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Les Amis de Marigny

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

Happy Birthday to FMIA

By Gene Cizek and Donna Wakeman

2012 marks the 40th anniversary of the founding of the Faubourg Marigny Improvement Association. The organization plans to commemorate its founding throughout the coming year, culminating in a festival in the fall which it hopes will become an annual event.

The newsletter intends to do its part in the celebration by publishing a series of articles about the neighborhood, its history and the history of the FMIA. Anyone with interesting stories or pictures of the neighborhood is asked to contact Donna Wakeman at editor@faubourgmarigny.org or 371-5270.

Defining the Neighborhood

The Faubourg Marigny is located on the high ground next to the Mississippi River, part of the sliver by the river and so did not flood during Katrina. Located adjacent to the French Quarter, the neighborhood follows the southward flow of the river for about sixteen blocks. The present day boundaries are Esplanade Avenue on the upriver side, Press Street on the downriver side, and N. Rampart Street/St. Claude Avenue on the lake side. The land is basically flat, and the plan of the faubourg (a French word meaning suburb) adjusts to the 135 degree bend of the river at the foot of Elysian Fields Avenue.

The neighborhood consists of the Triangle or pie shaped section due to the bend of the river, and the Rectangle which follows the traditional grid system. This adjustment to the bend creates a continually changing visual image as one walks, bikes or drives down the sidewalks and streets, giving a great sense of place and continuity. 1 to 1½ storey Creole and Victorian cottages are the dominant house type

with an excellent representation of the Greek, Italianate, Craftsman and other early 20th Century architecture. An eight storey Christopher Inn housing for the elderly would potentially be a major visual feature in the Triangle, but it blends into the overall area through the continuity of the bend in the basic square block layout and the great quantity of trees on the streets.

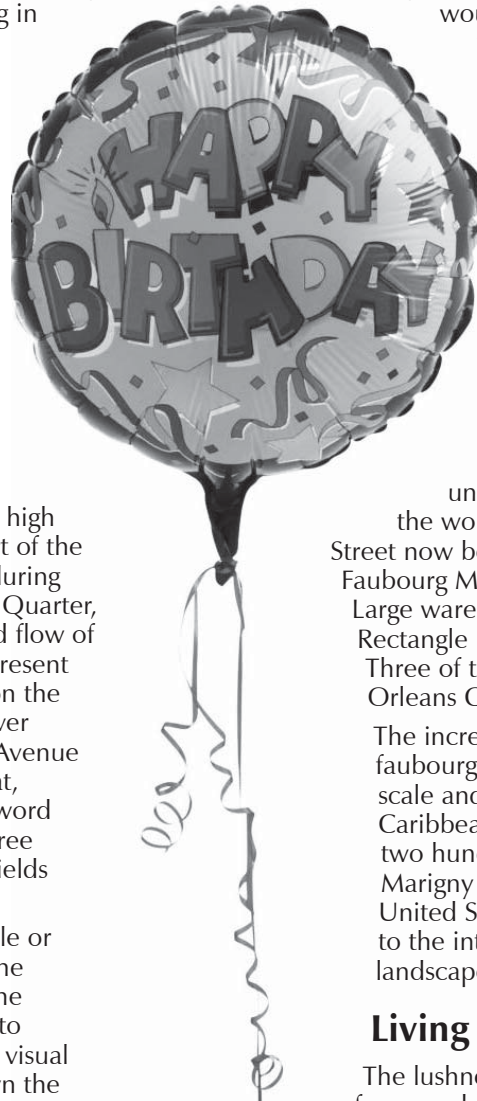
These two components are linked through Elysian Fields Avenue, which fronts Washington Square at the basic center of the area.

There are many corner stores and historic linear commercial areas at N. Rampart Street/St. Claude Avenues and along Frenchmen Street in the Triangle. Franklin Avenue was historically the boundary between Faubourg Marigny and Faubourg Daunois until the railroad cut Daunois in half to service the world's largest cotton press in 1834. Press Street now becomes the natural boundary between Faubourg Marigny and the Bywater neighborhood. Large warehouse buildings along the riverfront in the Rectangle maintain a feeling of historic maritime uses. Three of the warehouses have become the New Orleans Center for Creative Arts (NOCCA).

The incredible architectural inventory of the faubourg and its integrity defines the streets, their scale and detail. The houses are painted in bright Caribbean colors reflecting the influences of over two hundred years of Creole culture. Faubourg Marigny is the most intact neighborhood in the United States from an archeological condition due to the integrity of the 19th Century architecture, landscape and mixed land use.

Living in the Neighborhood

The lushness of Washington Square with its ancient fence and gates that are always slightly uneven due to differential soil subsidence provides the neighborhood outdoor living room with the perfect setting for quiet



Happy Birthday FMIA continued from page 1

time or visiting with neighbors. Children and adults play casual sports. There are regular free concerts in the square and art markets with wonderful jazzy bands. Christmas Caroling in Washington Square draws many neighbors and their friends. It is smaller than the French Quarter version with a more casual nature but still a strong feeling of unity that brings us all together.

The location of the neighborhood shopping and entertainment district on Frenchmen Street has a building housing a jazz club, a great café or restaurant, an unusual hotel or bed and breakfast, a bookstore or brilliantly painted tattoo parlor. The great mixed land use that has been promoted by the FMIA and supported by neighbors and visitors has resulted in easy walks to coffee shops, cafes, galleries, laundromats where good gossip abounds and bars that welcome all. No other historic neighborhood of New Orleans has endorsed, developed and fine tuned the special land use mix that is totally Marigny.

Faubourg Marigny is a microcosm of what Creole New Orleans is and can be. It contains the most intense and genuine lifestyle concentration of any neighborhood.

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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 the business manager at ads@faubourgmarigny.org.

Classifieds Now Available

The newsletter is now accepting classified ads. Personals, however, are not being accepted. Contact ads@faubourgmarigny.org. Classified Rates: \$5.00 per each 25 words.

About the Newsletter

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

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

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

President's Report

By Alexandre Vialou

Bonjour,

Now that parades are rolling through our streets, our creative economy is in full swing. From the artists that build and design floats, musicians and marchers who keep the beat on the concrete, organizers, participants, to one-day performers putting on a mask, Carnival is a time when the Marigny is truly creative, resourceful, diverse and joyous. I hope you'll enjoy this year, as always.

Yes, we will be crowded with tourists; but put on your costumes, get out and support our businesses and our musicians. And because as of late we've had a lot of crime in the city, let's try to be as safe as possible and watch out for each other.

