

**DRAFT**  
**CRNA MONTHLY BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
FEBRUARY 9, 2017, 7-8:30 PM  
COMMUNITY COMMITMENT

Present: Meagan Impastato, Bill Ives, Julianna Padgett, Nathan Schwam, Drew Ward, Min Yang  
Residents: Nicole Bouie, Sabine Winter  
Agency Representatives: Ross Hunter (ONE), Valerie Robinson (RTA), Taylor Marcantel (RTA), and Michael Hynson (here observing for his Master's degree, to see neighborhood planning first hand).

Ordinary Business: Meeting was called to order at 7:07 PM, with a quorum present. All present introduced themselves. Minutes from the January meeting were unanimously approved by all present, on motion by Nathan Schwam, Drew Ward seconded that motion.

Reports by Agency Representatives and Committees of The Board:

1. RTA update on the Strategic Mobility Plan – Taylor Marcantel with the RTA explained that The Greater New Orleans RTA—which includes working with the City of Kenner and coordination with Jefferson, St. Bernard, and St. Tammany Parishes—has never engaged in a strategic planning process, that almost every other major city has had a strategic planning commission of some sort, and explained such process as follows:

(1) Phase 1 Learning and Exploring:

- a. RTA strategic mobility plan representatives will be looking at travel patterns, demographics, and seeking public input.
  - i. Re: Public Input, first Representatives will be attending neighborhood association meetings for input on what we would like RTA to be providing in the future—applications for input were circulated to all present and collected at the end of the meeting by the RTA representatives, additionally, all were invited to submit their input online if unable to do so on the spot at the meeting.
  - b. RTA will then come out with a SWAT analysis to present to the public
  - c. Next, RTA will be presenting different scenarios to elicit public reactions
- d. Finally, RTA will develop a plan to present to the public—Mr. Marcantel explained that they hope the plan to be presented to the public will only be a few pages, readable, and understandable by anyone in the public.

(2) Secondly, they hope to have a plan to present the full RTA Board by December.

Discussion and Questions proceed as follows: Nicole Bouie requested copies of the survey handout they provided so that she could distribute it to residents. Bill Ives inquired about the equity aspect—serving the underserved community. Mr. Marcantel explained that this will be a consideration, along with the city's master plan, and various other considerations. Drew Ward expressed concerns about the RTA's recent disregard of how to best serve the needs of residents as exemplified by the Rampart street car line—explained as having an extreme cost to serve mostly tourists, the expensive new shelters built on the new lines—explained as too tall and narrow to provide shelter from sun or rain; versus spending less money and serving more people (i.e. connecting the Carrollton and Canal Street Car Lines). Others expressed skepticism about this process. Mr. Marcantel responded that attendance at RTA Board meetings are the best ways to hold the RTA accountable, and that the dates and times of such are posted online. Many expressed their concern with the practicality of the public attending such Board meetings—because they are held downtown, on the 4th Tuesday of the month 10-11 AM, while most people are at work. In closing, Min Yang expressed that the RTA is a vehicle for economic development, and that this needs to be considered, Juliana Padgett reiterated the general concerns of the CRNA, specifically disconnect between public input and government plans, and to a greater extent, project execution. Mr. Marcantel reiterated that this is a process and he hopes we understand that they are here to listen to us.

2. Councilmember Guidry – The Representative from Councilmember Guidry’s office could not be present, however, she forwarded the following info to Julianna Padgett: The Carrollton Court House is up for auction on March 23, 2017. 10AM registration and 11 AM Auction at the OPSB Westbank offices.

3. Office of Neighborhood Engagement – representative Ross Hunter introduced himself as our new representative, explained that our former representative, Laura Mellem, was promoted, then discussed the following: the NOPDs concern with “hot spots,” particularly in Hollygrove and need to look at Leonidas area. Upcoming “Coffee on your corner” District A topics to include STRs, etc. in March.

Discussion and Questions proceeded as follows: many expressed concerns about the reporting process with NOPD—safety concerns, inefficiency concerns, and a general sense of inaction by detectives after reporting. Many pointed out that the CRNA was not notified per NPP process re: the new restaurant on Hickory, the expansion of St. Charles Vision. Ross Hunter noted that he was recently made aware of this failure, and indicated that it is on the individual contractors to notify neighborhood associations, but he will begin monitoring the docket and making sure we are notified. In closing, Ross Hunter announced that next month ONE would like the BIKE SHARE program to be on our agenda, said to please call him with our concerns—explaining that he would like to be held accountable. Julianna Padgett asked when should we contact him versus contacting Council Member Guidry’s Office, to which Ross answered that he has no clarity on that answer, as there appears to be a great deal of overlap.

4. Quality of Life Committee Report - Bill Ives, chair, reported on the following:

(1) We did send the letter out to Lycée Français without the paragraph that we voted to remove, this was received very positively.

