

RECORD OF DISCUSSION

Homebuilding Plan for Treme/Lafitte and Tulane/Gravier

Date Wednesday, August 13, 2008
St. Peter Claver School Cafeteria, 1020 N. Prieur

Next ~~Wednesday, September 10, 2008~~ Cancelled, due to Hurricane Gustav;
Rescheduled for Wednesday, October 8, 2008

Meeting St. Peter Claver School Cafeteria, 1020 N. Prieur
6:00 – 8:00 pm (dinner to be provided)

Participants

Shirley Daufauchard	Sidney Daufauchard	Stephanie Payne
Dariel Celestin	Warren Johnson	Joni Washington
Evelyn Wallace	Sherri Lawson	Anthony Pendleton
Clyde Hudson	Alice Jones	Norvin Jones
Mary T. Watson	Regina Guichard	Vastine Jeanmarie
Gale Sanders	Jessie Osborne	Cynthia Magraff
Antoinette Rickmon	Dorothy Hills	Carol Thomas
Parreletta Carter	Terri Carter	Lloyd Bell
Rhondalyn Capote	Tomaka Stokes	Sharon Pierce
Angelina Dorsey	Bertha Lively	Emelda Paul
Deborah Jackson		

Daniel Mathieu, The Micah Project
Sarah McMorris, NOLAC
Officer Franklin

HANO: Tracy Mercadel, Dwayne Muhammed, Valerie Brown (consultant to HANO)
Case Management: Carol Carter (New Orleans), Dianne Pitts, Cheryl Glover (Baton Rouge)
Providence/Enterprise: Tammy Crumpton, Jim Kelly, Matt Morrin, Andreanecia Morris, Brenda Richard-Montgomery, Debra Simmons, LaTonya Williams, Nicole Swerhun, Caroline Gammill

This meeting record was drafted by Caroline Gammill, staff at Providence. Prior to being finalized, it will be provided in draft to all meeting participants for their review. It reflects the key messages and main points raised at the meeting. It is not intended to represent a verbatim transcript.

The meeting began with an opening prayer offered by Warren Johnson and a review of the agenda by Tammy Crumpton, Director of Resident Services for Providence.

I. HANO Update

Tracy Mercadel, HANO staff

- **Re-Occupancy of Repaired Units:** Gas inspections have been finalized and the meters should be installed on Friday, but no later than Monday through coordination with Entergy. Starting tomorrow, HANO will be reaching out to residents to coordinate move-in and distributing keys. For residents moving into Lafitte who are currently in HANO properties, the agency will work out the details of cancelling the leases. If residents are living in private properties, they are asked to contact the HANO office so that they may assist in terminating those leases.

Questions and Discussion

Responses, where provided, are in italics.

1. Do I need to contact the HANO office before leaving my current apartment?
(Dwayne) We're contacting the folks who previously indicated that they were interested in returning.

Tammy Crumpton: If you are currently living in a HANO site, will HANO assist you in relocating to another site?

Dwayne: I'll need to confirm that – I do not believe that we have assistance available for local residents, just for folks coming back to the city.

Jim Kelly: If there is a dire financial need, talk to Carol and our case managers; they'll be able to examine each case individually for assistance. Carol's number is (504) 889 – 6980 ext. 2227.

Valerie Brown, Consultant to HANO

- **Status of Demolition:** Demolition has taken place on 572 of 876 units and is 65% complete. Currently, HANO would like to speed up the demolition process so that it will be complete by October and construction can begin that month as well.

II. Resident Update

Ms. Gail Sanders provided an update on the Covenant. Ms. Sanders reported that the committee of residents working on the Covenant with the Micah Project was satisfied with it and ready to sign it. As one of the new members of the Residents' Council, Ms. Sanders extended a hearty welcome to any other residents who would like to participate. She also said that the council was eager to have the input of many folks.

Ms. Emelda Paul, another member of the Residents' Council, shared that in order to be a member of the Council, one must do some type of volunteer service. She stressed that a positive attitude was important; that is was important for members to be sensitive to the needs of the people and to always represent the residents. Ms. Paul said the Council was particularly interested in attracting younger people and encouraged those present to think about joining.

Those who are interested in getting involved with the Residents' Council or know people who may be interested are asked to contact Ms. Sanders or Ms. Paul.