The Faubourg Marigny Improvement Association welcomes anyone interested in making our neighborhood safer and a better place to live, work and play. Come and embrace the Marigny spirit. Consider volunteering!

— Joyeux Carnaval and Keep the Marigny positive!

NO MORE BLIGHT

By Alexandre Vialou

As of December 2011, there were in our neighborhood more properties that have been renovated since Hurricane Katrina (73) than unattended blighted properties (60). Compared to 2010, 13 new or ongoing renovations have been completed. This trend is encouraging and is a testament of our neighborhood attractiveness at a time of economic uncertainty.

In 2012 many other properties are scheduled for full renovations such as the Colton school, 511 Marigny, and several other single private residences. If you live next to a blighted property, please consider contacting us. We can assist you in the process of having the property being inspected by Code Enforcement. Also stay tune to the FMIA weekly eblast updates to find upcoming hearings, results and sheriff sale events. You can email us directly at blight@faubourgmarnigny.org.

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In My Opinion

As a Marigny resident I am in support of the continued success of our St. Claude corridor and also of our city. After attending a School Master Plan meeting (rebuildingnolaschools.wordpress.com) which discussed the physical renovation of our schools and a Recovery School District (rsdla.net) meeting discussing charter schools, I realized that our schools and neighborhoods will be going through many changes. I should add that I have not been to any KIPP or Plessy school meetings.

For our neighborhood, in my opinion, the issue is not so much Plessy versus KIPP. Both have impressive educational goals. My issue is that our neighborhood school, Colton, is designed for 850 students which is too big. In order to save money, New Orleans is combining schools. We no longer have the choice between neighborhood schools, as they are merging into regional ones. That does not bode well for the economic development of our region of the city and our St. Claude corridor. Our development depends on our ability both to break a cycle of poverty, and to attract a diverse population to our neighborhood. Having limited options for schooling makes these goals harder to attain.

If and when the chosen school or schools satisfy the needs of our diverse neighbors, then we can achieve both long and short term gains in our neighborhood. In the long run, KIPP schools are great options given their record at

improving scores in underserved populations (KIPP.org). I have no doubt that our region of the city will benefit in twelve years when KIPP students graduate and become productive members of our city. Then, hopefully, the cycle of poverty and crime will end.

In the short run, we need more families who want to move into the St. Claude corridor to renovate our blighted properties, to take part in neighborhood activities, attract businesses, and continue to make it prosper. Instead, there are educators telling mobile families to move to Uptown (See nola.com "KIPP, neighborhood both covet old Colton" 2/7/2011). The Plessy Community School (plessyschool.org), with its emphasis on diversity, is attractive to these families who could continue the immediate successes of the Marigny and surrounding neighborhoods.

Where there was once an elementary school located every half mile, there will now be one located every mile. This saves money, but New Orleans is not as homogenous as some of our surrounding suburbs. Even though we live in the same neighborhood, we have different views of how our children should be taught. We need the option of schools that can allow our neighborhood to continue its immediate development and sustain itself, along with the city, in the long run.

William Carter, Marigny

Editor's note: The Homer A. Plessy Community School, formally known as the Citizens' Committee for Education, has been conditionally approved by the Orleans Parish School Board to open a school. They will be able to open in the 2013-2014 school year provided they can improve their organizational plan.

NONPAC Meetings

5th District Report No Report

8th District Report

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

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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ORCHIDS

- 🌸 to **Gretchen Bomboy** for her work coordinating the Caroling event in Washington Park
- 🌸 to **Jason Patterson** for arranging the entertainment
- 🌸 to all those who helped with the preparation and clean up the park after the event
- 🌸 to **Brian Frye** for stepping up to fill Sam Armstrong's shoes as the newsletter Ad Manager
- 🌸 to **Marshall Gries** for his wonderful job of decorating the park for Christmas
- 🌸 to **Jason Pattereson** for his hard work in co-ordinating the music for Caroling'

February 2012

Board Meeting

February 1, 7 pm, Who Dat Café, 2401 Burgundy Street

Meet the Neighbors

February 14, 6:30 – 8:30 pm

Melange Speakeasy Bar, 2106 Chartres Street

General Meeting

February 27, 6:30 Pot Luck, 7:15 Meeting

St. Paul Lutheran Church, 2624 Burgundy Street

Note the date change due to Mardi Gras week.

March 2012

Board Meeting

March 7, 7 pm, Who Dat Café, 2401 Burgundy Street

Meet the Neighbors

March 13, 6:30 – 8:30 pm,

Siberia, 2227 St. Claude Avenue

General Meeting

March 19, 6:30 Pot Luck, 7:15 Meeting

St. Paul Lutheran Church, 2624 Burgundy Street

NONPAC MEETINGS

5th District — 2nd Wednesday,

6 pm, 4015 Burgundy St.

8th District — 2nd Thursday

5:30 pm, 1001 Toulouse Street

GREEN MARKETS

French Market

Wednesdays & Saturdays, 10 am - 5 pm

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Saturdays, 10 am - 2 pm

Holy Angels Complex, 3500 St. Claude Avenue

(at the corner of Gallier Street and St Claude Avenue)

FREE FUN

St Claude Arts District

2nd Saturday: see www.scadnola.com

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Thursdays, 5 pm, Alvar Library, 913 Alvar Street

Nickel-A-Dance

Sunday Afternoons in March at Maison,

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March 4: Gerald French & the Original Tuxedo Jazz Band

March 11: Herlin Riley's Hot Foot Floozies

March 18: Tom Saunders' Tom Cats

March 25: Lionel Ferbos and the Palm Court Jazz Band

For more information, call 947-6155 or visit

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



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Letter to the Editor

I am writing to oppose the proposal to demolish and construct a seven story building at 501 Elysian Fields. I received a Public Notice because I live nearby to the property — the "impact" area.

First, seven stories is too tall for the neighborhood. I understand it is zoned for seven stories, but I would hope this could be reviewed. A seven story structure would stand out among the other buildings, and in the process block views property owners may have of the CBD and CCC.

Secondly, the neighborhood is becoming too dense. 511 Marigny is yet to be completed to judge its impact on the area. Buildings that were once warehouses, not housing, are becoming apartments/condos in once was a real neighborhood with workplaces.

Thirdly, parking. The Riverfront Park, with a pavilion at the end of my street, is also yet to open to be able to determine its impact on my neighborhood. I already have renter/owners from the French Quarter park on my block for weeks at a time. There are Bed and Breakfasts, legal and illegal, everywhere that require parking. Even if the proposed building included parking, I doubt it would include parking for the resident's family/friends that visit — especially during events.

