

**Next Board Meeting**  
October 3, 2019  
7:00 Meeting  
922 Touro Street



**Next General Meeting**  
October 21, 2019  
6:30 Potluck  
7:00 Meeting  
St. Paul's Lutheran  
2624 Burgundy Street

Volume 48, Issue 8

*Les Amis de Marigny*

October 2019

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

## **October 2019 FMIA President's Letter** **BackYard Ordinance at City Council on** **October 3**

*(Much of this section was printed last month, but it is still relevant and is coming up at City Council)*

I'd like to talk about an ordinance that Councilmember Palmer introduced (at our request) to address Commercial Properties with backyards that abut Residential properties. There has been a lot of incorrect information and confusion regarding this ordinance. I'm not going to refute them all here, but, basically, this only involved Commercial Properties that abut Residential Properties, and no existing businesses would be affected. With the increasing popularity of St. Claude, and the opening of new bars and restaurants there, we thought it would be best to establish a standard in order to allow businesses to open, while also protecting the quality of life of people whose backyards abut those businesses. This is not a new concept. Other neighborhoods throughout the city have a similar policy, but we don't in the Historic Marigny/Treme/Bywater Zoning District. This is what I've called a "hiccup" in the system, and we think that addressing this will ensure that residents and businesses will be able to live in harmony. The CPC Staff Report came out on August 6 and recommended a "buffer zone" of 15 feet from the residential backyard property and a 10 PM curfew of dining and bar use in the backyard. However, it said something more. It said that a prohibition of backyard music was unnecessary, because Safety & Permits ruled that outdoor music was already not allowed. This opinion was based on The Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance, which states that all doors and windows must be closed when live music is being played. They interpreted this as saying that a closed doors and windows requirement logically assumed that live music was not allowed outside of bars and restaurants. The CPC Staff added a new element to our Motion, which was initially designed to address properties in our Zoning District, and made this a city-wide motion, which was not the intent of the Motion. As if that weren't enough, two Commissioners resigned the day before, and two Commissioners were absent, leaving a quorum of five Commissioners. This meant that a unanimous decision of all five Commissioners was required to advance the

*continued on page 2*

## **CAP BLACK: A HOMETOWN HERO**

by Elisa Cool

The Healing Center is a brightly colored rabbit warren of staircases and half floors. Floors leased by the purveyors of eastern medicine, vegan cuisine, art, talismans, and organic goods. The type of place you could visit weekly for 100 weeks and on the 101st realize you'd missed a third of the building.

Down a handicap-accessible, sloped hallway sits a large man. He rests on the edge of a tiled planter in a black ball cap, jeans, an open hoodie, and a t-shirt that reads "Safety Creation." He stares past the space in front of him on the linoleum flooring as if reflecting on someone or something centuries away. I call his name, and he stands to greet me. His stature is intimidating; his manner is warm and mild.

Cap Black is the sort of figure you'd want on your side of a dark alley. He walks erect in a manner familiar and comforting to anyone who grew up or around a military installation. Cap, however, is not in the armed services; his professional title is Head of Security at the Healing Center. He sometimes wears a cape.

Perhaps this is why I'd like to think of him as Sheriff around these strange and wonderful parts. In a graphic novel, he might be.

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## **The Best Little Oktoberfest in New Orleans**

St. Paul Lutheran Church, on Port and Burgundy, is celebrating their annual Oktoberfest on Saturday, October 26, from 3pm - 7pm. The entire community is invited, and admission is free. There will be a live oom-pah-pah band, and delicious German delicacies and desserts available for sale. Other activities will include- an old-fashioned children's carnival, sing-a-longs, and, of course, chicken dancing. Attendees are encouraged to wear traditional German dirndls and lederhosen.

On Sunday, October 27, the church will present the Festival Service of the Reformation at 10:30 am. There will be special music performed by the St. Paul Orchestra.

St. Paul was founded in "Little Saxony" in 1840. It was the spiritual and cultural hub for thousands of German immigrants who settled in the Faubourg Marigny and Bywater. After 179 years, the congregation continues to be a vital member of the community. For more information go to St. Paul Lutheran Church, Marigny-New Orleans on Facebook, or call 504-945-3741.

## October 2019 FMIA President's Letter

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proposal to the City Council with a recommendation. Quite frankly, this Motion had a lot going on at that point, and the CPC voted 3-2 in favor.

