on Frenchmen Street. We will eventually be asked to vote on whether this use should be added to the Arts and Cultural overlay. Alex asked us to reflect on it.

The Nominations Committee, responsible for searching for candidates to fill board vacancies, will be headed by Gary Delaumont. The Ethics Committee will be headed by Bobby Moffit. The Budget/Audit Committee is headed by Robert Reddington and the audit has been completed.

ORCHIDS & ONIONS:

Orchids: None

Onions: Developers who don't respect existing zoning regulations.

MOTIONS:

1) Motion to approve payment of 501 Elysian Fields related expenses
Moved: Jim Farr Seconded: Gene Cizek Vote: Approved unanimously.

2) Motion to write a letter to the Riverfront Advisory Board:
Moved: Donna Wakeman Seconded: Gretchen Bomboy
Vote: Approved unanimously.

3) Approval of the minutes of past board and general meetings:
Moved: Donna Wakeman Seconded: Gretchen Bomboy
Vote: Approved unanimously.

Meeting Adjourned Time: 9:55 p.m.

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FMIA General Meeting Minutes August 20, 2012

Meeting Called to Order: 7:18 P.M. by president Alex Vialou.

WELCOME / INTRODUCTION

President Alex Vialou welcomed all to the August 20th General Meeting of the FMIA and reviewed the evening's agenda.

New Faces / New Members:

Sara Lincoln – New neighbor has moved to Port and N. Rampart from the Bywater.

Alex noted that the Faubourg Marigny has been enjoying a renaissance like few other neighborhoods since hurricane Katrina. The City of New Orleans been undergoing a steady population loss for decades and, until hurricane Katrina, that included the Faubourg Marigny. However, now the Marigny is one of 7 neighborhoods in the city (out of a total of 72) which has been experiencing population growth - a testament to its livability and character.

ANNOUNCEMENTS / SPEAKERS

Speakers:

Sara Leikin: Sara has been selected as the Homer A Plessy Community School's founding Head of School. She reiterated that the Homer Plessy school is continuing its effort to have a location within the Colton School. She stressed the need for a neighborhood school for neighborhood children. If both Colton and Douglas schools are KIPP schools, with kids bussed in from other parts of the city, then Marigny children will lose the possibility of attending a truly local school. She is intent on keeping the conversation open with Colton and is asking the neighborhood and the FMIA for support and to be a part of the ongoing process.

Happy Johnson: Mr. Johnson is an organizer for the National Wildlife Federation (NWF). The NWF is holding a meeting at the New Orleans Healing Center this Wednesday, August 22nd, at 6:00 p.m. to discuss coastal erosion and land loss in Louisiana. Also to be discussed will be the newly passed legislation known as the Restore Act and its potential impact on the state.

Jonathan Rhodes: Jonathan is the president of the St. Claude Mainstreet Association (SCMA). Jonathan and board member JoAnn Minor reintroduced the SCMA to the FMIA membership. The SCMA is an economic development group with the mission of improving the St. Claude corridor from Elysian Fields to Poland Avenue. This area encompasses parts of the Marigny, Bywater, St. Roch and New Marigny neighborhoods. The FMIA collaborated with the SCMA at its inception and remains a partner today. The SCMA membership continues to improve and grow in scope.

The SCMA has been successful in signing an agreement with the "Good Work Network", another group formed to develop and grow entrepreneurship. The SCMA is currently working on three main projects: 1) corner store improvement which strives to work with corner store owners to ensure stores are useful, productive, and good neighbors, 2) business association which works to coordinate the St. Claude businesses, and 3) arts-based streetscape improvement; they have received a grant to improve the area through the arts.

There was a brief discussion about the need for the SCMA, which is not a neighborhood association, to keep an active liaison with the surrounding neighborhoods which are directly affected by the fortunes of the St. Claude corridor. The FMIA will continue to provide updates on SCMA activities in its newsletter and e-blasts. Congratulations were offered for all SCMA's hard work to improve the corridor.

Announcements:

None

UPDATES / COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committees:

Nomination: Nomination Committee Chairman Gary Delaumont announced the candidates for the upcoming board elections: 1) Bill Walker, 2) John Gutekunst, 3) Mark Maloof, 4) Peter Horjus. Nominated from the general membership were: 1) Benni Naghi, 2) Dwight Norton.

All candidates need to submit a one paragraph biographical sketches of themselves as soon as possible to the Newsletter editor at _____.

The position of Past President, currently occupied by Gene Cizek, is also open. Chris Costello was nominated for this position.

Information/Newsletter: The new assistant editor, Peter Horjus has begun working on the newsletter.

Parking: Nothing new. Donna Wakeman reported that other major issues on the FMIA's agenda have prevented her from spending time on parking issues. The Parking Committee will reconvene in September. Anyone interested in

being on the committee should e-mail Donna at donnaw@faubourgmarigny.org.

