



www.FaubourgMarigny.org

Les Amis de Marigny

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

2013-2014 Board Election

The FMIA Board election will take place at the next General Meeting on Monday, September 16th at St. Paul Lutheran Church, 2624. In order to vote you must be a member. The following is a copy of the FMIA voting policies and procedures. **Note:** Voting verification will begin at 6 pm, before the start of the general meeting.

See page four for Voter Verification Policy.

See page six to learn about this year's candidates.

Rock the Vote!

Fête Marigny 2013



**Save the Date — October 26
at Washington Square Park!**

We've Got Issues

On Monday August 19th, Alex Vialou, President of Faubourg Marigny Improvement Association (FM), along with representatives of the Bywater (BY), Tremé (TR), St. Roch (SR), St. Claude (SC), Vieux Carré (VC) and 7th Ward (7W) neighborhoods attended a meeting hosted by Mayor Mitch Landrieu. Also attending were Mr. Andy Kopplin, who serves as First Deputy Mayor and Chief Administrative Officer, along with several city agency leaders including NOPD Chief Ron Serpas; Office of the Cultural Economy Director Mr. Scott Hutchenson; Deputy Mayor of Facilities, Infrastructure and Community Development Mr. Cedric Grant; and Office of Economic Development Ms. Aimee Quirk. The purpose of the meeting was to relay budgetary priority issues from residents of the East Bank of district C.

The issues brought up to the mayor were:

Public safety:

- Concerns about the reduction of the number of NOPD officers (an issue shared by everyone)
- Concerns about funding cuts affecting the New Orleans Fire Department (FM)

Enforcement:

- Excessive concentration of T-shirt shops in the Vieux Carré not allowable by law (VC)
- Lax enforcement of illegal activities (drugs and guns) around some groceries store in the St. Claude and St. Roch area (SC, SR)

- No enforcement on illegal short term rentals (FM, VC)
- Lax enforcement of residential parking (FM)

Public infrastructure:

- Several street pavements badly need to be redone (BY and SR)
- Street maintenance cost should be programmed (VC)
- Severe drainage issues in few areas (SR)

Economic Development & Culture:

- Help marketing the many cultural districts in the area as to leverage the fiscal incentives awarded for historic rehabilitation and sales of one-of-a kind art products (TR)
- Need to have job programs with the Nola For Life initiative (SC)
- Proposed Claiborne Overpass removal should carefully consider the desire of the many communities (7W and TR)

Existing budgetary challenges faced by the administration were mentioned. But issues regarding city services (potholes, missing signs, broken lights) as well as violations and other illegal activities should be reported by calling 311 as to better assist response from the responsible city departments.

Happ'ns in the 'Hood

Ban the Bins

When asked about progress in the Ban the Bins crusade, Chairperson Cheryl Gerber stated "The only news that I have is no news. The city council has stopped replying to my emails." Meanwhile the bins bide unbanned.

Press Street Gardens

The NOCCA Institute's plans for the Press Street gardens, to be located between Burgundy and Dauphine streets, were presented at the last FMIA Board Meeting, and again with some changes at the General meeting. The garden plans include among other things two large shipping containers on the Dauphine end of the lot, one of which would house a sort of food truck-like restaurant. This in particular drew objections from some nearby residents.

NOCCA's plans were presented for approval at the Historic District Landmarks Commission (HDLC) meeting on August 15, which deferred action for 30 days.

511 Marigny Street

On September 10 the City Planning Commission (CPC) is scheduled to hear a request by the owner of 511 Marigny Street to open a restaurant on the ground floor of the building. There is already an increased demand for street parking in this area due in large part to the apartments in this building. There is concern in the neighborhood that a restaurant may exacerbate the problem

501 Elysian Fields

FMIA recently sent a letter to the city concerning the condition of the building and property at 501 Elysian Fields. The owner has apparently subsequently taken steps to mitigate the graffiti as can be seen in the photo of the Elysian Fields side of the building. The Decatur Street side however, is still of concern.



Elysian Fields Avenue



Decatur Street

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.

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IMPROVEMENT

ASSOCIATION

President's Report

Bonjour,

In a month we will be celebrating Fête Marigny 2013!

Our neighborhood festival will again have a French twist with musicians that regularly compose and sing in French, and culinary chefs that keep French inspired cooking much alive. Celebrating our many living legacies is another testament of the wonderful vibrant and cosmopolitan culture that surrounds us in the Faubourg Marigny.

Similarly to last year there will also be food and beverage booths, as well as kids activities, plus a raffle for a large number of bottles of wines (please consider donating a bottle when you come to our upcoming General Meeting Monday September 16th).

Fête Marigny would not happen without our dedicated neighbors volunteering their time.

Volunteering time is indeed our most precious commodity. It ensures that the FMIA is ready to provide recommendations for a zoning docket request, and enables us to be present at the many different hearings held by the City Planning Commission, the Historic District Landmarks Commission or the City Council where issues involving our neighborhood are discussed.

Volunteers are also needed to relay our quality of life issues especially lack of enforcement at the newly created **QualityofLifeSTAT** public meetings. These meetings bring together city leaders and department managers to review performance results related to citizens' quality of life. The meetings are held every third Thursday of the month in the 8th Floor East of City Hall and are the best place to bring up the issues that were again mentioned during the Budgetary Community Meetings.

While there are countless ways to participate in the dealings of your neighborhood, I am looking forward to seeing you on Monday, September 16th to vote for those that you will decide are the best to represent you at the FMIA board.

Merci!

Alexandre Vialou

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Marigny Green

By Deborah Oppenheim



What To Do with Plastic Grocery Bags?

- Repurpose plastic bags when picking up trash outside your home.
- Use plastic bags as a liner in your waste paper baskets.
- Stuff the plastic bag inside wet shoes to keep the shape of the shoes.
- Use a plastic bag to line a cracked vase to prevent leakage.
- Bunch up plastic bags inside anything that needs more volume such as stuffed toys, cushions, display items, etc.
- Forget using Styrofoam peanuts to send a package, instead scrunch up plastic bags to safely support the items to be sent. This technique is also good for objects that need to be stored.
- Plastic bags are good for lining the bottom of the kitty-litter pan. Call the local animal shelter and ask if they need plastic bags for walking animals.



Fun Things to do with Plastic Bags (Not for young children)

- Want to learn to juggle? Scrunch three grocery bags into balls and use the handles to tie the balls in place.
- Make a water balloon using plastic bags.

Tips

- Good canvas or fabric bags hold more groceries than the flimsy plastic bags.
- Purchase and/or make a fabric bag tube for storing plastic bags.
- Take plastic bags to the grocery store recycle bin.
- A carrying case for a folding chair is excellent for compressing plastic bags you want to recycle.