So, where are we now? Well, it goes to the City Council on October 3 with no recommendation. There will be a large opposition of commercial property owners and "advocates" (that live in other neighborhoods) fighting against the same zoning standards that they have near their homes. We urge everyone to come and fight for the Backyard Ordinance.

### Iggy's

As you are surely aware, there was a shootout at Iggy's Bar (Touro and N. Rampart) in the early morning hours of Saturday, September 7. You might also be aware that two murders had already occurred at that location (Fall, 2013 and Spring, 2014). What you may not be aware of is that the surrounding neighbors have been contacting the NOPD since August 2018. After years of calling the owner (to no avail), they finally contacted the NOPD and began reporting all types of Quality of Life complaints. Most of them involved the bar's customers in front of people's homes sitting on the steps, in their cars playing loud music, in the alleyways or backyards using the bathroom, drug use, and generally not allowing people to get a good night's sleep. Some of the complaints involved fights in the street, and one resident even had their house broken into by a customer of the bar. Additionally, there were numerous

complaints of cars parking at the intersection, to the point that emergency vehicles couldn't turn. In fact, a petition was signed by 30+ residents and submitted to the NOPD and City Attorney's office, but nothing has happened with it. In the meantime, the neighbors met with NOPD and continued to photograph and log call in their complaints to the NOPD.

Therefore, no one was completely surprised when the most recent shooting occurred. Luckily, only one person was injured, and will recover, as shots were fired from the car driving through the intersection, and shots were returned from the parked car. We spent the next week reaching out the City, hoping to bring help to the neighbors around Iggy's. There was one thing that became evident: there is no plan or blueprint for dealing with "nuisance" bars. Every time I spoke with someone, they were very understanding, and wanted to help. However, it seemed like everyone I talked to suggested someone different to speak to. Everyone knew that the ultimate destination was the ABO Board, and that the way to get there was the City Attorney's Office, but there was no consistent opinion of what was required, and what defined violations. Hopefully, we can create a blueprint or pathway to deal

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### 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 each month for inclusion in the next month's issue.

Send contributions to:

FMIA Newsletter

2401 Burgundy St., Box 10 New Orleans, LA 70117  
or Editor@FaubourgMarigny.org.

The newsletter is published each month except January and October. Back issues are available online at [www.theFMIA.org](http://www.theFMIA.org)

Editor-in-Chief: Donna Wakeman  
Design & Layout Editor: Zé daLuz  
Printing by: Printall, Inc.

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## October 2019 FMIA President's Letter

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with this issue, so that we all have a clear understanding of what to do, and that it doesn't take a shootout to get something done.

### 1924-28 Dauphine (Proposed Bed & Breakfast)

On September 5th, the City Council voted 7-0 to deny a Conditional Use Permit for a Bed and Breakfast (Principal). This would have allowed a Bed and Breakfast without a Homestead Exemption (but with an operator present) to open inn the middle of this Residential block. To do this would require City Council approval. While everyone applauded the improvement of this blighted property, the neighbors were opposed to this, because the applicant currently has a Bed and Breakfast a few blocks away that they operate as a Whole House STR. None of their neighbors were excited about having this repeated, along with a swimming pool and a maximum of 9 rooms. Thankfully, we won the day. However, this fight is just beginning. With a moratorium on STR's in the French Quarter (except for 7 blocks of Bourbon Street), more and more corporations will be coming to our neighborhood to try to exploit the rules. We believe that this is not the last time that a company will ask for a Bed and Breakfast license in the hopes of open-

ing a Whole House STR in the Marigny. While we were successful this time, we will have to continue to be vigilant and not allow Whole House STR's to populate our neighborhood. We are a special neighborhood, and we should demand to be treated like one.

### Elections

Well, it's that time of year again. On Monday, September 16, we had our annual Board Elections. Four members were reelected to two-year terms. They are Jeff Bromberger, Elisa Cool, Allen Johnson and Donna Wakeman. Speaking on their behalf, I would like to thank everyone for their support, and we look forward to two more great years.

HAPPY HALLOWEEN!!

### ONE BOOK MARIGNY

by Donna Wakeman

Our September fiction selection was the first in Barbara Hambly's Benjamin January mystery series, *A Free Man of Color*. The novels are set in antebellum New Orleans, featuring a free man of color, musician and Paris-trained surgeon. For those of us who love well-researched history along with our mystery, this book is a delight.

Our October non-fiction selection is *The Yellow House* by Sarah Broom. It's a memoir set in a shotgun house in East Orleans purchased by her mother in 1961. She tells a hundred years of her family's history, a mother's struggles, a house's pull towards entropy and the pull of home. A recent release, the book has received great praise.