I have owned my home for 20 years. It has almost become too expensive for me to live here, between homeowners insurance and taxes — and soon to be doubled water bills. It seems that the least I could expect is to be able to continue to enjoy my "neighborhood."

I appreciate your interest and hopefully your support in opposing the proposed project at 501 Elysian Fields.

Anne Hedberg, Mandeville Street

Editor's Note: This letter was one of several received by the Board of the FMIA in opposition to the project.

Donna D. Wakeman

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Marigny Green



By *Deborah Oppenheim*

It's Mardi Gras time and everyone will have fun and recycling!

Thanks to Marigny Green's Volunteers who have canvassed three more blocks of the Marigny and signed up residents for the

City's Recycling Program.

Ms. Cynthia Sylvain-Lear said, "Recycling is going well thanks to the efforts of neighborhoods like the Marigny and the current statistics of people registered is 36,035.

As a reminder, recycle **e-waste** on the second Saturday of each month from 8:00 am to 1:00 pm at 2829 Elysian Fields Avenue along with paper (newspaper, junk mail, catalogs, phone books, office paper), plastics (#1-#3) and small metals (tin, Aluminum, steel).



The types of **recycling e-waste** they accept are:

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- Networking equipment
- Fax machines
- Circuit boards
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- Telephone and computer cables
- Uninterruptible power supplies (UPS)
- Printers
- Toner
- Cartridges
- Ink jet cartridges
- Portable navigation
- Tires (4 maximum)
- Cardboard
- GPS devices.

Happy Mardi Gras,
Marigny Green

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

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It's a Blast!

An email blast that is. FMIA sends out an email blast every Friday 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@foubourgmarigny.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.

Meet the Neighbors

By Jill McGaughey



Buffa's Lounge hosted a lively Meet the Neighbors on December 13th, generously setting out platters of pork sliders and smoky salmon crudities for our grazing pleasure. The back room is warm, welcoming, smoke-free and has endless possibilities as a gathering spot.

They host Monday night football games during the season, it also occasionally features mellow live music performances by quality local musicians. Sunday Brunch is popular as well. If you haven't been there since the "old days," it's worth checking out.

Next Meet the Neighbors:

Tuesday, February 14 (Valentine's Day):
Melange Speakeasy Bar, 2106 Chartres Street in the bar — the owners and Chef Broussard will set out complimentary appetizers for us!
www.melangenola.com

Tuesday, March 13
Siberia, 2227 St. Claude Avenue on facebook at [siberia new orleans](https://www.facebook.com/siberia.neworleans)

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Happ'ns in the 'Hood

New Orleans Opera House

Located in the former Holy Trinity Church at 725 St. Ferdinand Street, the owners have been hosting acoustical (i.e. non-amplified) musical performances. A presentation was made to the FMIA at January's General Meeting. Many members expressed support for them, while some neighbors voiced their concerns and opposition to a performance space in the middle of a residential block. This project raises the question about zoning as it applies to the many (two in our neighborhood alone) churches closed by the Catholic Church in New Orleans. However, the question has been side-stepped here, as the owners have filed for an occupancy permit as a church, "a non-denominational, unaffiliated, neighborhood church without a dogma."

CVS

They're baaaaaack. CVS has presented a "new" site plan at the Architectural Review Committee. It is still calling for bulldozing the entire frontage on St. Claude Ave, and the building is still the standard corporate box, but the parking has at least been moved to the rear of the building. The committee for the third time rejected the plan, criticizing the suburban style of the store, the fake historicity of the facade, and the indifference of the building to the neighborhood that surrounds it.

501 Elysian Fields

Also on the Architectural Review Committee agenda was a proposal by Sean Cummings to build a seven storey apartment building at 501 Elysian Fields. Neighbor opposition is growing rapidly, and the FMIA is firmly against permitting such construction in the Marigny. Unfortunately, the committee voted to move the project forward. The 75 foot building would substantially exceed the current 50 foot height limit, block all other's view to the river and is completely out of character for our historic neighborhood.

Café Istanbul

Café Istanbul The Community Benefits Agreement (CBA) with Café Istanbul has been signed, sealed and delivered (to City Hall, that is). Formally recorded with the Conveyance Office, the agreement can be viewed at www.faubourgmarigny.org under the 'NEWS'.

Riverfront Park

Work on the park is about 50% complete, and it is likely to open this fall. The city is looking to the French Market Corporation to manage the park. Still unresolved are the nature, size and frequency of public events held there. Stay tuned for further news.

St. Claude Corridor Cultural District

As we all know, the St. Claude Arts District is a thriving cultural destination. So successful has it become that three separate entities have inquired in 2010 about the possibility to have the perimeter of the SCCCD expanded to cover new adjacent areas. The district has proposed expansion of the district's northern boundary, between the eastern side of Clouet Street to the Industrial Canal, from the northern side of Marais Street to the northern side of North Claiborne Avenue. The proposed new area will remain a contiguous area.




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By the Numbers

By Peter Horjus

As a survey statistician, I focus on facts, numbers, databases, and information flows. I find data useful and often beautiful, but only when organized, clean and complete. We all have a duty to contribute to the data in our neighborhood and in this city, and a duty to demand clear, useful, interpretable, and timely reporting of this data back to us.

In light of a series of minor crimes happening in and around the Marigny, and the uptick of murders throughout the city, there are a few facts about the crime statistics and how our reporting of crimes is of utmost importance. In speaking with a few recent victims of minor assault, it appears that an unknown number of minor crimes are going unreported. To find out if a crime has been officially reported, one can consult the city crime map. This map is searchable by date and location, and may be accessed at:

<http://www.crimemapping.com/map/la/neworleans>.

An officer at the 8th District NOPD explained that if one calls to inform them of a crime without filing a formal report "the information goes into the ear of the person on the phone and nowhere else." A formal report must be filed in order for a crime to appear on this map, for the information to be shared among the NOPD, and to have this information influence the patrolling patterns of the NOPD.

Filing a formal report cannot take place over the phone; in order to file a report, one must meet in person with a Police Officer and provide a description of the crime. At that time, the Officer will determine if a report should be filed, and if so a case number will be assigned. This can be done immediately following the crime, by calling the NOPD (see the appropriate numbers below) and having them dispatch a car to your location, or it can be done in person at the appropriate district NOPD office. One can also call the non-emergency number and have an officer dispatched to wherever you are to take your report.

