



IMPROVEMENT

ASSOCIATION

www.FaubourgMarigny.org

Les Amis de Marigny

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

Fête Marigny — Magnifique!

This is how we celebrate things here in the Marigny! The success of the first Fête Marigny was due to all the hard work and dedication of our volunteers, the generosity of our sponsors, and the spirit of the people of Marigny that make this such a great Neighborhood.



We have heard only positive comments from food vendors, artists, musicians, those who participated in the home tour, and other visitors. It was especially gratifying to see so many families enjoying the food, music and general *bonhomie* of the day.

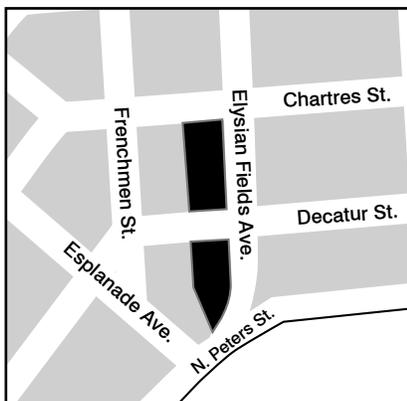


For more photos see page 2.

Parking on Elysian Fields

There are many questions concerning the development of the surface parking lots on the 400 and 500 blocks of Elysian Fields Avenue and the connection with the new Riverfront Park.

The French Market Corporation (FMC) is charged with maintaining the Park, and also owns the Elysian Fields parking lots. They were asked to consider expanding the lots in order to provide funding for the maintenance of the new Park.



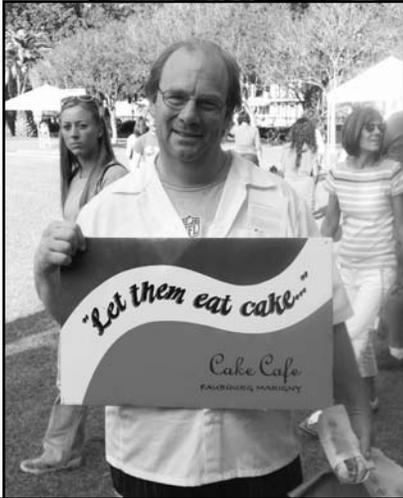
The lots in question.

Frank Pizzolato, Executive Director of FMC, spoke to the FMIA Board about the proposed parking garages and the Request for Proposal (RFP) for the properties. There were only two responses to the RFP which included 700-800 spaces and retail space. The final plans will ideally make money for both the private investors and the city. Nothing has been decided as of now, everything is open for discussion. There are also concerns about the fact that the new parking facilities will not be completed by the time the Riverfront Park opens.

Architect John Williams, who also spoke to the board, is actively involved in the project design for the properties. He promised to keep the neighborhood informed.

The final design of these properties is still up in the air. Possibilities include: multi-story parking garages, mixed-use residential/commercial/parking or some other combination. The inclusion of an entertainment venue is apparently off the table for now.

Continued on page 2



Members of the Panel Presentation: William de Marigny Hyland, Eugene Cizek, Chuck Berg (Moderator), Rick Fifield and Alex Vialou.

Parking continued from page 1

This development will have a big impact on the community. It's important that the residents of Faubourg Marigny have their voices heard. The FMIA is asking our members to take an online survey in order to help shape FMIA policy on this issue.

Please go to the FMIA website faubourgmarigny.org and click on the "Take the Survey" link. Questions include "What type of development would you prefer to see on this site?" and "If there is commercial development of this site, what kind of businesses would you prefer?" There's also space for you to tell us your own vision for this site.

If development and parking issues in Marigny are important to you, please take a few minutes and take the survey.

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,

What a couple of weeks just passed. On October 21st, our own Fete Marigny was a wonderful success with lots of fun for everyone. Thank you to all that volunteered! The day started with an enlightening panel discussion regarding the past, present, and future of the neighborhood. Attendants learned about the history of the neighborhood, its past challenges and how the FMIA came across as a necessary uniting force not only for architectural preservation but also for the cohesion of the neighborhood. And it still is, as we are often faced with proposals that try unsuccessfully to argue that some sections of the Faubourg Marigny such as the riverfront or St. Claude should be out of the zoning we worked so hard to implement.

The Washington Square Park festivities started at 11 am with a great music line-up. At noon, as we formally celebrated our 40th anniversary with a French twist, we were particularly sensitive that the director of the French-American Chamber of Commerce Gulf Coast Chapter, the new director of Alliance Francaise and the French consulate cultural attaché were present. District E Councilmember Mr. Charbonnet also honored us with his presence, and spoke to the strength of civic engagement he saw in the FMIA. The event wouldn't have been an anniversary without a cake. So it is with a sincere appreciation that we thank Cake Café for their wonderful and delicious gift.

On November 1st, the FMIA received an official proclamation from the Council of the City of New Orleans at the request of Councilmember Kristin Gisleson Palmer, recognizing "the impact of the notable work of the Faubourg Marigny Improvement Association (FMIA) and congratulates them upon their 40th Anniversary." This recognition is particularly important. By celebrating our work, the job done by all neighborhood associations in general gets recognized for empowering local communities in the planning for the future of the city we want to live in. So once again Joyeux Anniversaire FMIA!

Alexandre Vialou

Do You Recieve Our Weekly E-Blast?

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.

Happ'ns in the 'Hood

Ruby Slipper in the Triangle

The newest Ruby Slipper restaurant is scheduled to open in November. Located in the beautiful old bank building at Burgundy and Touro streets, they'll be staying with their traditional menu, serving breakfast and lunch, along with brunch on the weekends. They will be able to accommodate approximately 100 guests and allow for private dining reservations.