We will meet on October 9th at 6:30 pm at the Country Club. I hope to see you there, as our meetings are free and open to the public. We welcome you to join us.



### Calendar of Events

#### October 2019

Board Meeting (1st Thursday) October 3—7:00pm  
922 Touro St.

One Book Marigny Book Club  
(2nd Wednesday) October 9—6:30pm  
Venue to be determined  
Contact Editor@FaubourgMarigny.org for details

Meet the Neighbors  
Date and Venue to be determined

General Meeting (3rd Monday)  
October 21—6:30pm Potluck, 7:00pm Meeting  
St. Paul Lutheran Church—2624 Burgundy St.

#### November 2019

Board Meeting (1st Thursday) November 7—7:00pm  
922 Touro St.

One Book Marigny Book Club  
(2nd Wednesday) November 13—6:30pm  
Venue to be determined

Meet the Neighbors  
Date and Venue to be determined

General Meeting (3rd Monday)  
October 18—6:30pm Potluck, 7:00pm Meeting  
St. Paul Lutheran Church—2624 Burgundy St.

### NONPACC Meetings

5th District  
2nd Wednesdays—6:00pm, 3900 N. Claiborne Av.  
8th District 4th Tuesdays—6:00pm, 334 Royal St.

Please send event info to Editor@FaubourgMarigny.org.

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## Marigny Green News

by Deborah Oppenheim



It is very important to ALWAYS stay hydrated. Drink as much liquid as you can to prevent dehydration. With the intense heat and sun, one's skin needs extra care. Have you thought of household and natural products that can be used to help your skin hydrate and stay healthy? There are many products for skin care but finding effective products is not that easy. Experts in the field share these natural and science-based ingredients.

### Coconut Oil:

Benefits: Hydration and anti-inflammatory. Recent research indicates that extra virgin coconut oil suppresses some of the body's natural inflammatory agents and helps make the skin better. "Many people love coconut oil products to help fight, dry skin and skin diseases such as eczema and psoriasis," says Laurel Naversen Geraghty, MD, a dermatologist in Medford, OR.

### Green Tea:

Benefits: Sun protection, anti-aging. There has been a connection of drinking green tea to help improve health for many years. It is also can help to use the plant on the skin. "Green tea has good results in terms of photoprotection and anti-aging benefits," says Jeanine Downie, a

dermatologist in Montclair, NJ. The polyphenols in green tea have antioxidant properties as well as soothing abilities that help treat sun-damaged skin and offer a way to address the signs of sun damage, she says. Dr. Downie likes sunscreen containing green tea and she recommends Paula's Choice Skin Balancing Ultra-Sheer Daily Defense Broad Spectrum SPF 30.

### Oatmeal:

Benefits: Anti-inflammatory, eczema relief. Michelle Wong, PhD, a cosmetics chemist says, "Oatmeal contains anti-inflammatory and anti-irritant chemicals called avenanthramides. It also has moisturizing beta glucans and starches. It's the reason why oatmeal baths are so effective for conditions like eczema and rashes. According to Dr. Geraghty, not all oatmeal works. She suggests using colloidal oatmeal. Colloidal oatmeal is derived from grinding and preparing oats into tiny, specific sizes and that what make the ingredient so therapeutic. It blends with water to form the soothing paste. Dr. Geraghty said, "I like colloidal oatmeal products because they're gentle and safe and studies show they don't tend to cause allergies or irritation. I've found that if my eczema patients develop gentle skin care habits and regularly slather on a thick moisturizer containing colloidal oatmeal, they don't need topical steroids as much or as often." Wong likes Aveeno colloidal oatmeal products such as Soothing Bath Treatment.

### Shea Butter:

Benefits: Anti-inflammatory, itch relief. This product is derived from the shea tree and used in most moisturizers. Shea butter seems to hydrate skin because it is laden with fatty acids. Shea butter does not seem to cause skin allergies and is good for most sensitive skin types. There are many shea butter products but using the purest form is suggested.