Voting Verification Policy:

In accordance with the Bylaws of the Association, there are two type of members, voting and nonvoting. To be eligible to vote a member must have paid their dues 30 days before the vote and either live within the boundaries of the neighborhood or have a business within the boundaries of the neighborhood. To verify the domicile of a voting member the following policy has been created.

Members must verify their domicile at each vote. This may be done by producing the following documents.
(Note: The name on the identification must match the name in FMIA membership records.)

Business:

1. The current year's occupation license for the business
AND
2. If the license is issued in the name of a business or corporation (including LLC's), a document verifying that the person is authorized to represent the business (organizing documents, Secretary of State's Annual Report, letter from officer of the company)
AND
3. A document verifying the Person's Identity: a valid, government issued ID (driver's license, passport, military ID, State issued ID)

Organizations:

1. A copy of the current year's Secretary of State's Annual Report
AND
2. A document verifying the Person's Identity : a valid, government issued ID (driver's license, passport, military ID, State issued ID)

Individuals:

1. A document verifying the Person's Identity: a valid, government issued ID with the Faubourg Marigny property address (driver's license, military ID, State Issued ID)
OR
2. A document verifying the Person's Identity: a valid, government issued ID (driver's license, passport, military ID, State issued ID)
AND
3. A document verifying the person's Address (must contain the person's name and Faubourg Marigny address). Shall include but is not limited to the following illustrative list: A service bill (water, electricity / gas, telephone, internet, television), Voter Registration Card, W2, bank statement.

Any question of voting rights will be determined by the Board of Directors as prescribed in Section 1.B.1 of the Bylaws.

Meet the Neighbors



The August Meet the Neighbor's event was at **Buffa's on Esplanade**. A large crowd braved rain showers and the general feeling of lugubriousness the August weather usually brings on, to enjoy live music, great food and some lively conversations.



Photo courtesy Gustavo Escanell, Where Y'at Magazine

For September we're gathering at **Lost Love Lounge** on Dauphine Street on **Wednesday, September 11** at 6:30 — see you there!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

September 2013

Board Meeting

September 4, 7 pm,
Room 256 at the Healing Center

Meet the Neighbors

September 11*, 6:30 – 8:30 pm,
Lost Love Lounge, 2529 Dauphine Street

**Note change to Wednesday*

General Meeting

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

October 2013

Board Meeting

October 2, 7 pm,
Room 256 at the Healing Center

Meet the Neighbors

October 9, 6:30 – 8:30 pm,
Project Lazarus, 2824 Dauphine Street

General Meeting

October 21, 6:30 Pot Luck, 7:15 Meeting
St. Paul Lutheran Church, 2624 Burgundy Street

NONPAC MEETINGS

5th District — 2nd Wednesday

6 pm, 4015 Burgundy Street

8th District — 2nd Thursday

6 pm, location varies between 1001 Toulouse
and the Healing Center

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



Before

Join the Preservation Resource Center of New Orleans

For Fall homebuyer and renovator events

The Great Neighborhood Sellabration:
Sat. Sept. 14th

First Time Renovator Training, Part I
"Buy Right":
Tues. Sept. 24 and Oct. 1

First Time Renovator Training, Part II
"Renovate Right":
Oct. 15, 22, 29

To register or for more information on these and other PRC events, visit www.prcno.org or call 504.636.3399



After

If you have an event for the calendar please send it to John Gutekunst at editor@faubourgmarigny.org



IMPROVEMENT

ASSOCIATION

The Candidates — Meet ‘em and Weep

Once again Gary de Leaumont and the nominating committee have done an outstanding job in finding candidates for this upcoming election for four seats on the FMIA Board of Directors. In addition we have a strong field of candidates who were nominated from the floor. All have been asked to give a brief biography in order for members to be able to familiarize themselves with the candidates before the vote takes place at the next General Meeting on September 16.

Nominating Committee Recommendations

Gretchen Bomboy

Gretchen has lived in the Marigny since 1973 and has served on the Board in many capacities off and on. She served for six years on the Board of Zoning Adjustments and has an extensive knowledge of how and what works at City Hall. She is unafraid to go before any public body and speak regarding the needs and desires of the neighborhood. She has been in her own home since 1985 and truly loves the architecture and history of Marigny. Besides, what would we do without the extensive institutional knowledge of one of our most active members?

Jill McGaughy

Jill has declined to run.

Miles Swanson

I have lived in the Faubourg Marigny for over seven years, having served on the board of the FMIA for the past two. I am an attorney with a small solo practice primarily working in criminal defense, personal injury and civil rights. Prior to starting my solo law practice in 2010, I was a staff attorney at the Orleans Public Defender for over two years. I also coordinated Common Ground Relief's free legal clinic from 2005-2008 and was an AmeriCorps Pro Bono Legal Corps Fellow in 2008. I am an avid bicyclist and enthusiastic dog owner. I strive to give back my community and neighborhood and welcome the opportunity to continue serving on the board for another two years. My priority for the next two years is maintaining and renovating Washington Park.

Alex Vialou

I moved to the Faubourg Marigny in May 2008 and settled in a shotgun house where I still live with my wife and two sons. Prior to being a resident, I discovered the Marigny as a tourist in 2002 enjoying the music on Frenchmen Street. As the President of the FMIA Board of Directors since October 2011, I've learned to appreciate the dedication of our membership and have

Continued on page 7

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Jim O'Neil



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FMIA Board Nominees — continued from page 6

developed a respect of the history and values of our association. During my first term, I put an emphasis on the need to have an inclusive association representative of the diversity of opinions that exist in the neighborhood. I have stressed the need for the FMIA to take decisions through transparent procedures so that FMIA's recommendations can be best understood by city agencies and by our membership. I ask for your vote this year because I would like to bring a renewed commitment to blight eradication, affordability and start planning how our neighborhood will mark the upcoming tricentennial anniversary of the City of New Orleans in 2018. Merci, Alexandre

Nominations from the Floor

Howard Allen

Howard did not supply a bio.



David Bess

I fell in love with NOLA at the age of eighteen after a ride on the streetcar and my first legal drink at the Court of the Two Sisters. When friends from New York moved to the Marigny in the 80s, I became a regular visitor to Kerlerec St. Finally, after an 18-year career as a theatrical costumer in New York City, I moved to my present home on Touro in 1994. As they have for so many, the issues facing the city post-Katrina have led to increased civic involvement. I've been among those working for years to bring the streetcar back to the Downtown neighborhoods, and was very involved with the RideNewOrleans effort to keep the ferries running. Most recently I was among those speaking out in opposition to the proposed Wine Shop at 1938 Burgundy. While hardly opposed to change as such, I believe that the personality of our neighborhood is something worth hanging onto. I feel strongly that we, as a neighborhood, need to keep a close eye on the city's relentless expansion of the tourist industry, and that FMIA has a role to play in that effort.

