

# MEETING MINUTES



---

MEETING TYPE:	General Membership Quarterly	PNA ADDRESS:	P.O. Box 791577 NOLA 70119
LOCATION:	Pearl Wine Company	DATE:	03.25.14
ATTENDEES:	General Membership		7:00 pm

---

## NOTES GENERAL:

1. Chairperson, Jean Lictfuss started the meeting and introduced Courtney Blackstone, from the Mayor's Office of Community Engagement. Her phone number is (504) 210-6562.
2. Jean then introduced Ali Mahbod, of Edward Jones (606 N. Carrollton Ave.), who graciously supplied the pizza for the meeting. Ali spoke for a few minutes on the services he provides as a Financial Advisor at Edward Jones. Ali would like to be a community resource. He provides free workshops and seminars on financial issues, investing and retirement. On April 1<sup>st</sup> he is going to have a seminar at Don's Seafood in Metairie.
3. Jean gave a general recap of the last year: membership increased by 15; successful neighborhood gatherings were held (i.e. crawfish boil, Christmas party, Night Out Against Crime, etc); PNA contributed \$200 to the 1<sup>st</sup> District Toy Fund and \$100 to the 1<sup>st</sup> District Mardi Gras Meals Program. Jean stated that PNA opposed, successfully, the creation of a volleyball complex at the corner of Orleans Ave. and Moss.
4. Jean said she recently met with the President of MCNO and they discussed issues common to both neighborhoods, such as the maintenance project for the Lafitte Greenway and the addition of traffic lights on Carrollton at Bienville and Carrollton at Dumaine. Jean and Jennifer also discussed the Bayou Boogaloo.
5. Deena Bedigian gave the Treasurer's report.
6. Andrew Duffy read the minutes from the last Board meeting held on February 17, 2014. He discussed the conversation with guest Jared Zeller regarding the Bayou Boogaloo. The City of New Orleans is proising a fee of \$10,000 for the Mothership Foundation (a 501 C3) to use the bayou location. Jared started a petition to have the fee waived. The Bayou Boogaloo costs The Mothership Foundation \$300,000 a year to put on. The funds raised by the Bayou Boogaloo go to sustaining the Mothership Foundation and to improvements on the bayou.

# MEETING MINUTES



---

Last year, Zeller opted to plant some oak trees along the bayou. The improvements made are at Zeller's discretion. Issues raised by the Board were the spread of the festival up the bayou past Dumaine, noise, trespassing, loitering. Andrew reviewed the Board's discussion with the second guest, Veda Manuel of the Greener Bayou St. John Group.

7. Jean stated that the PNA has tabled the idea of expanding its boundaries to Toulouse Street.
8. Jean also added some additional comments regarding the Board's discussion with Jared Zeller. She stated that the Board asked why the Mothership Foundation could not just pay the \$10K fee and then spend less on the bayou improvements. The Board asked if the festival would charge a fee. Zeller did not know. There was a discussion about the neighborhood associations manning the entrances to collect donations and that the Mothership Foundation would share these donations with the neighborhoods. Zeller stated that board of the Mothership Foundation was small and appointed by him. He said he would like to include people from FSJNA, PVA and MCNO on the board. Jared was asked to try to direct his speakers inward instead of outward toward the neighborhoods and he did not respond. He was asked to use a speaker system that other festivals use to accomplish this and he said he did not know about these. The problem was not resolved at this meeting. Relative to the noise created by those who hang on after the festival, Jared was asked if he could keep a couple of police officers on one hour later to do a sweep of the Bayou to send these people home and he said it would be too expensive. He suggested that perhaps the Mid-City patrol could do this and this was objected to on the basis that the people from Tulane, Broad, City Park Ave. and the Bayou pay for their service and it would not be right to take this away from them during these times to accommodate the Bayou Boogaloo which makes the money to handle this and is responsible for this. That is when John said it would only cost about \$68 an hour for Bayou Bogaloo to take care of this problem. The problem was not resolved at this meeting.
9. John Bankston stated that it only costs \$33.70/hour for one police person so it would only cost about \$68 to hire to police for an hour to make a sweep of the bayou after Boogaloo. The Mothership Foundation should be able to afford this.
10. A motion was made to accept the Board minutes, it was seconded, and received a yes vote from the membership.
11. Carly Weiner (name?) gave a brief talk about the Mid City Security Program. He said there would be no raise in the fee. They are trying to figure out a way to lower the fee. He asked