### Other natural remedies for face care:

Pores in your skin can get clogged with oil and dead skin cells. We think of using the aloe vera plant for burns. It can also help blemishes on the face. Aloe vera is anti-inflammatory and antimicrobial and reduces discomfort and speeds up healing. Apple cider vinegar can help with blemishes. Be sure to dilute the vinegar before applying to the skin by using the following: Use ½ cup of water, mix 2 tablespoons of apple cider vinegar and mix. Apply with a cotton swab to the blemish. Raw Honey can be amazing. It is a natural humectant and has remarkable healing properties that soothe irritated skin and can reduce redness. Recipe for a honey gel cleanser: ½ cup of honey, 1-2 tablespoons of castile soap for a foaming gel cleanser. It does not feel sticky after rinsing with warm and followed by cold water to get that healthy glow.

If you use any of these ideas, it is good to check with your doctor to make sure you are using these natural treatments the correct way.

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## Speaking Volumes

By Sara Jacobelli

Assistant Branch Manager, Alvar Library

### SATURDAY, October 12th, 2:00-3:45 pm. In the Garden Writers' Workshop

Welcome to our fourth season of the workshop. Our October workshop will focus on writing Poetry and will be taught by New Orleans poet Kay Murphy. Ms. Murphy's books include *The Autopsy*, *Belief Blues* and *Women Poets: Workshop into Print*. Her poetry has been published in *Exquisite Corpse*, *Spoon River Poetry Quarterly*, *College English*, *New Orleans Review*, *Chelsea*, the anthology *From a Bend in the River: 100 New Orleans Poets*, and other literary journals. (Brief bio from the Louisiana Poetry Project) <http://louisianapoetryproject.org/author/murphy/> We will meet on the second Saturday of every month, from September through May. Participants can work on poetry or prose, fiction or nonfiction. Visiting authors will stop by to read their work and offer writing tips. Writers of all levels are welcome to attend. Our final session of the year, on Saturday, May 9th, 2:00 pm, will be a reading by our workshop participants.

### THURSDAY, October 17th, 6:00-7:30 pm.

#### Immigration Reform 101: a general information and Q&A session on a national humanitarian and economic crisis

If you find immigration law and policy to be confusing, overly complicated, and irrational, you are not alone! Bring your questions to this general information session for a frank discussion with New Orleans Immigration Attorney Erin Hebert of Ware Immigration.

\* How did we get to this current dis-functional state of affairs and what do we do about it?

\* Why is the humanitarian crisis at the border a new and different problem?

\* What about the thousands of U.S. businesses, universities, and institutions who depend on just and fair immigration laws for their employees, students, and customers?

\* What is happening to the hundreds of thousands of families caught up in the morass of the "legal" immigration system?

### Great news for the new school year. NOPL is Eliminating Library Late Fines for Youth Materials

Youth materials checked out beginning Sunday, September 1st, will no longer accumulate late fines. This includes youth materials checked out on any Library card: children/teen/adult. Library users who check out youth materials still need to return the materials. Materials that are not returned after 90 days will still be charged to the Library user's account as a lost item and will incur fees.

To learn more, visit [nolalibrary.org](http://nolalibrary.org)

The New Orleans Public Library has all of the resources you need for a successful school year: Homework Help & Clubs Homework Help in person, over the phone, and online. Did you know that Library staff answered over 700,000 questions in person, over the phone, and online last year? If you need information, the Library is here to help. Visit any Library location, call Information Services at 504-596-2570, or Ask A Librarian (in the top navigation in the green box) for help.

### Homework Help and College Prep

A dedicated staff person is available in the Teen Zone to provide teens with one-on-one assistance using Homework Louisiana and navigating the college application process. For ages 13 - 19. Main Library on Thursdays from 4pm - 6pm

### Drop-In Homework Help

Homework assistance for children and teens.

Hubbell Library on Mondays - Thursdays from 4:30pm - 6:30pm

### Homework Club

Peer assistance is encouraged, and a staff member will be available for research questions. Break-time crafts and snacks provided. For students of all ages. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Library on Tuesdays from 4pm - 6pm

### Computers, Wifi & E-Resources for Students

All 15 Library locations offer free access to computers and wifi. The Library also offers a wide variety of e-resources. Just a few of the e-resources include:

- Homework Louisiana is an online resource that provides live online tutors, a skills-builder, homework help and tutoring assistance for K through basic college level, a writing center, a career center, and an adult education center.
- ABCmouse.com - Library Edition is available at all Library locations and is an engaging online learning resource that assists early learners to succeed in pre-K, kindergarten, and early elementary school.
- Britannica and World Book Online Encyclopedias

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# District 5 Public Safety Report

by Lisa Suarez

9-11-2019

Attendance: 11 Citizens; 8 Officers

Lieutenant Andrew Palumbo, now 2nd in Command, was present. He was previously in charge of Logistics for the 8th District (French Quarter / Marigny Triangle/ CBD including Convention Center.) Logistics includes all Special Events, especially Mardi Gras. (Krewe du Vieux already misses him.)