People (at least the author) tend to put some of the blame on the NOPD for our high levels of crime, but they need information from the residents in order to better fight crime. We must all report any and all crimes or suspected crimes in a timely manner in order to give the NOPD the information they need to do their job.

There are only two numbers for reporting crimes: one for emergencies and one for non-emergencies. Although the boundaries for the Police Districts in the Marigny changed as of the beginning of this year, the district location is not necessary. The city provides the following information on what number to call and when:

- **Call 9-1-1 for emergencies.** "An emergency is any threat to life or property or a crime in progress." The author subjectively defines a 'crime-in-process' as including a suspected crime that may be about to happen, a crime that just happened, or a crime that may be in progress.
- **Call (504) 821-2222 for non-emergencies.** This non-emergency NOPD number is for "Such things as a burglary that happened while you were gone, a barking dog, and a burned out fire or a scheduled ride to the hospital or nursing home".

There is also a form that can be filled out called a "hot sheet," that provides information to the NOPD on areas where illegal activities are occurring, have occurred, or where potential problems exist. The link to the form, which is the same for all police districts, can be found at: <http://www.nola.gov/en/sitecore/content/Root/GOVERNMENT/NOPD/Police-Districts/8th-District.aspx>.

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Support Our Farmers' Market

Sankofa Farmers' Market at 3500 St. Claude Ave. (in the Holy Angels parking lot) continues to grow. Support our local vendors, be a 'locavore' and help prevent global warming by walking or cycling down on Saturdays from 10 am to 2 pm. A list of vendors follows:

- **Cal's Crops** — eggs, lemons, hot pepper jelly
- **Frederick Douglass Garden at KIPP Renaissance High School** — mixed cabbage, mustard greens, thai basil, dill, rosemary, mint, sage, pineapple sage, thyme, oregano, nasturtiums (edible flowers)
- **Grilling Shelling** — barbeque, burgers, turkey burgers
- **Katia's Backyard** — dried herbs, kumquats, pecans, seeds
- **Lamanche Urban Farm** — fresh potatoes, sprouts, root vegetables, herb salad mix, and greens
- **Langston Hughes Academy** — greens, salad mix, swiss chard, pickled turnips, pickled radishes, pickled carrots, pickled peppers
- **Monica's Okra World** — a variety of seasonal greens (arugula, mizuna, bok choy, spring mix, spinach), cushaw pumpkin squash, cabbage, broccoli, turnips, kale, rainbow chard, tat soi
- **Sally's Gourmet Country Foods** — apple cider from their West Virginia farm and orchard, Mardi Gras bean soup mix, homemade salad dressings, hummus, hot pepper jelly
- **Schwarz Organic Produce** — satsumas, blood oranges, grapefruit, lemons
- **Scribble and Scry** — soy milk, pecan milk, tofu
- **Sugerman's Bagels** — bagels, breads
- **SUA (Supporting Urban Agriculture)** — seasonal fresh herbs (dill, sage, rosemary, parsley, pepper grass, mint)

And don't forget to stop by the Welcome Tent for Hot Baby's Coffee!



FMIA Board Meeting Minutes December 7, 2011

Members Present: Alex Vialou, Jason Patterson, Jim Farr, Gretchen Bomboy, Gene Cizek, Miles Swanson, Marshall Gries

Members Absent: Donna Wakeman, Chris Costello

Guest: Jackson Knowles (NOCCA) – Director of Community Development.

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

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

Motion to Approve: Second: Vote:

ANNOUNCEMENTS — None

COMMUNITY REQUESTS/PRESENTATIONS

1. JACKSON KNOWLES (NOCCA) – Director of Community Development. Miss Knowles discussed the evolution and development of NOCCA and the school's expansion plans. The school now offers a total of ten disciplines including the newest program, culinary arts. Miss Knowles described the facility as "busting at the seams" and described their need for extra space. The board asked about the school's expansion plans. NOCCA has purchased several lots for future development. In 2009 they drafted a master plan which currently includes a space for a garden for the culinary program and a Homer Plessy space. This summer plans crystallized and purchase of the Habitat ReStore building was considered. There is no contract as of yet, but the price has been agreed upon. While details have not been finalized, they hope to close on the property this spring.

A Press Street main entry to NOCCA, via St. Claude Avenue, is envisioned. They have discussed an outdoor memorial park and a visitor's center at the entry. They are considering a community meeting space on Press St. between Royal and Dauphine. From Dauphine to Burgundy (on Press St.) the block is planned to be a garden area for the culinary program. They were reminded of parking concerns of the neighborhood and Miss Knowles stated that the school is aware of the parking issues.

In an effort to generate income to support the NOCCA Institute they are also considering adult classes. In addition, they are considering a fine dining restaurant situated on the St. Claude lot of Press St. They are open to other ideas for a commercial endeavor for the St. Claude space and welcome input from local stakeholders.

Board members discussed the FMIA's involvement in the original development of the current NOCCA site. Gene Cizek emphasized the importance of continuing communication with the FMIA for the mutual benefit of both the school and the neighborhood. The FMIA offers resources and contacts that could benefit NOCCA. We share the same interests and the FMIA wants to continue making a positive contribution to NOCCA's success.

The board asked if it would be possible to review NOCCA's plans and Miss Knowles agree to give a presentation at a General Meeting.

ADMINISTRATION

1. PRESIDENT'S REPORT: President's Report: President Alex Vialou reported that he attended two recent meetings:

1) St. Claude Main Street (SCMS): The meeting focused on the potential synergy between the FMIA and SCMS. The FMIA can help with the issue of blight and enforcement, and SCMS could help with business development and locating potential developers on St. Claude Avenue. Beautification of St. Claude could also be a shared project. The FMIA will start a list of recommendations. It was noted that SCMS is supposed to have an FMIA board member on its board. Miles Swanson to follow up.

2) Frenchmen Street Association: Halloween on Frenchmen was very successful this year. There were no reported problems on Frenchmen this year. Alex Vialou suggested that there could be a synergy between the Frenchmen Street Association and the FMIA Crime Committee re security concerns and this is an opportunity for coordination. Parking and traffic are also issues in the Frenchmen district. There was a discussion about plans for a multi-story parking facility on Elysian Fields which could also be tied together with security and development of the area – again, an opportunity for a synergy of interests.

