

CRNA General Membership Meeting

June 26, 2014

Members and guests were encouraged to sign in upon arrival. Twenty eight attendees signed in.

6:14 P.M. Barry Brantley, CRNA President, greets the group as the meeting is convened and attendees introduce themselves.

6:16 Officer Edgar Staehle, from the New Orleans Police Department Second District, shared a recent crime map update: Uniform Crime Report (UCR). Due to recent vehicle thefts a reminder was given to always lock your vehicle.

Project NOLA has installed and monitors cameras. However, the resident is out of the loop regarding control of footage. SafeCam NOLA is a little different.

Attendee Questions:

1) Are there any chances of getting additional patrols?

Answer: There is a big push right now for funding.

2) Can anything be done for quicker response on street lights that are either out or don't exist?

Answer: The mayor is working this issue with funding that has been allocated from a major rebate from Entergy for overpayment.

3) How does our Pension Town rank in crime?

Answer: Average; recently made an arrest at Ogden and Hickory that evening.

4) Can anything be done about the speeding on Willow Street?

Answer: Call the Director of Public Works for a potential traffic study to validate the necessity for a stop sign. In the meantime, we'll try to get the traffic guys to shoot some radar there.

Barry Brantley suggested members please check out the association's website, [www. CRNA-NOLA.org](http://www.CRNA-NOLA.org) for additional safety and crime suggestions.

Consider motion lights at your house or business for safety and crime prevention.

Use your car alarm when necessary to deter crime. Keep pathways and access points to building clearly visible by trimming trees, bushes, landscaping accordingly.

Barry Brantley invited a Keith Bartlett to update neighbors on their interests in the Priestly site.

Priestly Site Updates - Keith Bartlett, Principal of Lycee Francais de la Nouvelle-Orleans spoke to the group.

Leaders from the schools have completed a walk-through of Priestley school.

Teachers at Lycee are from France. French is the language for students and faculty.

65 percent of students qualify for free lunch. We want to make them bilingual and contributing members of society.

Attendee Questions:

1) Isn't 475 enrollments large for Pre-K-4th grade?

Answer: Yes, but all aren't at the same property. For instance, there are six sections of kindergarten.

2) Have you inspected the site?

Answer: Board members have viewed Priestley on a few trips.

3) Are there plans to incorporate the community in the school?

Answer: No specific plans yet, since we're not even sure the letter of interest will be accepted. The school does seem sound, however. The board is open to community ideas.

Audience comment - Much of the school's focus seems to be at the kindergarten level. A big point of contention for many neighbors is that the School Board opened bids for Priestley instead of letting the neighborhood put a school or community center or something back there.

Audience comment - We've been waiting 9 years for someone to make an offer so we shouldn't discount an interested party if we have one.

Audience comment - I would like to see a plan for exactly who gets accepted to the school and who doesn't.

Audience comment - I'd like to explore options for admitting more to the language emersion program with less stringent requirements.

Bartlett: We do have a Late Entry Emersion Program, but I'd love to explore all options.

Audience comment - I went to Priestley under the Project Opportunity through the Ford Foundation, and I welcome your program.

4) Could you explore letting anyone in the neighborhood in?

Bartlett: With Type 2 charter schools, we have to follow the same enrollment process for all students. We do have targets for enrollment in urban populations to increase diversity.

Audience comment - There are many viable options additionally for Priestly from the Kellogg Foundation, Tulane, etc.

Barry Brantley invited Kevin Brown from Trinity Christian Community to update neighbors on their progress with the Carrollton Community Center site.

Carrollton Community Center updates - Kevin Brown, project manager for the center and architect, David Keiffer presented updated construction timelines and process updates

Kevin noted the Carrollton Community Center Project has the following program goals:

- Programs for youth including after school tutorial and activities
- Programs for senior citizens including Carrollton – Hollygrove Adult Day care extension, a Senior Center and nutrition assistance
- Economic development opportunities including job training and placement assistance, and adult literacy.
- Common meeting space to support the needs of the community.

Barry Brantley noted we will be scheduling a neighborhood meeting with guidance provided by Representative Walt Leger to begin the process of building processes to meet the goals noted and to build an Advisory Group to guide the process from stakeholders in the neighborhood. The date, time and location will be announced soon.