Dave Hurlburt

My dad attended Tulane after his service in the US Navy, where he was based in New Orleans. My mother is from Mobile. Although I grew up in Atlanta and North Carolina, I visited the Gulf frequently through my childhood. After graduating from the NC School of the Arts, I worked as a pianist and then marketing executive in San Francisco and London. In January 2011 I moved to New Orleans because it is the one place I feel most at home. In July that year, Scott and I purchased the old Holy Trinity Church in order to restore the building, and to return it to use as a non-profit center for performing artists and community events. Scott moved from San Francisco to New Orleans in July this year, where he continues his work as a medical entrepreneur. We now live at 511 Marigny Street. I have always made it a point to serve my community, and I've been on cultural, religious and charitable boards for the past 20 years.

BOARD MEMBERS

- Alexandre Vialou, President: president@faubourgmarigny.org
- Miles Swanson, Vice President: MilesS@faubourgmarigny.org
- Mark Malouse, Treasurer: treasurer@faubourgmarigny.org
- Chris Costello, Past President: ChrisC@faubourgmarigny.org
- Gretchen Bomboy, Corresponding Secretary: secretary@faubourgmarigny.org
- Marshall Gries, Recording Secretary: MarshallG@faubourgmarigny.org
- John Gutekunst, Newsletter Ed.: JohnG@faubourgmarigny.org
- Peter Horjus: PeterH@faubourgmarigny.org
- Bill Walker: BillW@faubourgmarigny.org

COMMITTEES

- Advertising: ads@faubourgmarigny.org
 - Blight: blight@faubourgmarigny.org
 - Marigny Green: marignygreen@faubourgmarigny.org
 - Newsletter: editor@faubourgmarigny.org
 - Caroling
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 - Home Tour
 - Walking Tour
 - Crime Prevention
 - Hospitality
 - Washington Square Park
 - Development
 - Membership
 - Web Site
 - Frenchmen
 - Neighborhood
 - Zoning
 - Fundraising
 - Special Projects
- For comments — email info@faubourgmarigny.org



Did you ever wonder who these people are? ↑

Find out at the next Meet your Neighbors!
And if you have a favorite place in the neighborhood that you think would be interested in hosting an upcoming event, let us know by emailing editor@faubourgmarigny.org.

Do You Receive 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.



Washington Square Park

If you've strolled through Washington Square Park recently you may have noticed some new signs. Parks and Parkways, who maintains the park, recently erected these signs, replacing the old rotten signs that have not been readable for years. The new signs are more legible but also more confusing.

Apparently without input from the neighborhood, Parks and Parkways made some changes to the rules:

1. Dogs were not allowed in the past but now are if they are leashed and you pick up after them.
2. Alcohol was not allowed and now is due to omission that says *no glass containers*, but doesn't specifically

prohibit alcohol in other types (plastic or aluminum) containers

3. Segways and skateboards have been added to the prohibition, but bicycles, roller blades and skates were not.

Meanwhile the condition of the park itself needs to be addressed. The fence around the park is a priority as it is in extremely poor condition and serious danger of falling down. It is believed that the fence will not likely survive another storm. Work is also needed on the playground, the benches and the storage building. The FMIA is hoping to convene a special meeting soon to address these issues.

**WASHINGTON SQUARE
PARK RULES**

1. Park Hours: 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. The park is open until 7 p.m. during daylight saving time.
2. No skateboards, motorized vehicles, segways, motorcycles, scooters, glass containers or bottles, littering, heavy equipment or vehicles are allowed on the park grounds.
3. A permit is required for all organized activities. Please contact the Department of Parks and Parkways at (504) 658-3200 or www.nola.gov to schedule an event.
4. No overnight activity.
5. All pets must be leashed at all times while on park grounds. All pets must be curbed.
6. No cooking of any kind.
7. No hanging of hammocks, sling chairs or other items from trees.

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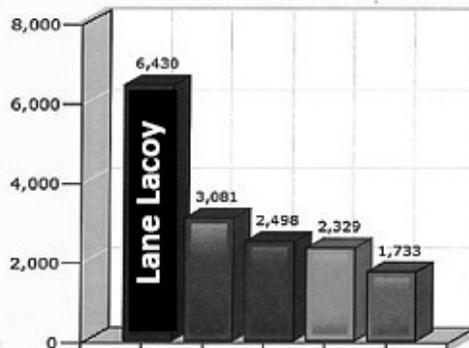
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Alvar Library in Bloom

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

The staff of the Alvar Library hopes that everyone is off to a great start this school year and is enjoying the beginnings of autumn! We look forward to hosting students, teachers, children, and parents at our weekly story times. We also extend an invitation to teachers and homeschoolers to contact us for special programming designed to introduce students to the library and all of the many resources we offer. Additionally, we are gearing up for another season of Alvar Arts beginning this October and we look forward to seeing the many talents that our community has to offer while enjoying the company of our neighbors at these evening events.

Furthermore, we are happy to continue our one on one computer tutoring each Thursday from 11 am until 1 pm. Information about all of these ongoing events, as well as special events, and updates about our electronic resources can be found at our website, neworleanspubliclibrary.org, on our Facebook page, through our electronic mailing list, or by stopping in to check out our library bulletin board.

In addition to the multitude of books that the Alvar Library offers (you can check out up to thirty at a time with your library card!), we also provide a whole host of electronic resources to help with homework, research, test preparation, and even job training. This information can be accessed through databases available through our website, neworleanspubliclibrary.org, and is free to any user with a library card.

One of our favorites is Learning Express, which provides online courses for elementary, middle, high school, and college students, as well as adults searching for job skills training, career certification training, GED preparation, and more.

A second favorite of ours, for students of all ages, is EbscoHost, which provides the electronic version of hundreds of magazines and scholarly journals and can be invaluable for research projects of all sorts.

A third favorite is Homework Louisiana, which offers live tutors during certain hours as well as study materials and test preparation at all times.

These three databases are just a few of the many that can be found on our website. Please talk to a librarian to find out more about our databases, how to search them, and which are perfect for your information needs.

On a final note, the New Orleans Public Library would like to invite you to have library news, event and program information sent directly to your email inbox. You get to choose the information you want to receive. We are now offering a weekly email for Children's, Teen,

or Adult Programs, a weekly email of our newest books, movies, and music, or a monthly email of news, events, and programs from your favorite library location, the choice is yours. To receive the emails, go to our website, neworleanspubliclibrary.org, and click on the Sign Up for Email Newsletters button at the top of the page. As always, all programs are free and open to the public. We look forward to seeing you soon!



Henri in the garden.