New Orleans Fringe Festival

From November 14th through the 18th the Marigny Opera House will host performing arts groups as an Official Venue of the New Orleans Fringe Theatre Festival. The Festival nurtures emerging and established performing artists. For information please visit www.nofringe.org.

Siberia

The FMIA has sent a letter to the City Planning Commission in support of a conditional use that would allow for live performance music at Siberia, 2227 St. Claude Avenue. The FMIA had been unaware of any complaints concerning live music operations at Siberia, but more recently has become aware of some problems with neighbors.

Making Groceries at Last?

Sources say that a settlement has been reached at last between Robert and Schwegmann over the property at 2222 St. Claude Ave. The agreement gives Robert the property, the landlord's lost rent insurance (\$1m), the landlord's building repair insurance (\$2m), plus \$800,000. This is in addition to the flood (more than \$2M), contents and betterments/improvements insurance money (\$1.5m) and business interruption (approximately \$2M) Robert had previously received on the property. With an approximate total of \$7 million in cash money and title to the property, Mr. Robert is now in a position to reopen the grocery store he has promised the neighborhood.

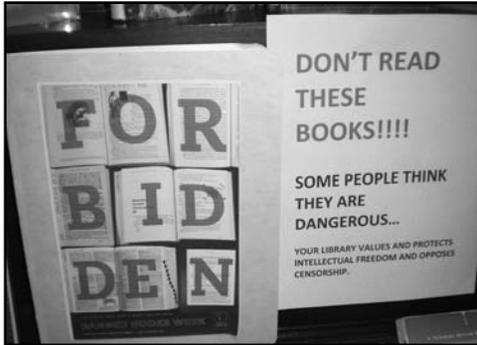
Noisy Neighbors

Most people remember the protracted negotiations over a Community Benefits Agreement between the FMIA and Café Istanbul which allowed Café Istanbul to be granted a zoning variance as an 'amusement place' while ensuring that neighbors would be guaranteed a good night's sleep. Well, after about a year's operation, neighbors aren't too amused. Events continue to be held at late hours during the week without notice, security guards (if any) do not prevent partying in the parking lot with go-cups, etc. This is a bitter disappointment to all, as Café Istanbul has the potential to be a great asset to the neighborhood, but not at the expense of its neighbors. Matters have been referred to Councilwoman Palmer's office.

It's All Happening at Alvar Library

*By Adele Marrs, Assistant Manager,
Alvar Branch, New Orleans Public Library*

Throughout the month Alvar library will be hosting several informative, amusing and possibly inspiring events that may pique your interest. October was busy at the library with activities ranging from an interactive Banned Books Week display to the kick-off of Alvar Arts and a poetry workshop series, to a program on bike maintenance, and an edible craft-making event.



November brings a continuation of several ongoing programs as well as a couple of one-off presentations that we are excited to offer. Additionally, we are thrilled to be making crafts and giving away free children's books at the Mirliton Festival between 2 and 4 pm. We would like to extend thanks to everyone who contributed to and attended our programs over the past month and invite you to visit us for the many others ahead.

- Woodcarving Demonstration
Thursday, November 1, 5:30 — 6:45 pm.
Pippin Frisbie-Calder of the New Orleans Community Printshop will present a woodcarving demonstration and discuss her artist residency at the Big Cypress National Preserve.
- Handmade Pillow Art
Thursday, November 8, 5:30 — 6:45 pm.
Local fabric artist Lee Kyle will display his handmade pillows featuring portraits of Southern literary figures. The program will entail a discussion of the work by the artist followed by a reception with food and drink.
- Alvar Arts
Thursday November 15, 7 — 9 pm.
Featuring film maker and actress Helen Krieger.
- Poets and Writer's Poetry Workshop
Saturdays in November, 2 — 4:30 pm.
Led by Ms. Lee Meitzen Grue. Please call us at 596-2667 to register in advance.
- Stitch n' Book Knitting Circle
2nd and 4th Saturdays, 2:30 — 3:30 pm.
Bring your own knitting, crocheting, tatting

or sewing projects and we will provide the refreshments and company!

- Chess
4th Thursday of each month, 5 — 7 pm Lessons for all ages with Bernard Parun.

On a final note, we are hoping to provide a Saturday story time that is convenient for neighborhood parents. Please stop by the library or fill out the survey on our Facebook page at New Orleans Public Library - Alvar Library to give us your time preference.

No More Blight

By Alexandre Vialou

The City of New Orleans just launched a new technology in the fight against blight in our city: **BlightStatus**. This is an important tool for our community in our efforts to eradicate blight in the neighborhood. Through the website blightstatus.nola.gov, it is now possible to access information on the status of blighted buildings that are being processed by the City of New Orleans Code Enforcement system.

With the system it will be now possible to:

- search for any property to view its case history in a clear and simple format
- create a "watchlist" to track the progress of multiple properties
- receive email alerts whenever a property on your "watchlist" moves forward in the blight process

As a community relying on the dedication of all neighbors, I strongly encourage you to check via the BlightStatus website if the blighted property next to your house is currently being processed by Code Enforcement. If it's not, please call 311 and report this particular blighted property to the City.

Quick hint: if you do not know exactly the street number of the property just type the name of the street where the blighted property is located and the website will pull all blighted properties currently within Code Enforcement located on that particular street.

To access Blight Status go to

<http://blightstatus.nola.gov/>

Meet the Neighbors



Due to unforeseen circumstances (hurricane Isaac certainly qualifies as an unforeseen

circumstance) Jill McGaughey, our intrepid *Meet the Neighbors* venue locator was unable to secure a place to meet in October. We wish her all the best in getting her storm-damaged home repaired.