Commander Frank Young opened the meeting at 6 p.m.

Announcement: if you cannot attend NONPACC (2nd Wednesdays): Tuesdays at 1p, 5th District Station house (N. Claiborne @ Alvar) MAX meetings are open to the public,

Burglaries and Shoplifting have increased, although the 5th was down by 2 this week (4 last week). The TIGER (Tactical Intelligence Gathering and Enforcement Response) Unit has been successfully identifying and building cases against Auto Burglaries.

There was an arrest last night of a Felon with a Gun, after five years of active probation.

Attendee from Bywater complained about a large tree being cut down at 2930 Burgundy, and then dumped on railroad property. (Resident from corner of Burgundy and Montegut later confirmed that debris was disposed of the next day.)

Dialogue ensued concerning the relationship between

NOPD and Code Enforcement. City Hall generates the list for Code Enforcement actions from 311 calls and NOPD requests. The pilot program of this coordination took place in the 5th District and is now city-wide. (Info added after the meeting: Subsequent to the pilot program, there are now TWELVE inspectors for Code Enforcement, adding eleven to the existing one.)

Complaints were also made about speeding vehicles on the Bywater section of Chartres, and vehicles driving the wrong way on Royal Street, to include an Amazon delivery truck. The driver was fired after the complaint was made directly to Amazon. A question was asked about the possibility of submitting photos of license plates of offending vehicles. No, resources are not available for follow-up, unless a violent crime has been committed.

There are two new Crime Cameras in the St. Claude neighborhood.

In Marigny, Gayle and Bruce Martin of the 900 block of Mandeville, along with Herman Shomaker, attended to complain about the KIPP school traffic jam with 16 school buses and parents' cars gridlocking the 1000 block of Mandeville and 2400 blocks of eastbound St. Claude Avenue and N. Rampart to Spain Street during after school pick-up between 3:15 and 4:20 p.m.; earlier on Wednesdays (1:30 and 2:30).

Buses are often left running (and spewing fumes) with no driver in sight. There is extreme frustration between neighbors and parents who are yelling, screaming, honking horns, parking in front of driveways and fire hydrants. Emergency vehicles would not be able to get through.

The neighbors have tried everything to no avail. "No Parking" sign have been added on Mandeville specifying the hours. Multiple calls have been made, as directed, to 311 and 821-2222, the non-emergency police number. The Principal and Palmer's office have been contacted, repeatedly, as well as the Director of Community Relations, Cerise Martin, 504-261-5286.

Commander Young assured the neighbors he will speak with the school to see what can be done, but will not be able to have officers directing traffic. A suggestion was made that some of the private vehicle waiting traffic be re-directed through the play yard, which has an entrance and exit, though too small for busses.

Another complaint was made about various oversize vehicles parking for days at a time around the Reilly lot ("Marigny KOA,") where signs still have not been erected by the Department of Public Works. There will be even more follow up from the Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Engagement.

Community Relations Officer Larry Dace was asked to check out the empty lot at Painters and N. Derbigny, (where drug sales "by people not from here" have been observed), along with a Dump Truck operation at Clouet and N. Roman, and a "fire hazard" house at Clouet and N. Prieur.

The end of the meeting featured three students from Stanford University (in California) who are interviewing

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## Speaking Volumes

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### Dedicated Teen Areas:

The following locations have dedicated Teen areas for studying:

- Algiers Regional Library
- East New Orleans Regional Library
- Norman Mayer Library
- Main Library
- Mid-City Library
- Robert E. Smith Library

**Books-by-Mail!** This is a service designed to meet the needs of the elderly, homebound, or physically disabled people who cannot use the physical library services. Books will be mailed in a prepaid, reusable bag and once participants are finished with their books they return them in the mail using the same bag. To learn more about this service, ask any Library staff member, or visit [nolalibrary.org](http://nolalibrary.org)

### THURSDAY, October 26th, 6:00 pm

**Buckjumping documentary by Lily Keber.** Buckjumping takes the pulse of present day New Orleans by turning to its dancers, the men and women who embody the rhythm of the city and prove it on the streets every chance they get. (70 minutes) This event is sponsored by the Friends of the New Orleans Public Library.