# MEETING MINUTES



---

for input from the 30% of the neighborhood who voted against renewing the program. Carly stated that they have a meeting on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of every month at 6:30 pm at the First National Bank behind the Walgreen's at Carrollton and Canal. The meetings are open to the public. Fees generate an operating budget of \$1 million per year. 90% of this goes to the police who patrol. The program is looking into cameras. The police run a database of cameras on safecamola.com.

12. Carly stated that we will be getting a new quality of life office.
13. Veda Manuel of the Greener Bayou St. John Coalition was introduced. She stated that the Bayou St. John, an historic waterway, was omitted from the City Master Plan post-Katrina. The Coalition is facilitating the development of a Master Plan for the bayou. The two main concerns are the uses of the bayou and the health of the bayou (and health of the neighborhoods bordering the bayou). The coalition includes neighbors, scientists, educators, etc. At their next meeting they will have a discussion with representatives of the Orleans Levee Board and the Sewerage and Water Board. The Coalition will make a list of the activities happening in and along the bayou; define activities; and list pros and cons of activities. The four neighborhoods involved in the Coalition are Faubourg Lafitte, MCNO, PNA and FSJNA. The extent of the bayou area concerned for this Master Plan is from Lafitte to Esplanade. The rest of the bayou is under the control of City Park. The Coalition hopes to work with the City and include the rest of the bayou in the Master Plan in the future. The Coalition will seek community input and have public meetings. Issues of great importance include coastal erosion and subsidence.
14. It was noted by Jean and Veda that the restoration of the bayou bridges is a separate group – The Rebridge Project.
15. Councilwoman, Susan Guidry, was introduced and thanked the audience for their support in the recent election. She stated that the City broke ground on the Lafitte Greenway today. Jean asked if she had a maintenance, fundraising and/or management board in place for the Greenway. Guidry said not yet.
16. Ms. Guidry stated that the former Lindy Boggs hospital was now operating as St. Margaret's Nursing Home and the Gleason House. They are still trying to find financing for the development of the rest of the hospital. The parking lots behind St. Margaret's (between Bienville & Conti and between N. Telemachus & N. Scott) will be developed into a rehab hospital named Cobalt.

# MEETING MINUTES



- 
17. Susan said that the Jazz Fest Neighborhood Action Phone Number for this year is (504) 942-7799.
  18. Susan mentioned the Rebridge Project. She said the historic and environmental assessment phases were complete. Next phase is engineering and design. The project received a \$844K grant.
  19. Susan said she is still working on the issue of abandoned boats on the bayou.
  20. Ms. Guidry said the Home Depot site was purchased by Rouses. There is a possibility it will be developed as a CVS Pharmacy.
  21. Ms. Guidry brought up the Rainwater Management Workshop scheduled for tomorrow; the Hogs for the Cause event in City Park this coming weekend and the LASPCA's Dog Days, also in City Park this Sunday.
  22. Jean Lictfuss stated that 3 board members terms had expired (her own, Becky Thomson's and Andrew Duffy's). She introduced the three nominees for election to the board: Jillian Shingledecker, Jessica Carroll and Ed LaTour. The membership seconded the nominations and voted to approve them for the Board. The returning Board members are Barbara Ferguson, Cici Andre, Angela Breckenridge, and Deena Bedigian.
  23. The meeting was adjourned.

## End of Minutes

These notes were prepared by Jillian Shingledecker. Meeting Attendees should alert Jillian if they note any errors or discrepancies.

### ATTACHMENTS:

1. Treasurer's Report

**MEETING  
MINUTES**