2. TREASURER'S REPORT: None.

3. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a) Newsletter: Donna Wakeman not present.

b) Washington Park: Gretchen made a motion to use Marigny Green boxes and bags for recycling at Washington Park for the Caroling event. Seconded by Jim Farr – passed unanimously. Miles Swanson expressed interest in coordinating long term plans for Washington Park. There is a lot of deferred maintenance in the park especially fence repairs. There may be potential to tap some

Continued on page 12



FMIA Board Meeting Minutes December 7, 2012 — *continued*

of our better known local neighborhood artists for resources and events. Gene Cizek will work with Miles.

c) Security: Al Schnur is taking a hiatus from the project and will report back.

d) Fete Francaise (French Festival): Marshall Gries to take charge of organizing the event after Holidays. Bill Hyland could be valuable resource. Discussion ensued about who might be interested and who/what might contribute to the Festival. All ideas are welcome and some ideas were: small speeches/classes/presentations.

e) FMIA 40th Anniversary Committee: The possibility of combining the French Festival with the FMIA's 40th Anniversary party was also discussed. Marshall will announce initial meeting times in January.

OLD BUSINESS

PROJECTS:

a) Parking Permits: Although approved, the city has no funds to put up the signage in those blocks in the triangle that will have permitted/vignette parking. More restrictive parking in the triangle is likely to push those looking for parking into the rectangle. Coupled with the lack of parking for the Colton school, it raises the issue of whether or not residential parking permits may not also be appropriate for the rectangle. Rectangle residents are encouraged to discuss the pros and cons.

b) Historic Markers: Underway.

c) Caroling: Stage and area setup will start at 9:00. Tours commence at 12:00 noon. Boystown will have a band from 3-5 (the Prescriptions). A larger stage will be available this year from 1:00 through 8:00 for all performers to use. Discussion centered around details of who would be responsible for the various tasks related to the day-long event (refreshments, children's area, music, entertainment, etc.)

d) Café Istanbul: Community Benefits Agreement has been finalized and signed.

e) CANO: Purchase of Saints Peter and Paul Catholic Church on Burgundy St. by the Creative Alliance of New Orleans (CANO) is underway. The sale papers should be signed soon. There has been nearly \$1 million raised to buy the property, but it will take approximately \$4 million more to develop. A substantial amount of that money is already pledged.

f) Colton School: This is the right time for neighborhood input. We need to voice our opinion about the potential 850 students (60 buses?) and parking for 60 – 80 employees. The building has been built far out of scale. There are serious questions about whether the actual construction conforms to the plans originally distributed.

g) 511 Marigny: Construction has commenced. Some of the same concerns that apply to the Colton school apply to 511 Marigny – disruptive demolition, mitigation, and adequate parking. The issue of inadequate parking has not yet been resolved. Gretchen, Alex, and Chris are to review the issue of trees bordering the Suarez property.

h) Sound Ordinance: VCPORA expressed its desire to have an FMIA member present in discussions regarding responses to the proposed sound ordinance. Jason Patterson and Alex Vialou of the FMIA discussed issues of Frenchmen Street and neighborhood bars and asked that these concerns also be included in any response to the ordinance. This is an ongoing discussion and the next meeting will be December 15, 2011. All parties are looking for a sensible solution to the problem. [Note: Meeting was cancelled].

i) Banners: New banners have been installed. As a result of a production mistake, we will end up with additional banners. Jim Farr moved to keep banners as replacements. Gretchen Bomboy seconded the motion.

j) Bicycle Safety: A second bicycle group is interested competing for the \$500 allotment. "Bike Easy" would like to provide training, distribute lights, reflectors etc. Miles Swanson expressed his preference and need for a bicycle rack by Washington Park. The purchase of bicycle racks and location is still outstanding. Miles and Gretchen to follow up.

h) Masterplan: The next meeting will be with city officials. Alex is scheduled to meet with Paul Cramer of the CPC. Mr. Cramer has asked the FMIA to argue its case for low-density. The Bywater has signaled its approval to Cmr. Palmer's office to increase density in the Bywater from low to medium. Marigny has requested to keep its density low. At the meeting, the FMIA will need to have all the historical facts to present and argue why low density is appropriate. The city's density numbers indicate that the Marigny is currently between low and medium density. The calculations vary depending on which area is surveyed and which buildings are included/excluded.

The board discussed the need to address a letter to Cmr. Palmer regarding the new Master Plan's return to spot zoning, inconsistency of density, and other issues. The City Planning Commission is requesting final comments by

December 15, 2011. The board agreed to meet on 12/12/11 to draft a response letter.

NEW BUSINESS

PROJECTS:

a) St. Claude Avenue Streetcar: There are insufficient funds to continue the St. Claude streetcar to Press St. The plans currently envision the line stopping at Elysian Fields. However, there is discussion about completing a loop by extending the line from St. Claude and Elysian Fields down Elysian Fields to the Esplanade terminus of the riverfront streetcar. The FMIA will remain active in this project

b) Café Rose Nicaud: Café Rose Nicaud on Frenchmen St. is applying for a liquor license. Apparently, daytime business alone is not as profitable as anticipated and they would like to try remaining open at night, as they previously did. Concern was voiced over the trend on Frenchmen Street for daytime businesses to convert to nighttime businesses or bars leaving the area dormant during day.

c) Frenchmen Street: The problem of illegal vendors was discussed. Illegal street vendors, food purveyors, street musicians, and drug distribution are all problems to a greater or lesser extent. While there is no desire to stop the nighttime activity on the street, it needs some order and control. Frenchmen Street needs to be prioritized for improvement.

ORCHIDS & ONIONS:

Orchids were proposed for Ken Caron and his committee for design and installation of the banners.

MOTIONS:

1) Gretchen Bomboy: motion to use Marigny Green boxes/bags for recycling for the Caroling event. Seconded by Jim Farr. Unanimously approved.

2) Jim Farr: Motion to keep extra banners as replacements.

Gretchen Bomboy seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

3) Payment to Pfister Sisters for Caroling - \$400 Unanimously approved.

4) Payment to pay Jackson for sound equipment - \$200 Unanimously approved.

5) Payment to Vappey, musician – \$200 Unanimously approved.

Further discussion was tabled due to time constraints.

Meeting Adjourned Time: 9:50 p.m.

FMIA Board Meeting Minutes January 4, 2012

Location of Meeting: Café Who Dat

Members Present: Alex Vialou

Jason Patterson, Jim Farr, Gretchen Bomboy, Gene Cizek, Miles Swanson, Marshall Gries, Donna Wakeman, Chris Costello

Members Absent: None

Guests: (1) Dave Hulbert and Rick Fifield, Owner of Holy Trinity Church; James Michalopoulos and Reese Johanson, Michalopoulos Studio

Meeting called to order (time): 7:07 p.m. By: Alex Vialou

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS — None

COMMUNITY REQUESTS/PRESENTATIONS

1. DAVE HULBERT and RICK FIFIELD Owner of Holy Trinity Church

Dave Hulbert and his partner own Holy Trinity Church and are looking to restore the church. They are asking the community to consider allowing the church to function as a neighborhood performance venue. Because the acoustics inside the church are only appropriate for acoustic performances, Mr. Hulbert's concept is a performance space for acoustic performances only: music, dance, etc. The church was a venue for several Fringe Fest events which were well received and there was no reported negative reaction from neighbors. There is also interest from NOCCA in additional performance space.