Meet the Neighbors will be back in business for November. We'll be gathering at **Cutter's**, 706 Franklin Avenue on November 13 at 6:30.

NONPAC Meetings

5th District Report

No Report

8th District Report

By Susan Drongowski

Commander Walls thanked everyone who participated in the National Night Out Against Crime.

There was discussion of the SafeCams8 program, which aims to develop a comprehensive list of all the privately owned video surveillance cameras in the 8th District in order to allow police to contact a camera owner or operator when camera footage is needed to solve a crime or facilitate an investigation. Participation is voluntary. To register your camera with the 8th District visit: <http://fqmd.org/safecams8-nopdfix.html>.

Officers reported they have arrested 64 persons in possession of a gun since January 1 this year, as compared to 63 persons arrested for the entire year of 2011. In addition a total of 77 guns have been confiscated since January 1, in comparison to 88 guns confiscated for the entire year of 2011.

Also reported was the arrest of a suspect in connection with several burglaries in the 900 block of Chartres Street.

New 5th District Quality of Life Officer

The 5th District would like to introduce Officer Victoria Guidry as the new 5th District Quality of Life Officer. Officer Guidry is a 10 year veteran of the New Orleans Police Department and has served her entire tour of duty in the 5th District.

Officer Guidry can be contacted in regards to all of your quality of life concerns at the 5th District Station, 504-658-6050; 658-6557 (direct line); 504-444-6352 (departmental cell) or email vsguidry@nola.gov

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

November 2012

Board Meeting

November 7, 7 pm,
2509 Burgundy Street

Meet the Neighbors

November 13, 6:30 – 8:30 pm,
Cutter's, 706 Franklin Avenue

General Meeting

November 19, 6:30 Pot Luck, 7:15 Meeting
St. Paul Lutheran Church, 2624 Burgundy Street

December 2012

Board Meeting

December 5, 7 pm,
2509 Burgundy Street

Meet the Neighbors

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

General Meeting

No General Meeting for December

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
In front of ARISE Academy at Dr. Charles Drew Elementary School, 3819 St. Claude Ave.

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
John Gutekunst at editor@faubourgmarigny.org*

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



Engaging our Community around the Arts

By Jonathan Rhodes, St. Claude Main Street

St. Claude Main Street was recently awarded a grant from the ArtPlace foundation to be used to support the St. Claude cultural community. One component of the grant, community engagement, is dedicated to funding programs that further integrate the St. Claude cultural community with the St. Claude-area communities at-large, including the Faubourg Marigny. We invite any New Orleans resident to propose or suggest an arts-based program or project that they would like to see implemented by St. Claude Main Street in and around the St. Claude community.

These programs should increase dialogue between neighbors, develop partnerships between organizations and individuals, and identify potential solutions to shared challenges by using the creative process. The most basic goal of the community engagement programs is sustainability: they should catalyze relationships and develop an infrastructure for programs to be continued in the future.

Initial written proposals must be 500 words or less and should include a draft budget. You may also submit a one-line-pitch that the Community Arts Advisory Board will form into a proposal in collaboration with you. There is a \$10,000 maximum budget for each proposed program.

St. Claude Main Street will develop proposals selected for implementation with advisement from the person who submitted the initial program or project idea. Please note

that St. Claude Main Street will not be re-granting any monies. Any proposals, if selected by the Community Arts Advisory Board, will be executed through a contractual agreement between St. Claude Main Street and the individual, as it is applicable.

Proposals will be selected based on a majority vote of the Community Arts Advisory Board. During the selection process, the advisory board may contact you for more information and/or support material. The following criteria will be considered though it is not necessary for your proposal to answer all of these questions.

- Does the program increase and empower local participation in the cultural arts?
- How does it impact the St. Claude community? Further, does it impact diverse and distinct areas within the corridor or beyond?
- Does the program reflect local traditions or culture?
- Does the program's budget reflect a maximization of impact? (For instance a program that costs \$5,000 should have a much larger impact on the community than a program that costs \$500)
- What community partnerships are created?
- Is the program or project artistically awesome?

On December 15, 2012 (location TBD) there will be a public meeting where the community will have an opportunity to learn more about what programs this portion of the ArtPlace grant will be funding.

If you have questions or would like additional information, contact us at hello@stclaude.org.



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ArtPlace Grants

Deadline for submission:

November 22, 2012

When you will hear back about your proposal:

December 10, 2012

Public meeting:

December 15, 2012

When programs will be implemented:

Starting in January 2013

Submit to:

st-claude-arts-advisory@googlegroups.com

Or send to

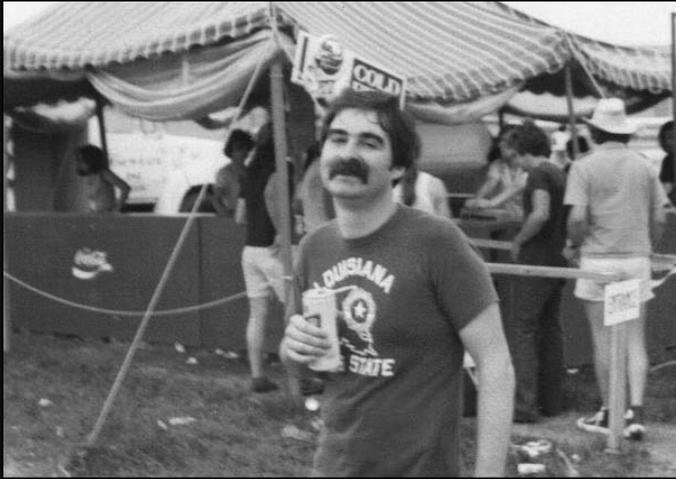
St. Claude Main Street, P.O. Box 770220,
New Orleans, LA 70117

Online application:

<http://www.stclaude.org/request-for-proposals-community-engagement-art-programs/>

Mystery Photo

Identify the guy with the can of Schlitz in this photograph and win something yet to be determined — hopefully something better than a can of Schlitz. Send your entry to editor@faubourgmarigny.org.



