

Faubourg Lafitte Resident Meeting: April 2012

Date & time: Wednesday, April 11, 2012, 6 pm

Location: Sojourner Truth Neighborhood Center, 2200 Lafitte Street

Next meeting: Wednesday, May 9, 2012 at 6 pm

Participants:

Faubourg Lafitte residents: Andre Harris, Mary Johnson, Jessie Boyd, Bernice King, Ferdinand Handy, Trina Black, Malya Davis, Thanie Davis, Sheila Condoll

Providence Community Housing: Andreanecia Morris, Maggie Tishman

Enterprise Community Partners: Matt Morrin

Sojourner Truth Neighborhood Center: D'Ana Smith

Minutes:

Opening Prayer

Led by D'Ana Smith

- Meeting convened at 6:05 pm.

Lafitte Greenway update

Maggie Tishman, Providence Community Housing

- The Lafitte Greenway is a linear park being built right next to Sojourner Truth.
- Come to the 8th annual Hike the Lafitte Corridor event this Saturday, April 14, 10 am at Delgado to learn more about the park.
- We are discussing the possibility of creating a community garden along the Greenway. If you are interested in gardening or know someone who is, please let me know.

St. Peter Claver Local Organizing Ministry

Andreanecia Morris, Providence Community Housing

- The St. Peter Claver Local Organizing Ministry is a faith-based group in Tremé focused on organizing the community. You do not have to be a member of the church to join, only have an interest in what is going on outside Lafitte.
- They are having a meeting next Tuesday at STNC.

Parent Courses

Andreanecia Morris, Providence Community Housing

- “Parents Ready to be Involved to Deliver Excellence” (PRIDE) is teaching classes to help parents engage with their children’s charter schools.
- Some charter operators are losing their charters as they fail to perform and there will be opportunities to influence the next charter operator.
- There is a \$100 incentive for participating in this program.

Faubourg Lafitte Construction update

Matt Morrin, Enterprise

- We have agreed on a price for installing the new fencing between buildings. In the next few weeks, we will be executing a contract with a company to install it.
- We’ve been talking to some folks about running tennis programs on the courts next door. We are also working on initiatives to link Faubourg Lafitte kids to football and basketball and other sports. We have some information for people who filled out resident survey; we will contact them in the next couple of months.
- No updates on property management. We are about halfway leased up with the homes in phase II. If you have question or concerns, let Matt know and he will make sure the message gets to Interstate.
- Matt Morrin, Tapica Sparkman, Mary Johnson, Emelda Paul, and Maggie Tishman have started to meet with Oral History project consultants to start to record the oral history of Lafitte. We are working on a list of people who moved into Lafitte at various times to interview. Some topics include what Mardi Gras was like, Hurricane Katrina and the controversy about tearing down the old Lafitte and building the new Faubourg Lafitte. We are going to be organizing two big story collection events, and we will share more details about that soon.
- Q: The driveway and Lafitte and Claiborne is pitch black. When will you install lights?
A: Those lights should be on within the next 2 weeks. We agree that it’s urgent that they get turned on.
- Q: Why are there no signs saying no parking if it’s for Lafitte residents? They said they had 12 signs but they’re not up in the driveway yet.
A: You need to register your visitors’ vehicle. The management office sent out numerous letters to the residents. I was not aware that signs had been ordered but I agree that that’s a good idea.

Sojourner Truth Neighborhood Center Updates

D’Ana Smith & Myra Fields, STNC

- Kids ages 13-21 are eligible for the NOLA Youth Works Program. They can fill out an application at 3400 Tulane Avenue or 3520 General DeGaulle from 5:30 pm to 8:30 pm through Saturday, April 14. Kids need to be dressed in business casual in order to enroll. Grab a sheet explaining what kinds of documents children need to bring.
- Harmony Oaks has a GED program if you’re interested in GED or improving your literacy skills.
- Zumba is being held every Monday and Wednesday from 5:45 to 6:45. Free to Faubourg Lafitte residents.

- If you're interested in being a better you, come to Lifestyle Classes. Ashley and Mary are trying to arrange a potluck for the Lifestyle Class. We are going to eat, drink, and talk. If you are interested, give Mary your name, your phone number, and what you want to bring. Check with Mary tomorrow for more details.
- We have started a Girl Scout troupe for girls ages 5-18. 15 girls have enrolled; the average attendance is 5-6 girls.
- Team Solid meets 3rd Thursday of every month. Youths ages 16 to 18 talk about issues that matter to them.
- If you have no computer skills or want to improve your computer skills, consider enrolling in LearnerWeb. STNC has tutors to help you learn the computer skills that you need.
- Moneywi\$e classes meet every Wednesday at 11 o'clock. New series that runs every Wednesday for 3 months. If you complete it you get an incentive to help manage your money in a savings or checking account.
- Former Lafitte residents are more than welcome to come to residents meetings. Please get the word out to your neighbors about this meeting: the second Wednesday of every month at 6 pm.
- STNC has a new program called earned benefits. We are able to screen you for government programs (except social security).
- We honored the residents of the month Janae and Jayla Davis for March and Mr. whatever for April.

Meeting adjourned at 6:43 pm.