(2) School traffic issues re: parking, drop off and pick up—specifically Stuart Hall. Drew Ward spoke about the issue with the lack of centralized control by OPSB—due to the recent change to charter schools—and the fact that this is going to have to be raised by us as a board to the city council—as they control what happens outside of the school—and that we must demand a specific action by them.

(3) Re: Parks in the Master Plan. Bill Ives wrote a letter to Councilmember Guidry’s Office and the Mayor’s Office, submitted such to the Quality of Life Committee, and if the committee recommends, will timely submit such to our board in the near future for our consideration prior to the next meeting. He reported that the CPC has adopted some but not all of the recommendations of Parks for All and hopes the CPC will adopt all recommendations. Nathan Schwam attended the recent meeting, and agreed with Bill that this is in its early stages, and that they lack clarity at the present time, to meaningfully discuss parks at this meeting.

5. The Honorable Judge Tiffany Chase announced that she is running for Judge, Fourth Circuit Court of Appeal, State of Louisiana, First District, Division D in the March 25, 2017 Municipal, General Election. She explained that she has proudly been a CRNA resident for 25 years (she lives on Ferret between Dublin and Dante), a CDC judge for 10 years, and is most proud of her accomplishment of establishing the CDC help desk, which she was proud to report has assisted +10,000 residents of Orleans Parish who cannot afford an attorney, and has received national recognition and won national awards; and creating the fill in the blank Pro Se Forms, which eliminate the legalese and are meant to be easy for the public to understand and file without an attorney. On a more personal note, she announced that her mother, is in remission!

Note: The help desk is a pro-bono resource, where attorneys who are members of the LA Bar, physically sit on the 4th floor of CDC and volunteer their time to help litigants who are, or plan to appear In Proper Person, by accepting calls, and walk in questions, as well as assist people in filing

out the pro se forms, in exchange for pro bono hours).

Note also: La. App. 4th Cir. is the state level appellate court for the Parishes of Orleans, St. Bernard and Plaquemines. It is comprised of 12 Judges total: 2 at-large judges elected from the entire population of the three parishes, 1 judge is elected from only and all of the population of St. Bernard, 1 from only and all of Plaquemines, and 8 from only and all of Orleans Parish. The court is divided into 3 district, and The First District is Orleans Parish, Division D is one of those eight seats in our district. Two candidates filed to run for the vacant Division D seat—The Honorable Tiffany G. Chase, Judge, Civil District Court for the Parish of Orleans, Division A, and The Honorable, Paula A. Brown, Judge, Civil District Court for The Parish of Orleans, Division J.

6. Cultural District –Nathan Schwam gave the following update: the letter of support was sent. Application deadline March 1, 2017. We received some suggestions of cultural resources and there was some independent research conducted.

7. First Monday Potlucks/ Block Parties – Ariel Wallick started this, and asked that we please help. March 6, 2017 is the next First Monday. Julianna Padgett asked whether any of us would be interested in hosting. Bill Ives said he would ask Cindy and perhaps they can host.

#### New Business/Announcements:

1. CU/CRNA to Co-Host a Meeting to hear from HANO to be held on February 15, 2017 at 6:30 PM here at the Community Commitment Center, to ask what HANO's plans are for their sites in our neighborhood. The meeting's focus will be on gentrification and the need for affordable housing.
2. Entergy Proposed Gas Plant in New Orleans East – Julianna asked that we please pay attention, stated that the CRNA supports energy efficiency/sustainability and hopes that we will consider whether the proposed plant will further that cause. Drew reported on the various issues. Julianna urged that we look at the public health study by The Alliance for Affordable Energy. We discussed perhaps writing a letter to the city council stating on our position. Drew noted that this is not an upgrade as Entergy has been calling it, but in fact the building of a new facility at the old Michoud site, which was decommissioned.
3. Good Neighbor Agreements – were discussed by internal email generally, and specifically referencing the GNA with The Willow. This issue may be discussed at a subsequent executive committee meeting, or else may be presented to the zoning committee.
4. HDLC website – Ross Hunter noted that this website will be rolling out next week.
5. New Orleans East Tornado Recovery – Nicole Bouie is accepting donations of necessary items. The board and Ross Hunter updated each other on the extent of the damage. Ross announced that the shelter has been better organized, and that Southeast Louisiana Legal Services ("SELLS") is out there helping with emergency housing.
6. Bob Larsen was sorry that he was not able to come to our meeting, due to his recent surgery. Please keep Bob in your thoughts.
7. Gabe Flores has resigned from the Board and he will be missed. Thus, there are now 12 Board members.
8. Next meeting March 9, 2017
9. Executive Committee Meeting will be prior to the March 9, 2017 monthly meeting.
10. Happy Mardi Gras!! Mardi Gras Day is February 28, this year. The Board wishes everyone a safe and happy Mardi Gras.

Notes taken by Meagan Impastato.