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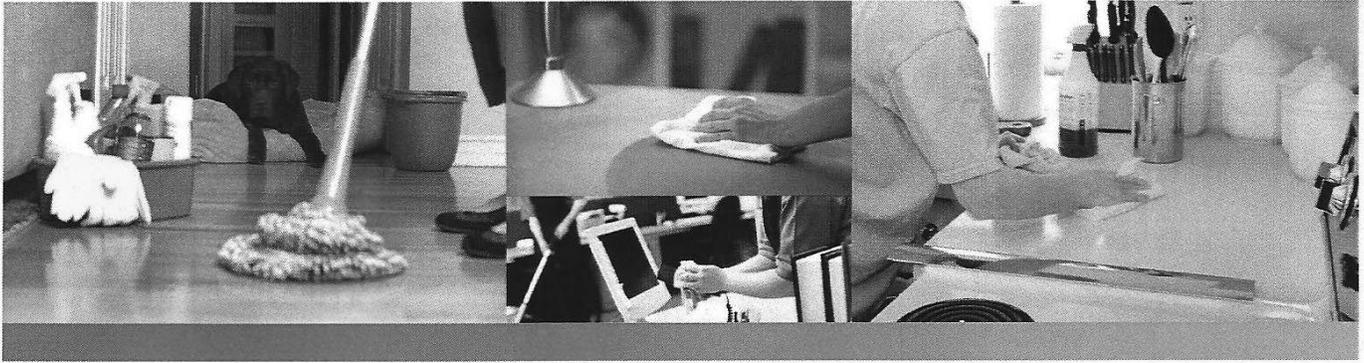


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Hurricane Season

So far its been a quiet hurricane season, but that's no reason to become complacent. In the event of a hurricane, residents without cars have a new option for evacuation. *Evacuspots*, marked with distinctive metal sculpture, are the official meeting places where anyone can go for a safe ride if the Mayor calls for a mandatory evacuation.

The two closest Evacuspots to residents of Marigny are:

- North Rampart in front of Louis Armstrong Park
- St. Claude and Lessups in Bywater

For more information go to evacutec.org.

Its important to be prepared whether you have a car or not. Even those of us fortunate enough to live on high ground (River Sliver Livers?) need to be ready in case of an emergency.





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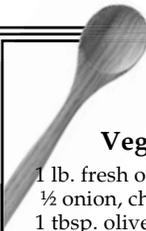
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Vegetarian Stewed Okra and Tomatoes

1 lb. fresh okra	1 tsp. salt
½ onion, chopped	Black pepper and basil to taste
1 tbsp. olive oil	1 cup cooked grits
4 cloves garlic, minced	(add butter and/or cheese
1 can stewed tomatoes	for a richer flavor!)

Remove tops and ends from okra, and cut into one-half to one-inch slices. Place in a saucepan with water to cover, and boil for 10 minutes to remove slime, drain.

In a large heavy skillet, sauté onions and garlic in oil until onions are clear, about four minutes over high heat. Add okra and stewed tomatoes to pan. Season to taste with salt, black pepper, and basil. Bring to a simmer, reduce heat to medium-low, and simmer until much of the liquid in pan has cooked away, 30 to 40 minutes; stir occasionally and scrape pan bottom as needed so mixture doesn't stick.

Stir mixture well, cover pan, and continue cooking for one hour more or until okra is cooked to your liking, stirring as needed. Serve over grits.



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FMIA Board Meeting Minutes August 14, 2013

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

Members Absent: Bill Walker, Chris Costello

Guests: Organization: Morris Khan, Mardi Gras Zone; Jackson Knowles & Marguerite Green, NOCCA & NOCCA Gardens; Kash Schriefer, Crime Prevention Committee; Luke Hoar de Galvan, Fête Marigny; Roy Guste, Resident; Marie Erickson, Resident

Meeting called to order (time): 7:02 p.m. by: Alex Vialou

Previous Meeting Minutes: Approved by unanimous vote.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

President Alex Vialou introduced himself to the guests and welcomed them to the August, 2013, FMIA board meeting. Alex noted that Blake Abene and Stephanie Alexander, who had been scheduled to speak at the evening's meeting, would not be attending. They had proposed developing 2726 B-Royal Street into a restaurant but have since changed their plans.

COMMUNITY REQUESTS/PRESENTATIONS

1) MR. MORRIS KHAN: Mr. Khan attended the meeting on behalf of the owner of the Mardi Gras Zone (MGZ), Mr. Benni Naghy. Mr. Kahn explained that Mr. Naghy was looking into improve the MGZ property to move toward realizing his goals for the location. Mr. Khan explained that he specializes in adaptive reuse and is working with André Neff of New Orleans' City Planning Commission.

Alex Vialou explained that Mr. Naghy has come before the FMIA regarding his plans for the MGZ. Alex emphasized the need for Mr. Khan or Mr. Naghy to keep everyone in the loop on the plans. The MGZ is currently zoned residential.

Resident and MGZ neighbor Marie Erickson, who lives across the street from MGZ, explained the history of zoning for the MGZ building. She stated that she bought her house knowing the MGZ property was zoned Residential. She said she would not have bought her house had she known it would be turned to commercial use. While she doesn't object to the grocery store, she opposes package liquor sales and a 24/7 hours. She stated that there are ongoing problems with MGZ such as noise, smell (pizza oven), and trash.

Alex Vialou says the issue is how to turn the property into an asset for both the owner and the neighborhood. Marshall Gries asked Mr. Khan what the owner's plans were. Mr. Khan stated that the owner was not sure what he wants to do with the property. Gretchen Bomboy explained to Mr. Khan the problematic history the neighborhood has had with the MGZ and its owner. Mr. Naghy has proposed a condominium tower at the location and various projects for which he never received authorization.

Mr. Khan stated that he simply wanted to stop by and introduce himself and say that the development is a process. The board thanked Mr. Khan for attending and introducing himself.

JACKSON KNOWLES AND MARGUERITE GREEN: Jackson Knowles is with the NOCCA Institute, the fund raising/support arm of NOCCA. Marguerite Green will be the manager of the Press Street gardens. They stopped by to explain the most recent plans for NOCCA Gardens. Ms. Green introduced herself and stated that she has a degree in horticulture and recently took the exam to be a licensed arborist. She will be the neighborhood's contact person for the NOCCA gardens.

Ms. Knowles distributed the newest plans/diagrams for the gardens which are situated between Burgundy and Dauphine streets on Press Street. The space will be predominantly garden space. On the Burgundy end of the lot there will be a pergola where classes will take place to teach about the gardens. The upriver tree line, next to the residences, will be left intact. The entire area will be fenced in with a 5' fence which will allow people to look into and see the gardens. Hours of operation will be from 8:00 a.m. until sundown. The garden will be open to the public but it will not be a "pick your own" garden. Produce from the gardens will be for sale to the public.

On the Dauphine end of the lot, two large shipping containers will be creatively "repurposed": one will contain a small office area, restrooms, and a window for produce sales. The other container will be a restaurant akin to a food truck.