### REGULAR PROGRAMS AT ALVAR:

**THIRD SATURDAY OF THE MONTH: Drag Queen Story Time: SATURDAY, October 19th: 1:00-2:00 pm** Come listen to the beautiful and talented Vanessa and Desiree read stories. Open to all families, caregivers, and children of all ages.

**FOURTH WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH: October 23rd, 4:00-5:00 pm. Reading to Honeybun**

Come read a book to Honeybun, a trained therapy dog who cannot wait to hear your stories! She is very patient



and loves when children read books to her. Teens can read to her too!

**TUESDAYS, 11 am, Toddler Story Time** – Open to all families and caregivers with children age 5 and under.

**THURSDAYS, 11 am-1 pm, One-on-One Computer Tutoring**– Designed for those who are just beginning to learn about technology or who would like to grow their digital skills and utilize the many digital resources the library offers. You can ask for assistance using our desktop computers, or with your phone, laptop and other mobile devices.

**THURSDAYS, 5:30-7:00 pm, Community Composting with Compost NOW** – Bring your frozen food scraps to our weekly food waste drop-off. For more information, visit [nolalibrary.org](http://nolalibrary.org). There will be no compost drop-offs on days the library is closed.

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## Special FMIA Board meeting

September 2, 2019

922 Touro St.

Meeting called to order at 5:15pm  
 Board members present: Pat Galloway, Allen Johnson, Mark Malouse, Bobby Moffett, Donna Wakeman  
 Quorum declared  
 Guests: Karen Jeffries, Margaret Walker

The proposed Bed and Breakfast at 1924 Dauphine Street is scheduled for the next City Council meeting on September 5, after several deferments.

At the last City Planning Commission meeting, there were three votes to approve, three votes against, and three members were absent.

The proposed development is to have nine units: two long-term rentals and seven short-term rentals. A project of this scope would require a B&B operator license, where the owner would not have to live on the premises, but could appoint an onsite manager, and no homestead exemption would apply. A more appropriate license would be the B&B accessory license, which allows a maximum of four units and the owner would have to live onsite with a valid homestead exemption.

Allen points out a couple of problems, citing violations of two of the nine Board of Zoning Adjustments rules: The current owner has allowed the property to become blighted and will benefit by the proposed redevelopment to correct the blight. A distinct financial issue is driving the proposed commercial redevelopment.

Mark moves that the board support approval of only a B&B accessory license and denial of a B&B operator license, specifically excluding the installation of a swimming pool. Pat seconds the motion, which passes unanimously. Allen to draft letter to CM Palmer.

Meeting adjourned at 6pm.

## FMIA Board Meeting Minutes

9/5/2019 7:00 PM

922 Touro Street

Present: Allen Johnson, Jeff Bromberger, Elisa Cool, Pat Galloway, Present: Allen Johnson, Jeff Bromberger, Elisa Cool Murphy, Pat Galloway, Mark Malouse, Ray Buntin, Donna Wakeman, Lisa Suarez. Absent: Bobby Moffet

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** Allen Johnson  
 1924-1930 Dauphine: Council supported neighborhood and vetoed conditional use 7-0.  
 The election for FMIA Board: October General Meeting

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Mark Malouse - Big items include new large deposits from business memberships.

**MEMBERSHIP REPORT:** Elisa Cool - New committee member, Amber Neil. 230 active memberships. 87 pending renewal. 6 new business memberships.

### OLD BUSINESS

**Dauphine 1924-28-** Win for neighbors. Conditional use request denied at City Council 7-0.

**Backyard Ordinance** - Issue goes before City Council on 10/3.

**2412 N Rampart** - Design was advocated for by Mr. Klingman of the HDLC's Architectural Review Committee; Use will be discussed at HDLC.

### NEW BUSINESS

**JAM** - Guest Jonathan Liss, leasing NOCCA property on Royal Street. JAM = joy, art, music. HMC2 will be zoned as a cultural facility. Supports local artists, shares local art. Elisa motions for a letter of support, seconded by Ray. All approve.

**ABO Ordinance** - Palmer's office met with relevant groups. Proposed Chapter 10 (ABO) Amendment sent to FMIA. Big items include amendments from Safety and Permits on emergency closing. Passed on by previous City Council, discussed a motion to support with concessions passes. 6 in favor. 1 opposed (Elisa). 1 abstained (Jeff).

**Newsletter Layout** - \$50 approved to layout designer/issue. Passes.

**Mini Storage** - Seeking alternatives to current storage.

**Phoenix Bar** - Ask to show support in light of recent anonymous complaints. Lisa motions, Elisa seconds, passes, 1 opposes (Mark).