Other mystery photos from our past are welcome. Send them to editor@faubourgmarigny.org.

BOARD MEMBERS

Alexandre Vialou, President: president@faubourgmarigny.org

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Bill Walker: BillW@faubourgmarigny.org

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Marigny Green: marignygreen@faubourgmarigny.org

Newsletter: editor@faubourgmarigny.org

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For comments — email info@faubourgmarigny.org

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Marigny Green

By Deborah Oppenheim



NOLA Wise launched a Home Energy Makeover Contest earlier this year with a chance for local homeowners to win \$10,000 in energy upgrades. The two lucky winners received:

- Air sealing
- Installation of radiant barrier and insulation
- Air conditioning tune-ups
- Programmable thermostats, and
- Lighting and water conservation upgrades

These homes will have reduction in their utility use and decrease their carbon emissions, which helps contribute to a more sustainable New Orleans. For more information on how you can cut cost contact **Monica Rowland** at www.nolawise.org.

Great news from the **City of New Orleans, Southeast Energy Efficiency Alliance (SEEA)** and **NOLA Wise** announced that the expansion of energy-saving improvements for commercial services is available. For

more information on this program, contact www.nolawise.org.

Tree Information

I have contacted Parkway Partners to see if we have a Tree Trooper in the neighborhood. A Tree Trooper is someone who attended a series of classes with Parkway Partners to learn all about trees. We are so fortunate to have a graduate Tree Trooper who lives in the Marigny. As soon as contact is made, I will pass on this information to those who are interested. I know I promised assistance with trees information but due to knee surgery haven't been able to be of service. This too shall pass and I will be able to resume my activities.



PARKWAY PARTNERS

Feel free to check Parkway Partners website for information www.parkwayspartnernola.org, or call Program Director **Susannah Burley** at 504-620-2224.



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Elevation, Raised Houses, and Flood Insurance in the Marigny

By Peter Horjus

As you may know, about half of the Marigny falls into a "flood zone." According to the maps on the City of New Orleans website (found at: <http://www.nola.gov/RESIDENTS/Safety-and-Permits/Office-of-Safety-and-Permits/Flood-Zone-Map/>) the area roughly between Burgundy and St. Claude are classified as FEMA Flood Zone A. Although most elevated houses in our neighborhood have not been touched by floodwaters in living memory, this classification still has profound impacts on the flood insurance policies most of us in this part of the neighborhood pay.

According to the National Flood Insurance Programme, which writes nearly all flood insurance in New Orleans, the price of a policy is determined by criteria such as: year of construction, number of floors, contents, flood zone, deductible and amount of coverage, and the location of the lowest floor in relation to the elevation requirement on the flood map.

There is little one can do to change any of these attributes. However, flood insurance policies may not take into account the location of the lowest floor in relation to the elevation requirements when determining flood insurance cost. To do this, a flood elevation survey must be conducted, which is usually the responsibility and at the cost of the homeowner rather than the insurer. This means that a house located in a flood zone may in fact have its lowest floor above grade, but the flood insurance policy does not reflect this.

I am neither an insurance agent/expert nor a surveyor, so I can only provide my own house and insurance experiences from a few years ago as an example. I live at 2517 N. Rampart St. and am located in Flood Zone A. I confirmed with my insurance agent that my flood insurance policy considered my house and contents to also be below grade (in a flood zone), and the cost of my flood policy reflected this. However, this policy did not take into account the fact that my house is raised, with the first floor about 3.5 feet above the ground at the front of the house.

I contacted a local survey company, and for a reasonable price they conducted a flood elevation survey of my house and provided complete official documentation of the elevation of lowest floor as well as the lot, street, curb, etc. This survey revealed that although my house is in a flood zone, the lowest floor is in fact about 2 feet above grade. I submitted these elevation forms to my insurance agent, and the cost of my flood insurance policy dropped by about \$1,000 per year with no other changes to the policy.

I of course felt rather naïve that I had not taken action on this before, but conversations with friends and neighbors revealed that many other homeowners around me were also unaware of this fact — leading to a few other flood elevation surveys and insurance savings by neighbors on my block. For the approximately half of Marigny homeowners located in a flood zone, it may be worthwhile to explore the potential for this significant potential savings and see if it could apply to you as well.

Note: I am far from an expert in insurance and elevation surveys, this information is shared here informally, and is only as factual as this non-expert has been able to confirm!!

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Homer Plessy Community School Update

By Michael Pizzolatto

If you have not heard by now, Homer A. Plessy Community School is starting in the fall of 2013! We have hired an excellent Head of School in Sara Leikin who has an infectious passion for education along with a host of skills and experiences to lead an amazing model school. We have the gift of a year of incubation that will allow for the time to develop an arts-integrated curriculum, to recruit the best teachers and staff, to finalize a downtown neighborhood school site and to rally the support of an entire community. The strong foundation that will be constructed this year will support an amazing school for generations to come. Our success will provide best practice examples in education, the arts and social justice not only for our city but even our country.