The zoning for Holy Trinity is currently residential which would not allow a performance venue. Mr. Hulbert asked that the FMIA consider supporting some type of variance in order to allow the project to go forward. Rick Fifield distributed maps of the area including former and current buildings within the block. At this point, three phases are envisioned. The project would eventually include construction of an additional support building for dressing, restrooms, etc.

Continued on page 13

FMIA Board Meeting Minutes January 4, 2012 — *continued*

The adjacent land on this block is owned and actively used by the Archdiocese of New Orleans. There is a large amount of parking available on Archdiocese property and the possibility of arranging for the use of their parking was discussed. A full audience at Holy Trinity would be 115 people, with an absolute maximum of 200. Because this area is not far from NOCCA and Press St. parking may not be a problem.

The ensuing discussion focused on the advantage of (1) keeping Holy Trinity Church intact/restored and (2) keeping it as a viable community center as it was when it functioned as a church. One advantage of Mr. Hulbert's plan is that it would retain the original integrity of the church rather than carving it into separate spaces (i.e., condominium development). Sale of alcohol is not part of Mr. Hulbert's plan and the FMIA was firm in its position: FMIA support for the project would mean no alcohol sales.

One possibility to accommodate this type of project would be to amend the Residential Diversity Overlay (RDO) to include decommissioned churches (of larger square footage) which are currently not included. A Community Benefits Agreement could be put in place to enforce restrictions.

The FMIA invited Mr. Hulbert and Mr. Fifield to present their project to the general membership.

2. JAMES MICHALOPOULOS and REESE JOHANSON – Michalopoulos Studio

Mr. Michalopoulos is volunteering to have his sculpture installed on the Elysian Fields neutral ground and in Washington Square Park. The Elysian Fields project would be flexible and could conceivably run from the River to St. Claude Avenue and could be done in phases. Some of the sculptures would be in the range of 20 to 30 feet tall, others in the 10 to 15 feet range. Designs would be constructed of various media (carbon fiber, steel, plastic), potentially interactive, and illuminated at night. The concept is to bring new life and excitement to Elysian Fields which is currently underdeveloped.

Challenges for the project include maintenance, longevity, power, and moving the sculptures (rotation of locations). Mr. Michalopoulos plans to design and build the sculpture to tolerate interactive touching. He would initially like to have works on 3 blocks, allowing a sufficient concentration of pieces so they are not lost in the streetscape. At nighttime, integrated solar panels would provide illumination, adding a new dimension to the river end of Elysian Fields.

There was discussion about the scale of the pieces as well as the appropriateness of a modern sculpture exhibition in the heart of the Marigny historic district. The issue of whether or not other neighborhood artists would be included or excluded was raised. Further, an extension of the streetcar line down Elysian Fields would almost certainly affect the viability of any neutral ground projects.

At this point Mr. Michalopoulos was outlining the project in general terms and indicated that his plans are flexible.

The FMIA asked about the fence that currently frames the courtyard at Chartres and Elysian Fields. A see-through iron fence which would allow all to see the art turned out to be prohibitively expensive. Subsequent discussion centered around possible variations for the fence. No final design has been determined.

Ms. Johanson raised the issue of increasing parking along Elysian Fields by changing the current curbside parking to angled parking. The ensuing discussion focused on the advantages and disadvantages of diagonal parking and the development and improvement of the Elysian Fields corridor in general.

ADMINISTRATION

1. Approvals by e-mail: None

Minutes of previous board and general meetings: Motion to approve: Jim Farr
Seconded: Donna Wakeman Vote: Unanimously approved

2. PRESIDENT'S REPORT: President Alex Vialou reported that the final public hearing to discuss the New Orleans Master Plan will take place January 10, 2012. This current plan does not include the 2009 plan that was presented to the City by the FMIA in 2009 which included the Residential Diversity Overlay (RDO) and introduced the elimination of spot zoning. The proposal currently under consideration appears to be an older version which includes spot zoning and many new exceptions. There is no trace of the 2009 plan which was painstakingly worked out over a period of years and at a cost of millions of dollars. The City now indicates that it has no record of the 2009 map.

The FMIA has requested a meeting with Cmbr. Palmer and a member(s) of the City Planning Commission to discuss the current situation. The meeting will not take place until after the final hearing. Because there is widespread neighborhood interest in the Master Plan, residents who can attend the last public hearing on 1/10/12 at City Hall are encouraged to do so.

Additionally, the City is asking for an amendment to the Master Plan empowering them to override particular zoning decisions - clearly not intended in the drafting process.

3. TREASURER'S REPORT:

Treasurer Chris Costello distributed copies of the December 31, 2011 Balance Sheet, Profit and Loss Statement, and Deposit and Check Detail Report. These reports will be posted on the website. Chris reminded everyone of the membership drive which kicks off this month.

There was a brief discussion regarding the anomalies discovered during the 2011 CPA review of FMIA books and how to address the issue. It was decided to post the results of the CPA review on the FMIA website. A statement documenting the anomalies and outstanding amounts will be also published in the next Newsletter.

Chris Costello to draft letter.

4. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a) Newsletter: The newspaper committee is evolving into the Communications/Information Committee which will henceforth include not only the Newsletter but the Website as well. There will be subcommittees to address each area. Donna Wakeman will be actively recruiting members for the new subcommittees. The new Communications Committee will be sending out postcards reminding members that dues are due in January.

A suggestion was made to include in the Newsletter each month one of Lloyd Sensat's sketches of Marigny houses. A different architectural style would be featured each month. This could be educational, serve to brighten the publication, and remind members of the richness of our neighborhood.

Orchid to Gretehen Bomboy for her work coordinating the Caroling event in Washington Park.

Orchid to Jason Patterson for arranging the entertainment.