Meeting Adjourned at 9:36 PM.

*Elisa Cool Murphy*

Ads should be photo ready in .jpg, .tif, .gif, .png, or .bmp format, with a minimum of 300 dpi. No bleeds. Newsletter is printed in black & white. No .pdf files please, as distortion may occur during conversion.

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

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Personal ads, however, are not being accepted at this time.

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## CAP BLACK: A HOMETOWN HERO

*continued from page 1*

Cap is called many things. An urban crime fighter, a vigilante, a meddler, a hard ass. I've never heard him called a pacifist. The city recently called him a Hometown Hero, and he has the plaque to prove it. His actions in and around the neighborhood abutting the block in which the Healing Center has landed have his actions to thank for the capture and arrest of almost two dozen violent individuals. I prefer to call him Sir.

Cap calls himself a Safety Creator. A brand he takes a lot of care and pride in. I met with Cap over ginger beer and coconut hamburger patties to learn the story of his genesis.

### The makings of a modern-day superhero

Cap was born Nadra Enzi in Flint, Michigan and raised in inner-city Savannah. His immediate family included his grandmother, a woman he cares for and respects deeply. I know this because as Cap grew into a man, and the safety of his grandmother's surroundings deteriorated, he'd escort her regularly to complete routine errands.

It's likely that the grandson turned vigilante was a product of both his real world and the fictitious one he escaped to. The term vigilante, however, is out of place for Cap Black. It suggests a figure who has taken the law into their own hands. Cap Black's work has resulted in multiple peaceful committees and coalitions.

"I chose that term deliberately, 'coalition.' It's more suitable for the Marigny, St Roch. We're a neighborhood of inclusionists, myself included. You don't think a label like 'patrol' would work down here. Do you?" He grins.

It was clear Cap was as thoughtful about his naming devices as he was his strategy for change, which led me to ask where his name, rather, his chosen moniker, "Cap Black" heralded. "It's a nickname I got. I like it. Reminds me of my heroes in the comics..." "Doc Savage, Luke Cage, Batman." No student of comics myself I asked Cap to expand. What could each extraordinary human add to our newly founded fictitious coalition?

"Doc's got it all. Luke Cage is a community man. Batman... well, he's got the tools to solve just about anything, and when he doesn't, he has the money to. Anyone of them would be enough. None of us are superhuman. We have to work together."

Thus, the coalition of us ordinary humans? It would seem thus the coalition.

### Cap's coalition

This April, Cap Black hosted a Peace Walk. In a world at least temporarily obsessed with the Avengers, Cap had the New Orleans equivalent: artists, yogis, pastors, teachers, concerned citizens [including this writer], business owners, youth groups, spiritual leaders, police officers, even a police commander. Our meeting place? Under the oaks early one Saturday morning on the neutral ground behind St Roch market.

We formed a circle, and each of us shared a bit of our perspective on the solution for our current crime dilemma. Suggestions of cause and effect included: poverty, education, the judicial system, bad parenting, lack of faith, lack of

religion, poor housing, the media, the police. The common denominator seemed to be a shortfall in one capacity or another. Someone else's shortfall to be clear. All fingers pointed outward. Cap's answer was far simpler.

"What we need is an engaged community. A community that doesn't sit back and debate the finer points of reformation, but instead plays a role in helping reform the community around themselves."

Cap was suggesting, kindly, that everyone turn those fingers around, and look inward for the answer.

### Where do villains come from?

If superheroes are born from friction, where do villains come from?

On the day of this interview, we sat at a highboy table at the [now closed] Seed restaurant at The Healing Center. I was curious what Cap felt reform, truly effective reform, would require.

"Unfortunately, reform in the state of our current situation requires an end to violence."

Cap went on to explain how violence is reinforced. A cyclical power that once present in an individual's environment makes reform next to impossible. Cap indulged me with a hypothetical scenario. I'm paraphrasing but imagine a place where the following story is possible...

A pre-teen is caught and arrested for auto theft. The city responds by taking the kid home to mom and dad. Sounds sensible, generous even. If it sounds implausible, it's not. It happens every day. There are kids on the books in New Orleans who have been released to Mom and Dad for more than half a dozen counts of this behavior.

The scenario gets uglier. It's not just poor parenting. What if mom and dad aren't just turning a blind eye to the theft? What if they beat the hell out of the kid for stealing? Worse. What if they are the catalyst for the theft and beat the hell out of the kid for being caught? What if they've given up on them altogether?