We launched a 300 by \$100 campaign to help inject some much need operating capital into the process until government funding starts in the fall of 2013. We are asking 300 families, individuals, neighbors and businesses to help "run a leg of the race" by giving a gift of \$100. So far we've completed more than 75 legs of this fundraising race. For some this may require great sacrifice and stretching, for which we are very grateful. For others, running several legs of the race with a gift of \$500 or \$1,000 may be feasible. Either way, these are both vitally important parts to us running the race well. This initial \$30,000 of support will help pay Sara Leikin, our Head of School, as she pours in countless hours of hard work.

We also need help spreading the word and sharing the vision. You can hang a sign of support on your porch, join our community engagement committee, volunteer your time and talent, or host a "show and tell" party to connect us to your networks. The best way to give a financial gift is by visiting www.plessyschool.org and clicking on our PayPal

donation link. You can also mail a check to Homer A. Plessy Community School, 1738 St. Roch Ave. New Orleans, LA 70117. If you would like further information, please contact us at info@plessyschool.org.

Thanks for being a part of the team. You are critical to our success. The children of this neighborhood, for generations to come, need your support.

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FMIA Board Meeting Minutes October 3, 2012

Members Present: Alex Vialou, Marshall Gries, Miles Swanson, Gretchen Bomboy, Peter Horjus, Bill Walker, John Gutekunst, Mark Malouse,

Members Absent: Chris Costello

Guests: Organization:

Ryan Ballard, Intergalactic Krewe of Chewbacchus, Kira Haubrich, Intergalactic Krewe of Chewbacchus, Frank Pizzolato, French Market Corporation (Executive Director), John Williams, Architect, Amy Sins, Owner Marigny Triangle Restaurant (new), Diane Lease/Ken Jovanovich, Marigny Residents

Meeting called to order (time): 7:00 p.m. by: Alex Vialou

Previous Meeting Minutes: Read? No, distributed by e-mail Approved? Yes

ANNOUNCEMENTS: None

COMMUNITY REQUESTS/PRESENTATIONS

1) RYAN BALLARD AND KIRA HAUBRICH – The Intergalactic Krewe of Chewbacchus. This will be the third year for the Krewe's parade. Formerly the Krewe paraded uptown but it rents space from the Krewe du Vieux and feels connected to the Faubourg Marigny. They feel that the Faubourg Marigny is a walking parade-friendly neighborhood. King of this year's parade will be Peter Mahev, the original Chewbacca from the Star Wars movies. The Krewe specializes in science fiction themes. With around 500 members, they are trying to coordinate their parade to follow 'titREX's parade. The parade route is on their website at www.chewbacchus.org. The board raised the issue of clean-up after the parade. Mr. Ballard ensured the board that there were not many throws, which are mostly handmade and collectible. Most of the Krewe's floats are bicycle based. The date is set for January 26, 2013. The board invited them to attend the a general meeting and introduce themselves to the membership.

2) FRANK PIZZOLATO and JOHN WILLIAMS: Frank Pizzolato is the Executive Director of the French Market Corporation (FMC). He addressed the board about the two proposed parking garages on Elysian Fields and the RFP (request for proposal) for the properties. He came to the board meeting to explain the plans for the garages. He reminded the board that the French Market Corporation will also be charged with maintaining the new Riverfront Park. FMC owns the Elysian Fields parking lots and they were asked to consider expanding the lots in light of funding the maintenance of the new Riverfront Park. Past proposals to build out the sites were unsuccessful and architect John Williams is actively involved in the project design for the spaces.

Because the City is concerned with raising enough revenue to maintain the Riverfront Park, they are interested in having neighborhood support. Currently, there are 200 spaces on the lots. There were only two responses to the RFP which included 700-800 spaces and retail space. FMC needs private investors as partners to make the project viable. One of the two proposals was selected and negotiations have started over the details. The final project will ideally make money for both the private investors and the city.

Mr. Pizzolato said the FMC board members want an architecturally pleasing design which is financially viable. The original proposal is 58 feet with residential space on the top. Everything is open for discussion and negotiations are ongoing. Nothing is written in stone at this time.

Several board members voiced their concern about the coordination of the opening of the Riverfront Park with the new parking facilities. The garages will not be completed by the time the Park opens. Gretchen Bomboy voiced her concerns about security as there is not currently a Marigny entrance or exit to or from the Park. Too few entrances and exits are a security/safety concern. Mr. Pizzolato confirmed that FMC will be responsible for security guards and cameras.

Architect John Williams promised to keep us up to date. Our neighborhood liaison is Ken Caron. Mr. Williams asked what the neighborhood would like for amenities. Miles Swanson urged that commercial space be geared toward residents (helpful shops) who would comprise the base clientele. Mr. Pizzolato said that local services are needed and he is willing to get them in the complex. As of this date, it is undecided whether both garages will go up simultaneously.

3) AMY SINS: Amy is opening new restaurant at Rampart and Pauger. It will be Cajun, Creole, and Southern cuisine. Her goal is a high quality dining experience in an intimate setting. The kitchen will be open and the chefs will interact with the customers. Meals will take approximately two hours and will be on a prix fixe basis. Advance reservations will be required.

It is zoned HMC-2. They plan to be open FRI/SAT/SUN brunch & early dinner. Friday seating will be at 10 and 2. Saturday's will be at 10 and 2. Sunday: 10, 20 and 6. Monday: 6 only. She hopes to open in November. There will be crime cameras and it will be BYOB for now. They anticipate a sophisticated clientele. She just stopped by the meeting to introduce herself to the neighbors.