Orchids to all those who helped with the preparation and clean up the park after the event.

b) Marigny Green: No report.

c) Blight: Two new properties have come to the attention of the neighborhood. 616 Port Street and 801 Spain Street. 616 Port has been empty for a while but it appears that someone is now living there. It is unknown if there are working utilities or the person has any ownership right in the property. 801 Spain recently suffered extensive damage as the result of a house fire. Although there appears to be some degree of work being done on the house, people are already back living inside it. The Board noted the danger of living residences that, for various reasons, are not yet livable.

d) Security: Al Schnur remains on hiatus. The topic of increasing violent crime in the Marigny was discussed. Recent violent incidents include armed robbery and car jacking. The Faubourg St. Roch has been particularly hard hit and it is not surprising that there is a spillover into the Marigny.

Redistricting of the police districts is now in place. The 8th District now includes all of the Triangle and the Rectangle up to Franklin Avenue. The downriver side of Franklin to the railroad tracks are in the 5th District.

All agreed that this is a terrible situation. Not only because of the risk that the Franklin to Press Street portion will be lost in the transition, but it isn't even clear which district would respond to a call coming from Franklin Avenue - which straddles both districts.

Donna Wakeman moved to send a letter to Cmbr. Palmer to revisit the boundaries. Seconded by Marshall Gries. Approved unanimously. Chris Costello to draft letter.

e) Washington Park: The subject of art displays in the Park was discussed. The art displays were to be of temporary duration and would rotate with new art. Miles Swanson to work with Chris Costello in reviewing the process. Miles is to compose an improvement list for the Park, including such items as new signs, repairing a rubber mat in the children's area, repairing the shed, lighting, etc.

Bike racks: There is a fund-raising program where individuals can purchase/sponsor a bicycle rack. There are already pre-approved locations for racks around Washington Park. Cmbr. Palmer is sponsoring one of the racks. Unfortunately, these fund-raiser racks only accommodate a very few bicycles. Miles Swanson to contact City Hall to determine the application process and investigate possible locations for larger racks.

f) French Festival: The question was raised whether a French Festival was appropriate for the Marigny since the Faubourg was not French as much as it was Creole. The ensuing discussion centered on whether or not such a festival was necessarily tied to the neighborhood or, like the Bywater's Mirliton Fest, it was simply a festival sponsored by the neighborhood. A Faubourg Marigny French Festival might be an appropriate blend. Marshall Gries will announce the first organizational meeting at the January 16th general meeting and there will be a volunteer sign-up sheet. Anyone, interested in the Fest is encouraged to sign up.



IMPROVEMENT

ASSOCIATION

FMIA Board Meeting Minutes January 4, 2012 — *continued*

g) FMIA 40th Anniversary Committee: Gene Cizek and Jim Farr will be making a list of topics for speeches/presentations for the anniversary celebration including a history of the neighborhood.

All were encouraged to propose ideas for the February general meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

PROJECTS:

a) Parking Permits: Neighbors in the vicinity of the New Orleans Healing Center (NOHC) are likely to feel the impact of insufficient parking from Colton school as well. They are aware of the potential issue and have been encouraged to consider residential parking permitting like the Triangle. Any residential parking plan will need to be coordinated with the City's Department of Public Works. Since the departure of the head of the Department, there has been no further movement.

It was noted that the City Council will not consider any new parking plan unless every block under consideration is surveyed. The possibility of inserting a survey into the monthly newsletter was raised.

b) Historic Markers: Underway.

c) Café Istanbul: Community Benefits Agreement has been finalized and signed. Marshall Gries to file in City Conveyance Office.

d) CANO: Purchase of Saints Peter and Paul Catholic Church on Burgundy St. by the Creative Alliance of New Orleans (CANO) is still underway but not yet finalized. At the moment, there is a rental agreement with the church. The sale price has increased from \$1 million to \$1.4 million and attorneys are currently in discussions about the purchase. Ultimately, CANO should be the owner and control the property and lease out the premises. The National Performance Network (NPN) will be a tenant and investor.

e) Colton School: Nothing New.

f) 511 Marigny: The issue of inadequate parking is still unresolved. The owners have applied for a height increase to accommodate an elevator.

g) Sound Ordinance: The sound ordinance is no longer with Cmbr. Palmer. The issue has moved to the Mayor's Office. As a result, any meaningful regulation is unlikely and the initiative is most likely dead.

h) Banners: Nothing new.

i) Bicycle Safety: See Washington Square Park, above.

NEW BUSINESS

PROJECTS:

a) Melange Restaurant: The restaurant is open and operating at the location of the former Lazizza's with the chef from Broussard's. They have a temporary alcohol permit and are currently serving alcohol with dinner. They are asking for a full license. There was discussion regarding the neighborhood's position regarding serving hard liquor on the premises. The history of Frenchmen Street establishments evolving into full time, late night bars caused all to reflect. It was decided that if the bar fits within the zoning (i.e., a service bar appended to a restaurant) the board would not voice opposition.

b) Other: Further discussion was tabled due to time constraints. Remaining issues to be addressed by e-mail.

ORCHIDS & ONIONS:

Orchid to Grethen Bomboy for her work coordinating the Caroling event in Washington Park.

Orchid to Jason Patterson for arranging the entertainment.


Orchids to all those who helped with the preparation and clean up the park after the event.

MOTIONS:

1) Gretchen Bomboy: Motion to write letter re: CPA review. Seconded: Donna Wakeman. Unanimously approved.

2) Donna Wakeman: Motion to write letter re: Police District Boundaries. Seconded by Marshall Gries. Unanimously approved.

Meeting Adjourned Time: 9:50 p.m.

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	Member Type	<input type="checkbox"/> Individual \$15.00 <input type="checkbox"/> Individual Senior (65+) \$5.00
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FMIA General Meeting Minutes January 16, 2012

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

WELCOME / INTRODUCTION

President Alex Vialou welcomed all to the first meeting of 2012.

Alex discussed what was on the agenda for the evening as well as issues discussed at the last board meeting:

He briefly summarized NOCCA's plans to redevelop Pres Street. Jackson Knowles, director of communications at NOCCA was scheduled to address the FMIA about the plans but was unable to attend. Alex reiterated Ms. Knowle's enthusiasm for community input on the various projects.

The president of the Professional Innkeepers Association of New Orleans was invited (Bonnie Rabe) was to appear to speak about Bed and Breakfasts (B&Bs) and short term rentals. Unfortunately, Ms. Rabe was unable to attend the meeting and has been rescheduled for the next general meeting. It was suggested that Cmb. Palmer or someone from her staff be invited to join the discussion about B&Bs. It seems to be much easier to operate an illegal B&B than it is to operate one legally. This would be a good opportunity for the neighborhood to discuss the issue.

Alex reported that Dave Hulbert, new owner of the Holy Trinity Church, attended the last board meeting and presented his plans for the church.