David Keiffer noted they've finished the redesign, are producing blueprints now, and will be handling permitting thereafter. Construction should be underway mid-November–December and last for around 10 months.

The location is on Leonidas, between Monroe and Hickory. We've reduced the size of the building by 15 percent to 5,400 square feet.

City Council Updates - Susan Guidry

(Introduced assistant Megan Langhoff.) Regarding Priestley, we've looked and tried to wrangle it away from the School Board for a community center, but a good school would work. We're working with Entergy about replacing aging street lights throughout the neighborhoods using a \$15 million Entergy fund from overcharge litigation. This will replace all streetlights with LEDs. \$1.7 million is earmarked for street light repairs between now and the end of the budget year. There will be two more budget meetings: 7/9/14 in City Council Chambers and 7/23/14 at 1 P.M.

Attendee Questions:

1) Is there anything that can be done about pot holes?

Guidry: Call 311 for a Case Number. FEMA will have a recover program but that's not until 2016. If you don't get results, call my office.

2) How does the city know when street lights are out or missing?

Guidry: There used to be a crew that drove through the city making periodic checks. Today, there's the Department of Recovery Works, which is a FEMA program.

NOLA.gov is the location for the Department of Public Works.

3) Whose responsibility is it to maintain/repair sidewalks and the right of way?

Guidry: Sidewalks are the responsibility of the homeowner.

Gary Smith: The right of way—the space between the street and the sidewalk—also is the responsibility of the homeowner, as was told to me by both Orleans and Jefferson parish Traffic and Transportation engineers. The Orleans engineer even pointed it out to me in an office manual.

4) Is there funding for installing new street lights, specifically at the 1300 block of Leonidas?

Guidry: Call 311 to get a case number.

Barry Brantley noted from the Entergy program additional lighting can be obtained by filling out a short form available online at www.entergy.com/securitylighting; customers can let Entergy Louisiana or Entergy New Orleans know they are interested in having a security light installed at their home or business. Within just two business days, they will be contacted and a lighting expert will assist them in determining what best suits their needs. The process can also be initiated by calling 1-866-603-0192.

Security lights are available in a variety of sizes, styles, wattages and lamp types for home and business use. Customers are charged a set monthly fee for the lights, with the cost conveniently added to existing bills. The charges vary depending on the light's wattage. Whether the light is installed on an existing pole, or a new pole is needed for the lighting, Entergy will work with customers to determine the most cost-effective option. In some cases, installation may even be free.

Comment: The store at Oak and Leonidas has been dumping grease into the storm drain.

Comment: They've even been fined before, but they pay it and keep dumping.

Annual report – presented Barry Brantley.

Presentation link:

http://prezi.com/vtschq6insnq/?utm_campaign=share&utm_medium=copy&rc=ex0share

Project NOLA Crime Cameras have been successful.

Oak Lofts Condominiums is a new business venture beginning construction after several neighborhood forums.

It is estimated \$1.4–\$1.5 million for the Carrollton Area Community Center has been committed.

We currently have 352 members on the CRNA mailing list.

The CRNA Board meets the second Thursday of each month upstairs at Central St. Matthews UCC at 1333 South Carrollton Avenue at 7 pm. Check the website calendar for any updates at www.crna-nola.org

Nominating Committee, chaired by Byron Johnson submitted the following slate:

1. Officers (Continuing second of two year terms)

- Barry Brantley, President 2013-2015
- Open, Vice President 2013-2015
- Julianna Padgett, Secretary 2013-2015
- Open, Treasurer 2013-2015

2. Board Members

- Byron Johnson, 2013-2015
- Betty DiMarco, 2013-2015
- Jerry Speir, 2013-2015
- Robert Larsen, 2014-2016
- Gary Smith, 2013-2015
- Drew Ward, 2013-2015

- Brad Wilkins, 2014-2016
- Rick Wilkof, 2014-2016
- David Alvarez, 2014-2016
- Nathan Schwam, 2014-2016

Bob Larsen moved for board nominating committee report approval.

Liz Reed seconds the motion.

Vote result of attendees: All approve

Barry Brantley noted Board Commitment forms must be submitted for new board members.

7:47 P.M. Adjourned