4) Diane Lease and Ken Jovanovich: Diane and Ken are Marigny rectangle residents and they stopped to give the board an update on the problem the neighbors are having with noise from Mimi's. Diane described the history of the neighborhood since she has been living there. Alex gave a summary of the issue of live music and the recent City enforcement of second line liquor sales, and other code enforcement actions. The City has stopped enforcement temporarily. Diane offered stories of neighbors who live with noise from vibrating crockery in their homes, who wear earplugs, etc. She asked the FMIA board to follow up to come to a good resolution of the situation.

Ken Jovanovich talked of the neighborhood in general. He voiced his concern about Franklin Avenue becoming a commercial corridor. Businesses are trying to keep people in the neighborhood and travel between the bars is very heavy in the early hours of the morning. There are times when congregations of bar patrons are screaming and yelling in the street. Bill Walker stated that the Lost Love Lounge now closes at 2:00 a.m. and has a doorman on weekends.

Ken also spoke about the evolution of neighborhood bars. Ken has been associated with the Marigny for 60 years. The old neighborhood bars were old "beer parlors". Many Marigny bars have now evolved into a different type of entity which rely on outside clientele. Patrons are not respectful of their neighbors now and it is worse on the weekends.

The option of allowing acoustic music only was discussed. The history of Frenchmen street and the inability to control music was raised. Gene Cizek reminded everyone of the huge amount of work that was put into Frenchmen Street through the Overlay in order to keep a balance of live music, acoustic music, and daytime stores on the street. The agreement fell apart soon afterwards and unchecked music clubs proliferated. The result is that stores that used to service the neighborhood closed and have been taken over by music clubs.

ADMINISTRATION

1. APPROVALS BY E-MAIL:

- A. To sponsor a team for Walk for Education: Approved: 6 votes Yes
- B. Approval of letter re expanding RPP district: Approved: 5 votes Yes
- C. Move to approve Sept. Minutes from both meetings: Approved: 8 votes Yes
- D. Letter of support re Siberia live music at CPC: Approved: 6 votes Yes
- E. Donation to Goodchildren for Fringe parade: Approved: 5 votes Yes
- F. Special Event for Marigny Opera House Draw-a-thon: Approved: 6 votes Yes

2. PRESIDENT'S REPORT: President Alex Vialou reviewed new business which included replacing damaged banners on Elysian Fields, possible donation to Good Children Social Aid and Pleasure Club, a request for support for a live music permit at Siberia on St. Claude Ave., update on the noise from Mimi's, and a neighborhood survey of what businesses residents would like at the new Elysian Fields parking garages.

Alex reviewed the FMIA Officer positions and the duties and responsibilities for each. Voting took place and the following board members were elected:



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FMIA Board Meeting Minutes October 3, 2012 — continued from page 12

President: Alex Vialou, Moved: Marshall, Seconded: Bill, Vote: Unanimous
 Vice President: Miles Swanson, Moved: Alex, Seconded: John, Vote: Unanimous
 Treasurer: Mark Malouse, Moved: Marshall, Seconded: Bill, Vote: Unanimous
 Corresponding Secretary: Gretchen Bomboy, Moved: Alex, Seconded: John, Vote: Unanimous

Recording Secretary: Marshall Gries, Moved: Gretchen, Seconded: Bill, Vote: Unanimous

3. **TREASURER'S REPORT:** Treasurer Chris Costello distributed copies of the monthly balance sheet, profit & loss statement, and check detail reports.

4. **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

a) **Parking:** The request for the residential parking district to be extended into the Marigny rectangle has been submitted to the City. Chairperson Donna Wakeman indicated that the new Elysian Fields garages will benefit from an extension of the parking district because nonresidents will be encouraged to use the garages as street parking becomes less convenient. There is still concern on the part of Marigny businesses that there will be inadequate parking for their employees and customers. Donna indicated that this is an opportunity to improve and update the regulations which are antiquated.

President Alex Vialou and John Gutekunst met with parking garage investors. Investors are interested in what the neighborhood wants and would support in the garages. They would like a neighborhood survey. Parking alone is not financially viable. A nightclub had been discussed but the idea was rejected. Investors believe that what neighbors want is important as they will become a local base to keep businesses profitable. John is to draft a survey and distribute it to the board regarding neighborhood wants and needs.

b) **Marigny Green:** Nothing new reported.

c) **Blight:** Nothing new reported.

d) **Parking:** Nothing new reported.

e) **Washington Park:** Nothing new reported.

f) **Fête Marigny:** Marshall Gries gave an update on the festival.

OLD BUSINESS

PROJECTS:

a) **Mimi's:** There was general discussion about the zoning around Mimi's (HMC-1 Commercial) and the current zoning of bars that host live music. Alex

raised the possibility of having Community Benefits Agreements with other businesses (similar to the one in place with Café Istanbul).

Bill Walker volunteered to facilitate discussions to improve relations with neighbors. He explained that Mimi has hired a security guard, has arranged to have noise levels monitored outside the bar, and has limited the hours for certain activities. Bill pointed out that Big Daddy's bar is also the source of some of the Franklin St. noise that is disturbing neighbors.

Gretchen Bomboy was in favor of earlier closing hours for bars in the neighborhood.

It was suggested to have a special meeting with Mimi. All members agreed. Miles Swanson volunteered to organize it.

b) **St's. Peter and Paul / CANO:** The offer to buy St's. Peter and Paul church on Burgundy St. proposed by the Creative Alliance of New Orleans (CANO) and other organizations was rejected by the archdiocese. The property will now be put up for sale on a sealed bid basis.