Resident Roy Guste whose property is directly behind where the food and toilet containers are proposed asked if the containers were going to be on his property line. Jackson replied that they will be set back from his property by eight feet. This distance has changed from previous versions of the plan which had depicted the containers closer to Mr. Guste's property. There will also be a thirteen foot roof installed over both containers that will provide shade for the buildings as well as the seating area

for people eating at the "food truck". Mr. Guste expressed his concern about roof shading the entire side of his house in the mornings and asked why it needed to be so high. Ms. Knowles replied that it needed to be 13 feet tall to allow for moving the containers if necessary. She also provided diagrams showing the degrees of shade at various times during the day. Gretchen Bomboy stated that current zoning would allow a two-story property to be built on the property 3 feet from the property line, which would be much worse than the thirteen foot roof 8 feet from the property line that is proposed.

Current zoning would allow a two story building on the property which would be much worse than the thirteen foot roof that is proposed.

Resident Marie Erickson suggested flipping the location of the containers so they would be on the Press Street side of the lot rather than up against residential property. Ms. Knowles indicated that the city's Architectural Review Committee (ARC) did not favor that arrangement. She also commented that the containers act as noise barriers for the residential properties.

Mr. Guste also voiced his concern about having cooking smells in his house from 8:00 a.m. until sundown. Mr. Guste stated that he has worked in the restaurant business and insisted that adequate venting and filters be included in the plan. Ms. Knowles said that trash cans, which will be normal residential cans not dumpsters, will be on the Dauphine side of the lot and set back from the street. Ms. Green stated that off-site composting will be extensively used.

Gretchen Bomboy expressed her frustration with being presented substantially modified plans on the night before they were to be presented for approval at the Historic District Landmarks Commission (HDLC) leaving no time to review the changes, no opportunity to distribute the plans to the membership, and no time for feedback. She stated that the process was unfair to the neighborhood. She asked whether the matter could be deferred until there was time for review by the neighborhood. Ms. Knowles responded that she did not think that would be possible.

Mr. Guste stated his belief that NOCCA's has always planned to expand the project to include a full time permanent restaurant and event venue. Ms. Knowles acknowledged that there will be events that will take place in the gardens such as weddings, but insisted there would be no requests for liquor permits.

Alex Vialou raised the issue of whether or not the container that Ms. Knowles described as a "food truck" was in fact a permanent restaurant. A permanent restaurant is a conditional use and would have to go through a review process and would be subject to provisions such as appropriate garbage disposal and mitigation of impact on neighbors. A food truck is not a conditional use and, as such, would not be subject to the same conditions. Alex stated that it looked like a permanent restaurant. Miles Swanson likewise stated that this was a permanent restaurant and is not what had been originally presented to the FMIA board. Peter Horjus noted that with a seating area for diners, permanent restrooms, etc., it is in fact permanent restaurant and needs to go through the conditional use process.

Gretchen Bomboy admonished the NOCCA representatives that this is not the first time that plans have been presented to the FMIA for support only to have them changed without notice to the organization. She reminded Ms. Knowles and Green how hard the FMIA worked to get NOCCA this location and the FMIA deserves more consideration than what it has been receiving from the school.

Alex Vialou moved to draft a letter asking to postpone the HDLC hearing stating that NOCCA's drawings are significantly different from those previously proposed and neither the board nor general membership were made aware of changes. Peter Horjus seconded. Motion unanimously approved. Gretchen Bomboy to draft letter.

LUKE HOAR DE GALVAN: Luke is heading up the Fête Marigny for 2013. He presented a proposed budget for the festival this year. He expects expenses to be similar to last year's Fête - around \$5,000, before advertising. He also reported on festival progress. Attendance at meetings has been light and with the Fest only two months away committees will start meeting on a weekly basis. Four of the five bands scheduled for the festival have already agreed to participate. Net proceeds from last year's festival were slightly over \$3,000. He noted that there may be some additional expenses related to this year's "storming of the Bastille" event for children. He expressed his thanks to board member Bill Walker who has been extremely helpful with soliciting funds.

Gretchen Bomboy moved to approve Luke's budget. Miles Swanson seconded. Motion unanimously approved.

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KASH KIEFER: Kash Kiefer is committee chairman of the Crime Prevention Committee. Next Wednesday Kash will start attending the NOPD's "citizen academy". He has also joined COPSS (cops8.org), a non-profit organization that supports the NOPD 8th District. He has been educating himself on the various crime prevention programs in the area. He noted that SafeCams 8, a public safety project of the French Quarter Management District and the NOPD 8th District, will be coming to the Monday evening general meeting with a presentation. He stated that the number of people installing video cameras is continuing to grow but there is a need for cameras on the entry corridors to the Marigny such as St. Claude Avenue. He suggested that St. Claude businesses, which can write off the cost as a business expense, should consider these cameras.

Kash mentioned that the Home Defense Foundation (HdfNola.org) has organized a rally at Merritt Landry's house at 6:30 p.m. on August 22, 2013. Merritt Landry is a Marigny resident who was arrested for shooting a 14 year old who was in his yard. He also stated that there is a defense fund to help pay Mr. Landry's legal expenses. Further information is available on the internet.

Kash has also been investigating the feasibility of private security patrols. He discussed the issue with a private patrol company representative. He suggested inviting a representative from a neighborhood which already has a private patrol (there are many in the city) to discuss their experience. Kash emphasized the need to get involved with adjacent neighborhoods to coordinate in area-wide efforts.

ADMINISTRATION

1. APPROVALS BY E-MAIL:

Motion to support neighbors opposing 1030 Port street at CPC. 6 in favor, passed.

Motion to support the Chewbacca fund raiser parade. 6 in favor, passed.

2. PRESIDENT'S REPORT: President Alex Vialou reported that he had been coordinating with other downtown neighborhood association leaders regarding the possibility of creating an inter-neighborhood crime committee. The purpose would be to analyze what could be done in a coordinated effort by the various neighborhoods. He noted that currently much crime is not being reported by residents and NOPD responses to calls has been disappointing. Board members were aware of several incidents where the police either did not respond or refused to make a report.

Alex also reported that the city held a budget meeting for District C on 8/13/13. Alex attended the meeting with several others from the FMIA. He indicated that 99% of the issues raised were West Bank issues. There will be a meeting with the mayor with East Bank committees. Among budget concerns Alex cited for the East Bank of the district are: short term rentals (where increased enforcement could generate revenue for the city); historic preservation as a source of funding; more efficient sheriff sales to get blighted back into commerce; more funding for the HDLC; and increased staffing of NOPD.

Finally, Alex stated that economic development must not be at the expense of the neighborhoods.

