

CRNA MONTHLY BOARD MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 14, 2018 6:00 –7:30 PM
NATHAN SCHWAM’S 8234 COHN ST.

Present: Julianna Padgett, Meagan Impastato, Bill Ives, Cybele Gontar, Nathan Schwam and Tammy Butler.

Residents: Betty DiMarco and Betty White

Others: Councilman Joe Giarrusso, Dist. A, Valerie Spears, Legislative Director for Dist. A, Valerie Bouldin, representative from the Mayor’s Office, Ms. Logan Burke Representative for Alliance for Affordable Energy, Robert McKnight of Gert Town, Representatives from Okra Abbey including Ms. Lane Brewbaker and her husband, and Representatives from Lycee Francais including administrators and parents from the PTO. Loyola Law School Environmental Clinic, and Okra Abbey representatives.

Meeting was called to order at approximately 6:07 PM, with a quorum present.

Regular Business:

- Approval of minutes from May meeting: A motion was made by Meagan Impastato and seconded by Tammy Butler, and voted in favor by all present.
- Financial Report given by Nathan Schwam: There is \$1,592,.00 in the account.
- A motion to move the account to Hibernia Bank on South Carrolton was made by Bill Ives and seconded by Nathan Schwam and voted in favor by all present.

Guest Presentations & Announcements:

Alliance for Affordable Energy – Ms. Logan Burke spoke regarding this organizations oversight of Entergy, and CRNA’s status as Intervenor in the frequent outage actions due to the frequent outages in our neighborhood when there is no bad weather.

- Oversight: She noted that since Alliance began its oversight and grid distribution monitoring, there has been no reduction in outages; that the majority of outages are related to transformer issues (most of which are quite old and blow during high demand periods). Further, Alliance is concerned that Entergy’s Plans, Reports and Repairs do not include transformers. Additionally, she discussed Entergy’s own analyses of the whys of outages, noting that 98% are related to the distribution system (the power lines that run through our neighborhood), and have gotten worse from 2011-2016, making it apparent that this is an equipment failure issue. She continued to discuss Alliance’s strategy with the gas power plant and the investigation opened by the city council last month regarding Entergy’s use of actors. She informed us that Entergy has apparently launched a campaign against Alliance and their engaging neighborhood organizations.
- CRNA as Intervenor: As intervenors in these frequent outage actions, we have the right to propound discovery on Entergy, and we have access to some of Entergy’s own analyses.

Community Center Property on Leonidas & Monroe – Betty DiMarco informed us that she recently discovered that the 3 lots on Monroe have been sold to a young developer, Hammer Head Development. Regarding the covenant: it turns out that the covenant, restricting development to community centers for the Pension/Pigeon Town area, only ran with the 2 Leonidas Tracts. Apparently, Trinity Christian, now Trinity Community Center, tried to get the covenant removed when they purchased these 3 tracts burdened by the covenant. The lots have been subdivided in the conveyance records but same is not reflected in the assessor’s records. Councilman Joe Giarrusso said to call Kevin with the TCC to express

our issues, as he thinks HANO can enforce the covenant as written, and advised that we should copy all council members and HANO and meet with HANO to see if they want to enforce their rights. Further discussion was had among all regarding whether we have standing or any right of action, whether we would support a community center, affordable housing, or community garden at this site.

- A motion that Julianna Padgett and Betty DiMarco will send a letter on our behalf to TCC regarding this issue was made by Bill Ives and seconded by Tammy Butler, and was approved by all present voting in favor.

Shooting near Lycee Francais School: Various members of the school's PTO discussed the occurrence of a shooting near the school campus last month and earlier in January (no students or school property were harmed) and the board of the school's fears and concerns for the safety/security of students and their families. After the shooting, the PTO maintained their prior resolve that they will not hold their meetings at the campus, due to these concerns and that they will continue to meet at St. Francis of Assisi on Patton and State Streets.

- Additionally they discussed their intentions to begin renovations on the old Priestly site.
- Tammy Butler spoke about her experiences regarding shootings and other violent crimes in the neighborhood, and the fact that there has been a reduction since the closure of Priestly and various people leaving the neighborhood, additionally she suggested that the PTO partner with community churches.
- Valerie Bouldin, representative from the Mayor's Office spoke on her theories as to the youth in our neighborhood and the necessity of the neighborhood and school working together.
- Incoming president of Lycee spoke in efforts to involve students with the neighborhood and visa versa, i.e. Having the students interview elderly citizens of our neighborhood to hear their stories about the neighborhood.
- Betty DiMarco spoke on her conversations with NOPD 2nd District Commander Ferguson regarding the need to talk with Toneshia Stevens, the new criminal justice coordinator in the Mayor's Office of Neighborhoods, our desire to work with the Peace Keepers, and the issues with the corner store on Hickory and Eagle.
- Ashley Spears, Legislative Director for Council District A, spoke on her past experience as an ADA and the need to get back to community policing.
- Bill Ives questioned Lycee's efforts to bring in kids from the neighborhood. They responded that they held open houses at Nicole's community center and a church in the neighborhood. Tammy Butler noted that she was not made aware of these open houses and that she is not aware of anyone else in the neighborhood who was made aware of same.
- Lycee representatives noted that their plans for the Priestly site included a space for the community to meet.
- Robert McKnight, representing the Gert Town neighborhood, who is also an Orleans Public Defender, spoke on restorative justice and the need to have conversations with children regarding consequences and accountability versus over criminalization.
- Lycee reps noted that they have spoken with various organizations regarding overcoming racism and bringing their diverse student population together.
- In closing all present agreed that this was a great start to a dialogue between the school and our neighborhood.

Respectfully submitted,
Meagan Impastato, Board Secretary