President Alex Vialou stressed the importance of working on committees. For example, a parking study was recently completed for the Colton School. The study concluded that no off-street parking was needed for the 60+ staff members of the school. In addition, the Recovery School District (RSD) is considering changing directions of adjacent streets to better accommodate the buses. Further, Elisio Lofts is asking for a variance to allow a 1:1 parking ratio instead of the 1.5 required under current zoning. All of this affects Marigny residents' ability to park near their homes. In response, the Parking Committee has been a catalyst for expansion of the Residential Parking District. This is one example of the importance of working on a committee.

Fête Marigny: Chairman Marshall Gries announced that gifts for the silent auction have been coming in steadily including: overnight hotel gift certificates, B&B stays, restaurant gift certificates, and bar tabs. Unfortunately, only 7 bottles of wine had been donated for the raffle, though by the end of the meeting six more bottles had been donated, bringing the total to 13. The music performers have been nearly finalized and invitations for art vendors are underway. A new volunteer, Emily Vanlandingham, has taken over the Food Booth sub-committee and has started contacting potential vendors. There is still a great need for official sponsors to donate seed money for initial expenses. Also needed is someone to coordinate the festival's publicity. Anyone wanting to help with the Fête Marigny is encouraged to contact marshallg@faubourgmarigny.org. And remember, please bring any unwanted (?) bottles of wine to the next general meeting on September 17th.

Blight: A volunteer is needed to head this very important committee.

Alex Vialou announced that the fire that destroyed Hubig's has been classified as an "act of God" and, as such, the building may be reconstructed on the same site. He also noted that, but for the twelve foot concrete block walls, the

Continued on page 15

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IMPROVEMENT

ASSOCIATION

FMIA General Meeting Minutes August 20, 2012 — *continued*

fire would most likely have spread to neighboring homes. The thick concrete walls saved the neighborhood. This is an example of how following building and zoning guidelines can prevent disasters. Alex also reminded everyone that it is possible to go online and become a Hubig's "angel" and purchase a box of pies. The pies will be delivered when production resumes. Alex noted that Hubig's is part of the neighborhood fabric and encouraged everyone to engage them to try to convince them to stay in the neighborhood.

501 Elysian Fields: The proposed Elisio Fields project application asks for 4 significant waivers from the existing zoning ordinances: 1) 75 feet height variance (50 feet is the current limit), 2) a 1:1 parking ratio (current zoning requires 1.5 spaces), 3) an increase in the Floor Area Ratio (FAR) to 2.8 (current zoning is limited to 2.0), and 4) a lot area per dwelling calculation based on 496 square feet (current zoning requires a 600 square feet per unit calculation).

Most requests for variances are much smaller in scale and are negotiated with the neighborhood. This has not been the case with Elisio Lofts. Each of the 4 primary variances have a large impact on the neighborhood and little has been offered to the neighborhood as a tradeoff. The impact on residential parking will be huge and the precedent of a 75 ft tall building sets the stage for further 75 ft buildings.

Further, the developer implies that this area is really more a part of the Riverfront than of the Marigny. He is depending on the draft CZO which includes a Riverfront Overlay District which will allow consideration of 75 foot tall buildings on 10 other lots along the river and on Elysian Fields. The city is creating incentives in this area for increased growth.

Unfortunately, these changes can be at the expense of the historic districts. For example, the Bachanal wine shop, which just completed a beautiful renovation of its 200 year old building now finds itself sitting in a block that could permit 75 foot tall buildings.

FMIA Board members met with Cmr. Palmer and had a good exchange. She asked if the FMIA board was unanimous in its opposition to the project and

she wanted to make sure our petitions were legitimate. Cmr. Palmer wants to be certain our reaction to the project is genuine. Officially, the FMIA supports the project but opposes the variances. The project must respect the existing zoning. Historic preservation and the architectural integrity that has fostered our current unique social fabric is under attack. Communicating our opinions to city officials is crucial. Letters posted by regular mail carry more weight than e-mails.

Mr. Cummings has decided to appeal the 8/10/12 decision by the HDLC which was not in his favor. The appeal will be heard by the City Council on September 6, 2012.

Discussion ensued about the issues both pro and con about the project. Anyone interested in speaking before the City Council on September 6 can e-mail his/her name to donnaw@faubourgmarigny.org.

Megan _____ is working on the social media side of the issue. She is looking for volunteers interested in having their perspective videotaped. These can then be uploaded onto youtube, facebook, and twitter.

Gretchen Bomboy also reminded that the mayor is hosting budget talks that affect all of the city's districts. There may be efforts to decrease funding for the HDLC. HDLC is helps provide vital protection for the city's historic neighborhoods and, if anything, funding should be increased. There will be an opportunity for those District C residents living on the east bank of the Mississippi to attend one of these budget hearings next Thursday, September 23rd at 7:00 p.m. at St. Marks Methodist church in the Vieux Carré.

Alex announced that the FMIA's position to uphold the existing zoning is supported by 7 neighborhoods.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:42.

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