3. TREASURER'S REPORT: Treasurer Mark Malouse has been out of town for an extended period. He reported that one check was written to Chris Costello to reimburse him for home tour insurance (\$100.00). He asked that the board approve another check for \$200 to the Postmaster to

renew the bulk mail permit fee. Gretchen Bomboy moved to approve the payment. Miles Swanson seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

4. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

a) Newsletter/Communication: Chairman John Gutekunst indicated that newsletter printing is now being done by a new company and costs are down. The newsletter is now generating a small profit.

b) Membership: Nothing to report.

c) Marigny Green: Nothing new to report.

d) Blight: 1518 Pauger Street has been scheduled to go to sheriff's sale.

e) Parking: Nothing new to report.

f) Zoning: Committee chairperson Peter Horjus reported that the Zoning Committee would be meeting next week. He noted that he had attended a Bywater Neighborhood Association (BNA) meeting with Lisa Suarez. At the BNA meeting he emphasized the joint interest of the two neighborhoods in the proposed Riverfront Overlay. He reported that the BNA did not appear to be particularly concerned about increased building height along the river. They were more interested in the design standards in the area.

g) Washington Square Park: New signs with new rules have been posted in the park.

h) Fête Marigny: See above. (Luke Hoar de Galvan)

i) Ethics Review: Donna Wakemann reviewed all of last year's board decisions for conflicts of interest. She did not find any conflicts, however she recommended that in the future all votes should include the name of each board member and how they voted. Gretchen Bomboy moved to approve Donna's report. Peter Horjus seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

PROJECTS:

a) Habana Outpost: The FMIA sent a letter to Vieux Carré Commission, VCPORA, and Cmbr. Palmer stressing that any proposal must comply with existing zoning and must be consistent with the character and fabric of neighborhood.

b) Riverfront Park: Alex Vialou reported that the "Policies and Procedures" document for the Park had changed again. The most recent version appears to be more restrictive than the previous one regarding the number of events that can be held in the park. The Riverfront Advisory Group is meeting today with Cedrick Grant, Deputy Mayor of Facilities, Infrastructure and Community Development. Alex will distribute the new text and it will be up for discussion at the next general meeting.

c) MACCNO: The Music and Culture Coalition of New Orleans sent the board a copy of their letter outlining their position regarding a revised sound ordinance for the City. MACCNO has asked the board to support their position. While much of MACCNO's letter was viewed as appropriate and acceptable, some parts were more controversial. After much discussion among members it was decided to post the MACCNO letter on the faubourgmarigny.org website for review by the general membership. Peter Horjus had drafted some language supporting the MACCNO letter

Continued on page 16

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with the understanding that it would be considered along with other suggestions (such as the 7 Essentials document). Peter is to send via e-mail his draft language for other members to review.

d) 1030 Port Street: 4-plex. The board received letters from neighbors opposing the developer's plans for the renovation of the property. Gretchen Bomboy is to draft an official response letter to be circulated among board members for review.

e) Greener Bywater: Briget Kelley of the non-profit organization Greener Bywater had asked the FMIA board to support her organization's effort to obtain the vacant land, currently owned by HANO, between Chartres, France, Royal and Mazant streets and to turn it into permanent green space. Following a brief discussion it was decided that since the property is in the Bywater, not the Marigny, the board would defer to the two Bywater neighborhood associations. The FMIA will take a position of "no objection" unless and until the two Bywater neighborhood associations (BNA and Neighbors First for Bywater) support the project. Peter Horjus so moved. Mark Malouse seconded. Motion unanimously approved.

f) Schiro's: Schiro's restaurant/bar/B&B/Laundromat will be going to the City Planning Commission in September to ask for approval to replace the Laundromat with an expanded restaurant and to expand the second floor. It was noted that the property was already overbuilt and the owner is already in violation of his conditional use permit (limited to 2 business/uses, no bar, garbage to be stored inside). Alex Vialou to draft a response letter to be distributed to other members for review.

NEW BUSINESS

a) 511 Marigny St.: The owner of the building is asking for permission to open a restaurant, retail, or office space on the ground floor of 511 Marigny Street. A restaurant is a conditional use. The plan does not provide parking for any of the proposed uses. The board was conscious of the additional pressure this would put on neighborhood parking especially since tenants of the building are currently required to pay an additional fee to use the building's parking lot. The board will ask for the parking issue to be addressed as a condition of support.

b) Marie's Bar: Marie's is currently a cocktail lounge but because it is in an area zoned residential it is considered a Legal Non-Conforming use. Marie's is adding a restaurant to the premises. However, because non-conforming uses cannot be made to be more intensive than the existing activity or expanded, a restaurant would not be permitted. However, the City's Department of Safety and Permits determined that a restaurant would be less intense than a cocktail lounge and therefore believes a restaurant is permitted. The board will request assistance from Cmbr. Palmer's office to clarify the situation.

ORCHIDS & ONIONS:

Orchids: None proposed.

Onions: None proposed.

MOTIONS:

1) Motion to request postponement of HDLC consideration of NOCCA gardens.

Moved: Alex Vialou Seconded: Peter Horjus Vote: Approved unanimously

2) Motion to approve proposed budget for Fête Marigny for 2013.

Moved: Gretchen Bomboy Seconded: Miles Swanson Vote: Approved unanimously

3) Motion to approve \$200 payment for bulk mail permit fee.

Motion: Gretchen Bomboy Seconded: Miles Swanson Vote: Approved unanimously

4) Motion to approve Ethics Review Report by Donna Wakeman.

Moved: Alex Vialou Seconded: Peter Horjus Vote: Approved unanimously

5) Motion to defer support of Greener Bywater's proposal to purchase vacant land in Bywater for green space until both BNA and Neighbors First for Bywater support the proposal. Official position will be "no objection".

Moved: Peter Horjus Seconded: Mark Malouse Vote: Approved unanimously

Meeting Adjourned Time: 10:00 p.m.

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FMIA General Meeting Minutes August 19, 2013

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

WELCOME / INTRODUCTION

President Alex Vialou welcomed all to the August 19th General Meeting of the FMIA, reviewed the agenda for the evening and introduced the board member all of whom were present.

New Faces / New Members:

Dorothy Stanich, New neighbor on Pauger Street, Dick and Judy Smith, New neighbors on Burgundy Street

ANNOUNCEMENTS / SPEAKERS

Announcements: Alex Vialou announced the agenda for the evening which included guests Richard Perque, candidate for Traffic Court Judge; Graham Bosworth, candidate for Criminal District Court Judge; Jackson Knowles from NOCCA; Bob Simms and Larry Lane from SafeCams8; and Troy Gant of Second Vine Wine Shop. Also present were Quality of Life Officers from both 5th and 8th Districts as well as Commander Jeffrey Walls of the 8th District.

Alex thanked Buffa's Lounge for volunteering to host the August Meet the Neighbors Night. Next month's meeting will be at the Lost Love Lounge at the corner of Dauphine and Franklin Avenue. NOTE: Meet the Neighbors Nights is changing nights. Starting next month (September) Meet the Neighbors Night will take place on the second Wednesday of the month instead of the second Tuesday. This will allow people who are members of the Bywater Neighborhood Association to attend BNA monthly meeting on Tuesday nights.

Alex reminded members that FMIA board elections will take place at the next general meeting on September 16th. Nominations will be open later in the meeting.

