

CRNA MONTHLY BOARD MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 08, 2018 6:00 –7:30 PM
DAVID ALVAREZ’S, 1906 S. CARROLLTON AVE

Present: Julianna Padgett, Meagan Impastato, David Zalkind, David Alvarez, Nathan Schwam

Residents: Betty DiMarco and Steven Luck

Others: Councilman Joe Giarrusso, Dist A, Officer E. Staehle, Officer A. Martinovich

Meeting was called to order at approximately 6:07 PM, with out a quorum present although such quorum was gained shortly after we began.

Discussions

Report on Safe on Our Streets (“SOS”) Meeting: Betty DiMarco & Julianna Padgett provided updates and informed us that this meeting discussed the issues of public safety and Neighborhood Associations not communicating well and not working together on this issue. They discussed a bringing together of 50 Neighborhood Associations to meet once a month to facilitate better communication and cooperation. Additionally, the former Morial Administration efforts known as All Congregations Together was discussed.

Crime and Public Safety: Officers E. Staehle & A. Martinovich who patrol our area provided updates regarding crime trends in our neighborhood generally and the most recent UCR reporting of our area shows virtually no violent crimes against persons thus far in 2018. We discussed the recent rash of neighborhood youth throwing rocks through home windows at night in the neighborhoods surrounding ours, which as a property damage/criminal mischief type crime do not get reported on the UCR. We then discussed loitering in front of Jakes, which the officers assured as is harmless and they suggested that we call city council/code enforcement so that same may be forwarded to the City Attorney’s Office and same will then be forwarded to ABO which could force action on the part of the store owners, if such a need arises. We then had a theoretical discussion on Restorative Justice and Restorative practices. Steven informed us that Headstart is adopting these practices.

Important Announcement – The Officer’s asked that we please inform our neighbors that there has been a recent rash of vehicle property theft due to the owner’s key fob being too close to the street—would-be criminals now have a machine that repeats the radio frequency which the key fob is constantly putting out, allowing them to gain access to an otherwise locked vehicle. They recommend keeping your key fob at least 30 feet away from the vehicle or in a metal lined container (i.e. a Yeti Cup).

Updates on Housing:

- The Appraisal Issue was discussed—Property values are rising creating higher property tax bills. Solution - Rep. Walt Leger D-New Orleans, has proposed a Bill putting a % cap on how much the Assessor can raise taxes on an individual over a certain period of time, but same needs support from delegates across the entire state.
- HANO has 27 pieces of property in our neighborhood and HANO announced that it is seeking developers to submit proposals for redevelopment of properties in Carrollton/Leonidas as well as The Ninth Ward.
- We generally discussed preferences and past successes/failures of entire property public housing/affordable housing versus mixed income developments.

Updates on CAN & Audubon Park Meeting: Julianna Padgett, Betty DiMarco and Nathan Schwam provided updates on the following:

- The sale of the Carrollton Courthouse appears to be currently under contract.
- Keith Hardie came to the CAN meeting and discussed Quality of Life Issues.
- The Issue with the Audubon Park Board diversity as a body of members appointed by the mayor and approved by the city council.
- Density Issues in our area have been addressed and legislation passed to limit any/all density increases in our area in the future.
- Magazine Street will be a one way in front of Audubon Park Zoo when road work begins late 2018 or early 2019.
- A joint event saying goodbye to our outgoing council member for District A, Susan Guidry and welcoming our incoming council member, Joe Giarrusso will be planned, updates to follow.

Discussion about Lycee / Johnson: The long vacant property bounded by Hickory and Monroe and Eagle streets was in talks of becoming the Lycee Francais school site. However, Lycee has requested a 6 year extension on their lease of the space, which seems to suggest they intend to do nothing with developing the property in the meanwhile. We discussed our ability to put a stop to the lease extension by putting pressure on OPSP/RSD to not grant said extension. Apparently OPSB/RSD plans on doing the more expensive renovation of Cohn instead of the Johnson renovations.

Updates on site across from Lycee/Johnson: Apparently this property has a covenant on it that it always be used for some sort of community purpose, it is 3 contiguous lots from Leonidas to Monroe. We brainstormed on possible ideas: Commissary Kitchen Style Space – cooking classes, charging for meals, kitchen space for use by pop-ups etc., Community Garden; Dog Park.

Announcements:

- Meagan celebrated her 30th Birthday!
- Steven and his wife are expecting their first baby, a son!
- Next meetings: Apr 12, May 10, June 14, July 12, Aug 9

Respectfully submitted,
Meagan Impastato, Board Secretary