NEW BUSINESS

Banners: Some of the Faubourg Marigny banners that line Elysian Fields Avenue were damaged following hurricane Isaac. The total cost of replacement and/or repair is approximately \$1,000. Several members found that to be expensive and a decision on the matter was tabled.

Good Children Social Aid and Pleasure Club: Kathy Connolly was granted a permit to parade at Fringe festival this year. The total cost for the parade is \$2,500. The organization has \$1400 and it has asked for a contribution of \$750 from the FMIA. Alex is to e-mail Chris Costello to check what was given last year. A decision will be made via e-mail. No vote was taken.

Siberia: Club Siberia, which is zoned as commercial, is asking the FMIA for support for its application for a live music permit. City Council wants to know the FMIA's position. Alex Vialou is to look up the zoning ordinance and see what restrictions apply to the area and distribute it to board members. Members to review and respond by e-mail.

ORCHIDS & ONIONS: Orchids: None proposed. Onions: None proposed.

MOTIONS: None

Meeting Adjourned Time: 10:20 p.m.



Happy Thanksgiving from the board, staff and residents of
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FMIA General Meeting Minutes October 15, 2012

Meeting Called to Order (Time): 7:15 P.M. by President Alex Vialou.

WELCOME / INTRODUCTION

President Alex Vialou welcomed all to the October 15th General Meeting of the FMIA and reviewed the agenda for the evening's meeting. The new board officers were announced and asked to stand.

President: Alex Vialou

Vice President: Miles Swanson

Treasurer: Mark Malouze

Recording Secretary: Marshall Gries

Corresponding Secretary: Gretchen Bomboy

Alex reminded us of our successful campaign to maintain our zoning limits on Elysian Fields but also reminded everyone of the current campaign related to quality of life issues, and our next campaign which will need to address proposed modifications to the Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance.

New Faces / New Members:

Bedonna Wakeman

ANNOUNCEMENTS / SPEAKERS

Announcements:

Angelle Vialou announced that a Halloween trick-or-treat route was being finalized for the neighborhood kids. For the second year volunteers are being encouraged to offer their homes for the route so children will have known and safe homes to visit. To volunteer for the trick-or-treat route, visit: www.plessyschool.org

Alex Vialou reminded members that the annual Night Out Against Crime would take place tomorrow, October 16th. A volunteer is needed to fill the vacant Security Committee chairperson post. In addition to any neighborhood initiatives, the chair is responsible for attending NONPAC meetings and helping to organize the annual Night Out Against Crime. Anyone interested in volunteering for the position should contact crimeprevention@faubourgmarigny.org.

The Sound Café will host the final performance of the weekly children's band ensemble. The Sound Café has been providing a venue for free music lessons

to any child who wishes to learn to play an instrument. Unfortunately, the organizer is leaving the area and is not able to continue the program. The performance will be tomorrow at the Sound Café at 5:30 p.m.

Speakers:

1) JEANETTE WILLIAMS: Ofc. Jeanette Williams is the Quality of Life Officer for the 8th District. She announced that the monthly NONPAC meeting (New Orleans Neighborhood Policing Anti-Crime) took place last week at the New Orleans Healing Center in the Faubourg Marigny. The 8th District will alternate NONPAC meetings between the French Quarter and Faubourg Marigny. Ofc. Williams announced that there will be a meeting regarding enforcement of the leash law in Cabrini Park which will also include N.O.R.D. Time and location to be announced.

Alex Vialou reported increased crime in the Frenchmen corridor by Washington Square Park. Park lights have been out for months and there is a correlation between lighting and crime. Ofc. Williams advised members to use the new 311 city reporting system. The operator issues a work order number for each call which helps to route the call correctly. Without a number, there is no way to track the progress.

The neighborhood would still like all of the Marigny in the 8th district. It makes no sense to separate the neighborhood at Franklin Avenue and leave the section between Franklin and the railroad tracks in the 5th District. Ofc. Williams said she will check with the Field Operations Bureau when it will be reviewed. There is still no replacement Quality of Life officer for the 5th District.

2) Ms. ELIZABETH SHEPHARD: Ms. Shephard is Chief Sustainability Officer for LifeCity which is an organization that encourages and supports the green economy. She pointed out the importance of green action on a local level because of the interconnected nature of the entire country. She emphasized the need to support local green businesses. There is a now a "green card" which identifies green businesses and offers discounts to cardholders. It is available to businesses that pass certain green criteria and offers discounts for members. Some NOHC businesses are already affiliated with LifeCity (Food Co-Op). The organization hopes to help create a joined voice to make the city more aware of green issues such as recycling, composting, rain barrels, etc.

Ms. Shephard praised Louisiana for passing "B Company" legislation, the first state in the South to do so. "B Company" stands for "benefit corporations". To be certified as a B Corporation an entrepreneur has to meet very high standards in three areas: employee treatment, environmental impact, and community benefit.

Gene Cizek pointed out the importance of recycling one of our most abundant assets: blighted buildings. Recycling old buildings and renewing neighborhoods should be a community-wide goal.

For further information about LifeCity contact: mylifecity.com.

3) LOURDES MORAN: Ms. Moran is a candidate for the Orleans Parish School Board, District 4. She has served on the school board for 8 years, five of which were as vice president and one as president. As a result of redistricting the Faubourg Marigny is now in Ms. Moran's district along with the French Quarter, Garden District, and part of Algiers.

Ms. Moran introduced herself and asked for questions from the membership. Alex Vialou asked if there was anything the Orleans Parish School Board (OPSB) could do to help the Homer Plessy School be located at the Colton school on N. Rampart St. Colton is under the Recovery School District (RSD) and is not subject to OPSB control. The OPSB has conditionally chartered the Plessy School. Ms. Moran is aware of the neighborhood's desire to have a neighborhood school for neighborhood kids. She told the membership there is a liaison between the OPSB and the RSD regarding the sharing of Colton school.