Speakers:

1) RICHARD PERQUE: Mr. Perque introduced himself to the membership. He is a candidate for Traffic Court Judge. He gave a brief biographical history; he is originally from Napoleonville, graduated from Loyola Law School, and is currently an AV rated Louisiana attorney. He stated that New Orleans' Traffic Court is not a well-functioning system and he hopes

to improve it. Because low voter turnout is expected every vote will count. Mr. Perque asked for members to vote for him.

2) GRAHAM BOSWORTH: Mr. Bosworth introduced himself. A local product of Ben Franklin High School, he worked in the New Orleans District Attorney's Office and also for the Public Defender's Office in Jefferson Parish. Mr. Bosworth indicated that his ability see both sides would be an asset as a judge. He is running for election next year for New Orleans Criminal Court Division D, currently Judge Frank Marullo's Division. He stated he had just stopped by to introduce himself.

3) JACKSON KNOWLES, MARGUERITE GREEN, ELIZABETH MOSSOP: Jackson Knowles is Director of Community Development at The NOCCA Institute, Marguerite Green is the manager of the future NOCCA Gardens on Press Street, and Elizabeth Mossop is the landscape architect for the gardens. The three NOCCA representatives came to present the latest version of the gardens which will soon be presented to the HDLC for approval.

The garden area which is located between Dauphine and Burgundy streets on Press Street will be used for a variety of uses including growing fruits, vegetables, and flowers, sales of fresh produce, a covered student area for culinary classes, a greenhouse, a food truck restaurant, shaded eating area, restroom, and an office area. Operational details have not yet been finalized.

Elizabeth Mossop gave a brief slide presentation showing the various views/perspectives of the gardens. The educational area, under a pergola/pavilion will be at the Burgundy end of the property. The Dauphine end of the lot is where the greenhouse, restroom, office and food truck will be located. The center section of the lot will be dedicated to growing fruit and vegetables. There will be 5 entrances to the gardens which will be surrounded by a sidewalk and a five foot fence. The gardens will be open to the public from 8:00 a.m. until dark.

In response to a question from a neighbor, Jackson stated that the food truck and administration building, which will be a "repurposed" shipping container, will be set back eight feet from the neighbor's property line. As of this week, the on-site restaurant will be in a mobile food truck. It had previously been shown in a more permanent shipping container. The truck will be mobile but will stay parked on the property most of the time.

All of the trees along the Press Street perimeter will be removed to provide light for the gardens. Trees along the property line with the neighbors and at the ends of the property will not be disturbed. The Press Street trees include several large crepe myrtles. It is not cost effective for NOCCA to have the trees removed but they would be happy to donate the trees if someone else would like them and be willing to move them.

Resident Gene Cizek asked what materials will be used in the project. Jackson replied that the shade roof will be galvanized posts with a timber roof. The Dauphine end fence will be a wide square metal cable fence which will enable people to see into the gardens. There will be some wood-slat fencing along the Press Street side. The greenhouse is a standard wind-rated glass greenhouse (square).

There will be no evening lighting with the exception of some overhead string lights which could be used for special occasions. One neighbor reminded the NOCCA representatives that the original vision presented to the FMIA showed Press Street as a green space: a corridor to the main campus. He noted that the potential development of Hubig's, food trucks, and office space was not what NOCCA had originally presented. Jackson responded that the Hubig's project was in fact a change in their overall plan but she had no recollection of any representations that the entire area would remain green.

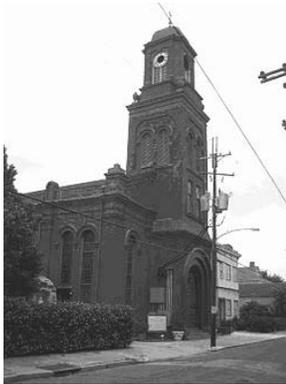
Other questions included how smoke, smells and noise would be mitigated so as not to become an issue for neighbors. Jackson responded that they are aware of the issues but nothing has been finalized yet. They hope to use a Coolbot air conditioning system and there will be no generators. Electricity will be provided by normal city services.

The question of security was raised but Jackson stated that it is still too early in the planning stages to address the issue. She promised that she would return in the next month or two with more details.

4) JEFFREY WALLS: Mr. Walls is the Commander of NOPD's Eighth District. Commander Walls attended the meeting in conjunction with Bob Simms and Larry Lane regarding the SafeCams8 program. SafeCams8 is a public safety project of the French Quarter Management District in partnership with the NOPD and the Downtown Development District (DDD). The program links homeowners and businesses that have safety cameras with the police department. Commander Walls stated that in excess of 50% of armed robberies in the 8th District had been "cleared". He stated that the statistic is usually in the 20% range. He credits video cameras for helping to solve many crimes. He turned over the discussion to Mr. Simms and Lane but made himself available for questions.

5) BOB SIMMS and LARRY LANE: Msrs. Simms and Lane work with the French Quarter Management District security task force. They came to the

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Continued on page 18



board meeting to give a brief presentation on home video camera systems that can also be used as crime cameras.

Their idea was originally to have crime cameras installed on public right of ways. However, there was no money for that and the idea eventually evolved into connecting a network of privately owned cameras. Commander Walls lobbied them to include not only the Vieux Carre but the entire 8th District. That was the Genesis of the SafeCams8 program.

Homeowners who have a video camera system installed for their homes may register certain information with District 8. There is a form to fill out where the homeowner indicates his/her address, number of cameras, views, name of owner, phone, etc. The information is then saved on a restricted-access NOPD database which maps all the locations of these registered cameras. While a homeowner is not required to provide all the information on the form, the police will need some minimum contact information in the event a crime happens which may have been captured on video with your camera(s).

There are currently 1200 cameras registered with the program and the Marigny is the fastest growing area. Alex Vialou reminded members that these videos can also be posted on NOLADefender's website as well as YouTube.

If requested, Mr. Simms and Lane will come talk to a homeowner, look at his/her property, and recommend a plan. They can help choose equipment, locations, and make recommendations. An acceptable system is now available for under \$500.

Member Question: How far can these cameras "see"? There are now many choices of cameras, some include infrared capabilities for night recording, some have zoom lenses, some have more lines of resolution, etc. Mr. Lane showed members one camera that he considered very good that costs around \$70. Costco has a complete system for \$250. Sam's and Amazon also have systems. He reminded the membership that neighbors can share cameras.

Crime committee chairman Kash Kiefer said there are 21 Marigny blocks that fall into the 5th District but emphasized that these homes can also be registered in the SafeCam8 program. Some 5th district cameras are already registered. For more information and to register, go to FQMD.ORG

On an unrelated topic, one neighbor asked Commander Walls when all of the Marigny will be under the 8th District. Commander Walls stated that it made sense rather than splitting the neighborhood between two districts. He was in favor of the consolidation and said will come back to a future general meeting and update the membership.