The president also reminded the neighbors that the FMIA 40th year anniversary celebration would be this autumn and we should all be thinking about events to mark the occasion.

Finally, Alex closed his introductory remarks by taking a moment to describe the essence of the Faubourg Marigny, its heritage, and its importance to the fabric of the city.

New Faces / New Members:

New Neighbors: Blake Quick, a new resident on St. Ferdinand St. introduced himself, as did Daniel Walker, who recently moved to Port St.

ANNOUNCEMENTS / SPEAKERS

There was a recent article in the Times-Picayune regarding a proposed increase in residential water rates. There will be meetings to discuss the issue which will be open to the public. Discussion ensued about the large number of non-paying customers in the city and a suggestion was made that the costs be spread to those who don't currently pay anything for their water. The two leaking fire hydrants by Colton School which flowed non-stop for months were a source of annoyance for residents who are now being asked to pay more for water.

1) Dave Hulbert: Dave is the new owner of Holy Trinity Church. He presented his plans for the church to the general membership. Dave gave a description of his background as a classical pianist and writer. He explained his dream to restore the church and return it to a functioning part of the neighborhood. He explained that he had no intention to make it a commercial venture, i.e., condominiums, but instead hopes to have a local performance space for acoustic (only) performances. The church will be operating as a non-profit organization so no big headliners are anticipated. Dave addressed five concerns about the project:

1. Parking. The issue of parking had been raised at the board meeting and Dave took time to address the issue. Because of the nature of acoustic performances, he anticipates as many as half of all attendees will be within walking distance of the church and will arrive by foot or bicycle. During Fringe Fest there were 18 performances in the Church and there have been two additional acoustic performances since then. Dave reported that, to date, he has not heard any complaints.

Additionally, Project Lazarus has committed to allow use of their parking area (there are two lots) for performances and there is space for approximately 20 cars on the frontage of the property.

2. Noise. Performances will be acoustic only and late shows will start no later than 8:00 p.m. He will consider sealing the windows, if necessary.
3. Safety. The two towers of the church have been secured. The building now has electricity and smoke detectors have been installed.
4. Alcohol. There are no plans for alcohol so no bar permit will be requested. It is not desired and will not be permitted.

Dave concluded by saying that he was committed doing whatever was required to bring Holy Trinity back into the community.

President Vialou reported that the FMIA had received some negative reaction to the project from some neighbors. He emphasized that the FMIA had helped develop the city's Master Plan and the delineation of residential, commercial and mixed use areas and that one of the FMIA's objectives is to preserve the Faubourg Marigny - including the preservation of Holy Trinity

Church. That said, Mr. Hulbert's plan would require some type of a variation to the current plan.

The floor was opened for discussion. It was established that current zoning for the property is HMR-3 which is low density residential. The type of project Mr. Hulbert envisions would not be permitted under current zoning. Alex took a moment to explain the Residential Diversity Overlay (RDO) which allows certain commercial activities in designated buildings (corner structures, formerly commercial, less than 2000 square feet, no alcohol, etc.). Re-use of decommissioned churches were not included in the original Overlay but it might be possible to amend the RDO in view of the number of abandoned churches which now dot the city.

Mr. Hulbert was asked to bring more concrete plans for review. He responded that he wanted to float the general idea to the neighborhood at a monthly FMIA meeting to get feedback and to give the neighborhood an opportunity to air their concerns before presenting more concrete plans. An informal show of hands indicated that support for the general concept was nearly unanimous.

Some members voiced concerns. First, the issue of insufficient funds to realize the project was raised. If Mr. Hulbert doesn't have sufficient funding to complete the project it might be very tempting to enlarge the scope of his plans, i.e., amplified performances, etc. Further, the Marigny has approximately 30 live performance venues already and the need for another was questioned. Faubourg Marigny has been led down the primrose path more than once by individuals with good intentions. The Faubourg has a history of failed projects evolving into bad businesses.

Viewpoints, both pro and con, were discussed. Although there is much support for the general plan, there was anxiety about the execution and possibility of opening up the door to another bad venture. As always, the devil will be in the details.

Mr. Hulbert was thanked for coming to the neighbors and sharing his plans.

- 2) Lisa Suarez: Krewe du Vieux. The ball will take place at Habitat Restore. The parade route has changed slightly from the original route. It will start at Press and Royal Streets. It will proceed up Royal St. into the French Quarter and eventually return to Faubourg Marigny via Decatur St. From Decatur it will turn up Frenchmen St. to Chartres, and then down Chartres to Press St. and the ball which will take place at Habitat for Humanity ReStore. Walter Wolfman Washington will be providing music for the event. Tickets are on sale for \$30 at the "Den" behind Mardi Gras Zone on Saturdays and Sundays. Krewe du Vieux's theme this year will be "Crimes Against Nature" The queen will be Deon Haywood, executive director of Women with a Vision.
- 3) There was an announcement that Plan B bicycle project is still open for business at a new location. They are currently located river-side of Gene's Po-Boys in the former ACORN location. Business is picking up and all were encouraged to visit the non-profit organization for their bike needs. Prices are on a sliding scale depending on ability to pay.
- 4) Laura Brenner of "LINC" New Orleans announced a "Mutts in the Marigny" event on Saturday February 25, 2012. St. Paul's Lutheran Church will be hosting the event. Details will be forthcoming.

UPDATES / COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committees:

Marigny Green Committee:

Deborah Oppenheimer urged all members to sign up for recycling. She reminded everyone that the more people who participate the more recycling possibilities that may open. Statistically, between 21% and 30% of city households currently recycle. The Marigny Green website also has information on cutting sidewalks and planting trees. While there are no longer free cutting services, Bourg Lumber will rent a jack hammer at a 50% discount and the concrete will be recycled.

No other committee reports.

MEMBER DISCUSSION / TOPICS

Topics

a) Krewe of Eris: Member Ken Caron voiced concern about the possibility of the Krewe of Eris organizing another parade this year. Last year hundreds of people paraded with Eris which had no permit. The parade included an unruly element which caused thousands of dollars in damage and vandalism to neighbors' property. The police response was not viewed as adequate or appropriate. Ken urged that police become involved before any illegal activity starts this year.

A krewe supporter assured FMIA members that the Krewe of Eris members are great fans and supporters of the Faubourg and that it was non-krewe, join-in elements that caused the destruction. It was reported that the krewe has no plans to parade this year and activities will be limited to a low key ball.

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.



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Meet the Neighbors Night — Tuesday, 2/14/12

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