Ms. Moran stated that the KIPP presence at Colton would be temporary. There aren't enough students to fill Colton without busing them in from other parts of the city. Most children attending Colton Kipp will be bused from New Orleans East. In the long term that level of busing is too expensive to maintain. Citywide there are only 40,000 children to populate all the schools in Orleans Parish. She warned that many of the RSD's charter schools simply won't have enough students to survive financially.

Originally, RSD schools were to be returned to the control of the OPSB. Recently, RSD charter schools have been given a choice of whether or not to

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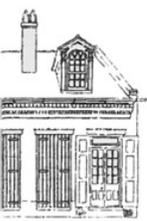
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IMPROVEMENT

ASSOCIATION

FMIA General Meeting Minutes October 15, 2012
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return to the OPSB. That is now being litigated. A question was asked about preparing children for jobs in the new medical corridor, e.g., a charter school at K-6 and H.S. levels to prep for the medical jobs. Ms. Moran responded: "Absolutely."

4) ANGELA TAYLOR: Ms. Taylor is working for a company (Perez) which was been contracted by the City's Office of Cultural Economy to map cultural assets along the Claiborne corridor. The project, called c4nola (Claiborne Corridor Cultural Collaborative) is seeking to collect cultural data about the Claiborne Avenue area from Jefferson Parish to St. Bernard. The information will be used for planning purposes and should help the City and communities to apply for various grants and other programs.

In attempting to map the cultural economy the project hopes to identify writers, artists, performers, craftsmen, etc. They are canvassing an area 10 blocks on either side of Claiborne Avenue from parish to parish. It is a means of quantifying what is in all our various neighborhoods. Ms. Taylor encouraged us all to go on line and take the survey at: www.c4nola.com. Results will be on line by Sprint.

UPDATES / COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committees:

Fête Marigny: Committee Chairman Marshall Gries announced that the festival was down to the final stages with only a few outstanding issues. The wine raffle will be for approximately 50 bottles which was the minimum goal. The television which is the grand prize for the costume contest has been purchased. Most of the committees are finalizing last details. The artist booth positions are nearly all filled, the food booths are finalized, and the musicians have all confirmed the date. Volunteers are still needed and members are encouraged to sign up on sheets provided at the front table.

Fringe Fest: Fringe Fest will take place in November, mostly in Faubourg Marigny venues. The festival features amateur performance/production troops and has featured excellent performances in years past. There will be a lot of events in the neighborhood: Holy Trinity, Michaelopolos, and the Den of Muses, will all be venues. Check the website at www.nofringe.org. Alex Vialou stressed that acts should notify neighbors in advance.

Sts. Peter and Paul: Alex Vialou announced that CANO's proposal for Sts. Peter and Paul church which proposed both artist studios and non-profit space (including neighborhood entities such as the FMIA) had been rejected by the archdiocese. Sealed bids starting at \$1 million are now being solicited. Alex underscored the importance of neighbors' input. Neighbors are ambassadors

for the neighborhood and everyone needs to discuss what they would like in that space. We need to make our wishes known.

Hubig's Pies: Removal of the last debris and cleanup is under way. Drew Ramsey has not reported anything on Hubig's future plans. There has been talk of demolishing the cinderblock fence on the perimeter of the property. If a replacement fence is not rebuilt all the neighbors will need to build fences. Alex Vialou indicated he would try to arrange a meeting with the owners.

Riverfront Park: Frank Pizzolato, Executive Director of the French Market Corporation (FMC) told members that the entrance to the Riverfront Park will be in the Bywater (by Elizabeth's). There is no entrance in the Faubourg Marigny as yet. FMC foresees using buses to transport people to the park. We need volunteers to follow this issue.

Parking Garages: Alex Vialou reported that the commercial success of the new parking garages will depend on right commercial/residential mix. He met with John Williams, architect for the project. Mr. Williams asked the FMIA to produce a survey on what the neighborhood would like and support. The FMIA will put a survey on its website with questions about what neighbors would like and support in the garages. Alex reminded members that the garages have to make a profit in order to pay for Riverfront Park maintenance. This is an important issue. Ken Caron is the sole volunteer and he needs help.

Music: Mimi's stopped live music voluntarily but has started up again. Mimi's is not zoned for live music. Alex reminded members that the FMIA is not anti-live music. The organization has worked on live music with various businesses. The FMIA supported live music at both Café Istanbul and also Siberia. The board was willing to discuss and work with the Marigny Opera House as well. The neighborhood has been proactive and thoughtful.

Miles Swanson has organized two meetings with Mimi's so far. A third meeting has been scheduled for Wednesday which will include the Office of Cultural Economy, the ATC (Baton Rouge) and NOPD. Everyone needs to sit together to see how to move forward. Affected neighbors have been invited to participate.

Discussion ensued about the pros and cons of live music in the neighborhood. More people need to be involved in this discussion. More membership outreach is needed so that a broader cross-section of neighbors' voices is heard. A general discussion about noise, the past and future of the neighborhood, and livability issues followed.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:25

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	Member Type	<input type="checkbox"/> Individual \$15.00 <input type="checkbox"/> Individual Senior (65+) \$5.00
		<input type="checkbox"/> Business \$25.00 <input type="checkbox"/> Household \$20.00 <input type="checkbox"/> Household Senior (65+) \$10.00
	Property Address	_____ No. & Street _____
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