If it sounds like the making of a supervillain, Welcome to New Orleans.

"We certainly can't say that we have a single issue as loud as the drug use in the '80s and '90s in inner cities. Being in an environment of violence where it's not just comfortable, but it is your normal, means that you have a choice to hit or be hit."

I ask the question I don't want to. Did Cap mean that if violence is these teens' normal that it's possible to interpret the actions of the seven juvenile delinquents as normal to them? They're just in an environment that doesn't except their normal? If so, then it would take changing their normal to change the behavior?

Cap Black seems to examine this with a heavy heart. While he's highly motivated, he also appreciates the deep sadness that comes with this situation.

"In the meantime, we have the obligation to keep each other safe."

### Good Works

Cap lives on the lakeside end of St Roch just past Claiborne.



## CAP BLACK: A HOMETOWN HERO

*continued from page 9*

He pitched himself as a service to the Healing Center on a volunteer basis. It wasn't long before his good works became a full-time paid position.

In addition to creating venues for open dialogue in person and online, Cap spends his time chatting with folks one on one. To spend time with Cap is to be asked, "What do you think? What do you see? How do you feel?" And to Cap, it doesn't matter if you're a homeowner, a resident or passing through.

"We don't judge the victim," Cap Black says. "We judge the crime, and we're there to help the victims recover." Thus, he is establishing a new coalition of people who have been the victims of crimes, or who care for those who do.

"People need to know it's not their fault. Things don't happen 'to them.' They happen. No one deserves to be hurt or to be afraid. It goes back to healing."

Which of course makes sense at a Healing Center. Yet, Cap's works go beyond that. Cap is an equitable aid to those around him and that sometimes involves assisting those that the community might deem as undesirable. He opens the doors to the Healing Center on cold nights to those sleeping on the streets. He exposes and engages potential problem juveniles to alternate, brighter paths. He acts as a pathway to justice, encouraging those who feel intimidated (or just unmotivated) to engage with the police to do so through him when needed.

Perhaps Cap Black's superpower is bringing people together. Perhaps it's perspective. He doesn't leap tall buildings or fly at 30,000 feet, but he seems to benefit from the viewpoint of someone who has.

### Paging Cap Black

If anybody would like to stay informed of or get involved in Cap Black's activities, coalitions, or committees, it's very simple to contact or follow him. You can find him on Facebook. No beacon required.

## District 5 Public Safety Report

*continued from page 6*

("Marigny KOA,") where signs still have not been erected by the Department of Public Works. There will be even more follow up from the Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Engagement.

Community Relations Officer Larry Dace was asked to check out the empty lot at Painters and N. Derbigny, (where drug sales "by people not from here" have been observed), along with a dump truck operation at Clouet and N. Roman, and a "fire hazard" house at Clouet and N. Prieur.

The end of the meeting featured three students from Stanford University (in California) who are interviewing individuals for the American Voices Project, until early November. The project aims to present a fuller picture of poverty by providing more than raw data. Princeton and Georgetown Universities are also participating.

## MEMBERSHIP NEWS

### To Join the FMIA

Sign up at [thefmia.org](http://thefmia.org):

Click on 'join us'

Select your level of membership

Be sure to complete all the necessary profile information to insure you receive your newsletter and other important information from us.

### To Renew Your Membership

Log on (bottom right of home page). Click onto your name (bottom right of home page, where you just logged on).

This will open up your profile where you should be able to renew. Check your profile information to make sure it is correct.

If you encounter any problems, feel free to contact me: Elisa Cool, Membership, (347)752-8610 [ecool@faubourgmarigny.org](mailto:ecool@faubourgmarigny.org)

## ADDRESS CORRECTIONS

In order to ensure accuracy of the membership list and prompt delivery of the FMIA monthly newsletter, we ask that you review the mailing label on your copy. If the name(s) or address is incorrect, please log into the FMIA's website [thefmia.org](http://thefmia.org) to make the necessary changes. If you have any problems in logging on, contact [ECool@faubourgmarigny.org](mailto:ECool@faubourgmarigny.org)

Once you've logged in, to edit profile information such as your mailing address, phone, or email address, follow these steps:

1. Go to the page bottom right. Where you once saw log in, you will now see your name.
2. Click on your name.
3. This will take you to "My Profile" page. Here you can view your information. To edit information select the 'EDIT' button above profile information.

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