6) TROY GANT: Troy Gant, owner of the new business Second Vine Wines located at Touro and St. Claude Avenue stopped by to thank board members and neighbors for both supporting and opposing his plan to open a wine store on Burgundy Street. Ultimately, he found a location at 1027 Touro Street that he is happy with that didn't require any of the changes that the Burgundy Street location required. He was looking forward to seeing members in the new store.

7) MARIE BOOKMAN: Ms. Bookman is also a candidate for the vacant Traffic Judge seat. She stopped by to introduce herself and ask members to consider her at the election. She stated that her experience includes 25 years in local practice in New Orleans, 12 years as deputy City Attorney (including supervising the traffic court docket), and private practice. One of her goals is to set up a program for 17-23 year olds. Inexperienced drivers need programs that aren't currently available to them. There is a need to think outside of the box for solutions. Cyclists are also a concern for her. She considers herself to be both fair and reasonable. If elected, she would be the first woman judge in traffic court. She asked members to compare her experience to her competitors. For more information, see her website: mariebookmanforjudge.com

UPDATES / COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committees:

Nominating Committee: There will be four vacancies on the FMIA board this year. Positions currently held by Alex Vialou, Miles Swanson, Gretchen Bomboy and Marshall Gries expire in September. Alex, Miles, and Gretchen are running for their current positions. Marshall Gries will not be running again. The nominating committee proposed the name of Jill McGaughy for the vacant seat. Until recently Ms. McGaughy organized the Meet the Neighbors Nights. The floor was opened for additional nominations. Three additional candidates were nominated from the floor: Dave Hurlbert, David Bess, and Howard Allen.

Zoning Committee: Zoning committee chairman Peter Horjus announced that the next meeting will be held at 6:30 p.m. on August 26, 2013 in the Healing Center. Members will review progress to date and start working on recommendations. Anyone interested in attending is welcome.

Security Committee: See above.

Marigny Green: Committee Chairperson Deborah Oppenheimer asked if any members had read the article on twist ties in the Marigny newsletter. She cited this as an example of a green article and encouraged members who are interested in recycling and other green topics to submit their articles for publication. Articles can be sent to Deborah at deborah@faubourgmarigny.org

Fête Marigny: Luke Hoar de Galvan is organizing the festival for 2013. He announced that this year will again feature French-themed food, music and events including a "Storming of the Bastille" for kids. There will be a wine raffle again this year and any members who have extra or unwanted bottles of wine are encouraged to donate them to the festival's raffle. The festival will take place from 10:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. on Saturday, October 26, 2013.

Alex Vialou commented that the Fête Marigny was not intended to be a huge event like the Bywater's Mirliton Fest but instead should remain a

Continued on page 19

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IMPROVEMENT

ASSOCIATION

local/neighborhood event: respectful of the neighborhood's history and identity.

Riverfront Park: Neighbor Ken Caron reported that the Riverfront Advisory Group met this week with Cedric Grant, the City's Deputy Mayor of Facilities, Infrastructure and Community Development. The park is now substantially completed and the city hopes to open 90% of the park within the next 45 days. Landscaping is completed in the Bywater section but not in the Marigny. The Mandeville St. access crossing in the Marigny is not complete or usable yet so all entry will be through the Bywater entrances. Events are not to be scheduled until the Mandeville entry is open.

There is currently no organization to run or maintain the park. The city has suggested turning the park over to the New Orleans Building Corporation (NOBC) whose former CEO was Sean Cummings. If approved, the NOBC would be responsible for maintenance, security, trash disposal, etc. for the park. Hours are currently set at 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Requests for Proposals (RFP) went out this month to complete the Mandeville crossing. The completed crossing is to have a 6'x 6' elevator on each side of the floodwall. There are still many questions related to bicycles, elderly access, dogs, and compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The crossing is scheduled to be completed in October of 2014. In the meantime, the only two entrances will be in the Bywater: one at-level crossing at Bartholomew Street and the other at the "Rusty Rainbow" at Piety Street. The third access point, at the Esplanade floodwall, will only open when there are events.

DISCUSSION TOPICS

Preservation Resource Center: Suzanne Blaum of the PRC's Education and Outreach Department dropped by the meeting to announce an upcoming event: A Renovators Happy Hour. It will take place on August 22nd at 1718 Valence Street, Uptown, and again on September 26th in the Tremé at 1622 Dumaine. Cost is \$10 but is free to PRC members. Suzanne left a flyer listing fall 2013 educational events sponsored by the PRC which included: First Time Homebuyer Class, First Time Renovator Training (Parts I and II), Historic House Specialist Seminar for Realtors,

and the Great Neighborhood Sellabration. Anyone interested in participating should contact Suzanne at sblaum@prcno.org .

MACCNO: President Alex Vialou explained that a representative from the Musicians and Culture Coalition of New Orleans (MACCNO) attended the FMIA board meeting in June and in July sent a letter setting forth their perspective on a new noise ordinance. They subsequently asked the FMIA to support their position as set forth in their letter.

Alex explained that the board had already taken a vote to support the "7 Essentials" for an effective noise ordinance and stated that supporting the MACCNO letter also may not be contradictory. Board member Bill Walker stated that none of the letters fully address all of the issues and believes it is important to support all points of view - the best ordinance will require compromise. Board member Peter Horjus observed that the MACCNO letter is just one point of view of many and should be considered with the others. Past President Chris Costello distinguished the 7 Essentials letter from the MACCNO letter. He said the 7 Essentials were recommendations to improve the existing ordinance which does not work. He was also critical of MACCNO's requirement for "mediation". Chris stated that mediation has not proved successful and cited Mimi's as an example.

Several members of MACCNO (or individuals sympathetic to MACCNO) attended the meeting. One individual said that mediation should at least be attempted in order to find a solution that works for everyone - before enforcement. Chris Costello asked how it would work. Another individual said there would need to be dedicated parties and a procedure to make it function and this part needs to be developed.

The ensuing discussion included some of the neighborhood's history with excessive noise, the importance of including different viewpoints, and the pros and cons of mediation. Visitors, who were either from MACCNO or sympathetic to their position, stated that no exact procedure had been proposed yet by the group. They indicated they understood that mediation was controversial for the neighborhood and that they would review that paragraph.

Alex Vialou stated again the importance of having an open discussion about the issues.

Meeting adjourned at 9:14 p.m.

Memberships in FAUBOURG MARIGNY IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION :

PERSONAL

Individual \$15 Household \$20 Individual Senior \$5 Household Senior_ \$10

NAME # 1 _____ Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

NAME #2 _____ Phone: _____ E-mail _____

ADDRESS: _____ ZIP _____ Homeowner

Landlord Name: _____ Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP _____

BUSINESS:

\$25

NAME of Business: _____

Address in Marigny _____

Individual with voting privileges: _____

Phone: _____ E-MAIL: _____

PREFERENCES:

Newsletter by U.S. Mail

by E-Mail

Willing to volunteer