Questions and Discussion

Responses, where provided, are in italics.

None.

III. Providence / Enterprise Update

Matt Morrin, Enterprise Community Partners

Mr. Morrin announced the City Planning Commission had approved the current plans for the Lafitte site; Travis LeBlanc and Ms. Emelda Paul were also at the meeting. The next step in the process is to take the site plan to City Council for approval and to start the first new construction at the end of October. Following this plan, the first units will be completed in 2009, in addition to the building that Providence / Enterprise (P/E) is doing in the surrounding neighborhood which are also on the same schedule.

On the topic of criteria for re-occupancy, Mr. Morrin said that there had been much discussion to date and that P/E had preliminary ideas from the residents. Additionally, he mentioned that those ideas would be reviewed when a property management firm had been hired and P/E was very close to doing that. The decision about a property management company is expected to be made in the next two weeks; Valerie Johnson and Gail Sanders from the Residents' Council were very helpful in interviewing two of the candidates.

Ms. Sanders reported that both the presentations by Mr. Allen and Mr. Hendrickson were very impressive and that both men had very much experience. She felt Mr. Hendrickson may be a better fit for Lafitte.

Mr. Morrin said that once the property management company was selected, they would make a presentation at one of the monthly meetings. The next step is to select the project's General Contractor and it is an important point because that is when residents can get involved in the hiring policies. A sign-in sheet was placed in the back for people who were interested in working and also for those who had small businesses.

Jim Kelly, Providence Community Housing

Mr. Kelly mentioned that residents should continue to look for updates on neighborhood activities and progress in the P/E newsletter which has information about the Greenway, schools and local economic development efforts. Additionally, P/E has started construction on 10 homes on Orleans Ave. and would like to have Lafitte families occupy those homes, which are homeownership units. LaTonya at Providence has more information about those.

HANO has recently moved out of the Sojourner Truth building and the case management staff hopes to start moving furniture in next week. P/E has spoken with the Residents' Council and the Sojourner Truth Community Center will be home to Carol Carter and her case management staff; homeownership counseling; presentation space; meeting space for the Residents' Council; and there will be a kitchen. P/E would like to hold the next meeting at Sojourner Truth – and to have a celebration for the Lafitte residents living in town.

Questions and Discussion

Responses, where provided, are in italics.

None.

IV. Community Updates

Officer Franklin, First District, NOPD

Officer Franklin announced that he had be reassigned to Headquarters, to the Crime Prevention Office but he will continue to attend meetings and discuss any topic of interest, such as elderly

safety or others. If people have specific interests, please let him know and he can bring that information.

Deborah Joseph, Business Owner

Ms. Joseph attended the meeting to introduce herself to the community. She owns the property at 2201 Orleans Ave, Mocha Nails, as well as the building next to it. She is converting that space into a beauty and barber shop. Currently, she is leasing three beauty stalls and two barber stalls. She added that she didn't live in Tremé, but wanted to support the black community and help make it what it should be – a clean, decent place for everyone to live, and encouraged folks to include her in future efforts.

Alvin Banks, New Residents' Council Member

Mr. Banks, although he is well-known to many of the attendees, re-introduced himself as a new member of the Residents' Council and let others know that he was looking forward to working with them on the projects ahead.

Sarah Marcello of NOLAC

Ms. Marcello announced upcoming meetings with the resident leaders from the Big 4 and the developers to discuss issues surrounding Tennant Protection Vouchers and other items. It is a goal to have these meetings quarterly to approach issues facing these communities together and Ms. Marcello encouraged residents to discuss concerns with their resident leaders who could bring it up at the meeting.

Carol Carter, Catholic Charities

Ms. Carter is the project manager for Case Management Services and she asked residents to help keep her team informed of when folks returned to New Orleans and if they needed help with services. She passed out a flier with the contact number for those interested in Case Management and mentioned the new process for consumer credit counseling, which will help folks make a plan to raise their credit score.

Andreanecia Morris, Providence Community Housing

Ms. Morris shared some details about HANO's Homeownership Opportunities through NHS and NDF, both of which require participants to be employed for 12 months. The HANO program allows people to use their DVPs to buy a home, if they go through a HANO certified program.

Questions and Discussion

None.

V. Adjournment

Next Meeting: Wednesday, September 10, 6 pm

Dinner and Raffle