

RECORD OF DISCUSSION

Homebuilding Plan for Tremé/Lafitte and Tulane/Gravier

Date 6:00-8:00, February 8, 2012
Sojourner Truth Neighborhood Center, 2200 Lafitte St.

Next Meeting 6:00-8:00, March 14, 2012
Sojourner Truth Neighborhood Center, 2200 Lafitte St.

Participants:

Joyce Giles
Christina Quezergue
Keycia Havard
Paulette Carter
Ruly McCoy

Ola James
Ferdinand Many
Harold Brown
Kenny Temple
Odessia Lewis

Eric Kugler
Warren Johnson
Andre Harris
Ernestine Howard

Sojourner Truth Neighborhood Center: Myra Fields, Rebekah Simon, D'Ana Smith
Providence/Enterprise: Matt Morrin, Maggie Tishman, Andreanecia Morris, Terri North
Interstate: Derrick Middelstaedt
People United for Armstrong Park: Ben Harwood

This meeting record was drafted by Maggie Tishman, 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.

I. Opening prayer

- Meeting commenced at 6:08 pm.
- Opening pray led by Emelda Paul.

II. Property Management Update

Derrick Mittelstaedt (Interstate):

- We now have parking permits available. If you have a vehicle, you must come in and fill out a registration form, after which we will issue you a permit. If you have a guest staying, they must register their vehicle in order to park in the lots. They will be issued a temporarily parking, which they will have to return when they leave, and residents will still get priority for parking.
- Mardi Gras rules: We will be fencing off the property. You are responsible for your guests. No tailgating or barbecues allowed. People will be watching and will issue infractions.
- Q: Can we barbecue on the neutral ground?
A: Yes, that is City property.
- There is a curfew for all kids after 10 pm. For emergency information, call First Choice security, especially Mardi Gras Day.
- The Orleans Ave. side of the site will be fenced off so if you want to enter or exit the site, you will have to walk around. We apologize for the inconvenience of walking around but in the long run it will be better.

II. Security update

Officer Temple:

- Police use the DDAC program to figure out where crimes are taking place. DDAC generates “heat maps” that track where crimes are concentrated according to time of day. Violent crime is down 4% in the 1st District since last month. Property crimes, however, are on the rise. Sergeant Batiste will have the Community Office position after Mardi Gras. Sergeant Batiste will now have Officer Temple’s phone number.
- Call 658-8080 to report light outages. The more people that report a problem, the more attention it will get from the City.

III. Construction update

Matt Morrin:

- Construction firm is checking which lights are on and which are off. In certain spots, we simply need to install more lights. We plan to work with the City to have them install new lights too. If residents see spots on the site that they want to suggest for light installations.
- Not quite complete with Phase 2 construction. 27 families have leased up and will move in in the next few weeks. 12 or 13 were former Lafitte families. Lafitte families continue to have first priorities.
- We are working to construct a playground by this summer. We are going to set up a time to have a playground planning session. We want input, from kids in particular, about the type of equipment that we should have.
- Q: Are you still planning to change the codes to the 6-unit buildings?
A: Yes we are still planning to do that. Each apartment will have their own code. And NOPD will have their own specific code.
- Q: In the sixplex, I can hear everything that happens upstairs.
- Some noise between apartments is normal. If it is excessive, you should talk to your upstairs neighbor.

IV. Soccer in the Streets

Eric:

- Have worked with school-age children to learn about the game of soccer and get involved in a positive extracurricular activity.
- There is a chance to work with NORD. We could do a free day of soccer on the tennis courts.
- All ages welcome, although the target is preteen girls, 10-14 years old.
- A slightly different version called Futsal, which is played in a closed space at a very fast pace.

V. People United for Armstrong Park

Ben Harwood:

- PUFAP advocated for Park to open. We are trying to keep it clean, have it improved, and create a community vision plan to see what uses the community members want to see in the Park. Working with Tulane City Center to compile a document to present to the City.

- We are administering a community survey in order to get input. We've gotten 500 responses so far. So far people like kids activities and cultural activities, particularly those that provide employment opportunities for local residents.
- If you're interested in administering the surveys and earning \$1 per survey, contact Ben at info@pufap.org or call 233-4ARM

VI. Education Fair

VII. Neighborhood Association

Andreanecia Morris (Providence):

- We are forming a neighborhood association that will take the place of the old residents council. We are meeting with lawyers on Wednesday, February 15, at noon at STNC. Residents' input is very important so please come.
- We are continuing to form a Neighborhood Watch group.
- We are also looking for someone to represent Lafitte on the new police advisory board, so that they can interact directly with Sergeant Temple. Applications are due March 1. You need to be on Neighborhood Watch in order to be nominated.

VIII. STNC updates

D'Ana Smith (STNC):

- Voter registration drive.
- Zumba classes completely free of charge for anyone who lives at Faubourg Lafitte.
- Learnerweb computer classes. We now have lab monitors at all hours.
- We will help you with job search.
- Voodoo arena football. If you are interested in tickets, please let D'Ana know.
- The Oral History Project is getting underway. They are asking for stories of residents that lived at Lafitte before the Storm. They will produce a documentary film, booklet, and exhibit to go at STNC. You should tell them what should go in the film, booklet, and exhibit. They'll be extending invitations.
- Lifestyle classes tomorrow at 11 am.

VIII. Adjournment

- Meeting adjourned at 7:02 pm.

IX. Important dates

- Next residents meeting: Wednesday, March 14, 2012, 6 pm at STNC