

RECORD OF DISCUSSION

Homebuilding Plan for Tremé/Lafitte and Tulane/Gravier

Date 6:00-8:00, May 11, 2011
Sojourner Truth Neighborhood Center, 2200 Lafitte St.

Next Meeting 6:00-8:00, June 8, 2011
Sojourner Truth Neighborhood Center, 2200 Lafitte St.

Participants:

Paralie Amison
Alvin Banks
Lynn Billizson
Doretha Bryant
Trenise Bryant
Parreletta Carter
Barbara Carter
Paulette Clay

Janette Expose
Bernice King
Ola James
Leslie Johnson
Mary Johnson
Terry Jordan
Sherri Lawson
Diana LeBlanc

Marion LeBlanc
Cynthia Magraff
Emelda Paul
Harvey Reed Jr.
Lachia Rodriguez
Beryl Thomas
Latasha Williams

Sojourner Truth Neighborhood Center: Carol Carter, Emelda Paul, Rebekah Simon
Providence/Enterprise: Matt Morrin, Andreanecia Morris, Maggie Tishman

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

- Led by Emelda Paul.

II. STNC Updates

Emelda Paul (Resident Council President):

- The senior program continues to meet on Mondays and Wednesdays but is not currently accepting any more seniors.
- Lafitte will be forming a new neighborhood association, similar to a neighborhood watch.
- This is the last day that STNC will be serving food or giving out gift cards due to funding constraints.
- STNC is holding girl empowerment workshop for young women ages 13 to 18 on Saturday, May 21, 12 to 1 pm.

III. Service requests

Lionel (Major Superintendent at Faubourg Lafitte):

- Please call in the service requests to the office rather than telling him when you see him.
- There is a possibility that residents will be charged for breaking appliances or other items in their apartments.
- Everyone needs to pitch in to make sure the hallways in the 6-unit buildings stay clean.

IV. Re-occupancy & Resident Property Management Responsibilities

Alvin Banks (former resident):

- Everyone needs to love it and respect it and take care of the new buildings.

Matt Morrin (Enterprise):

- To date, 67 families have moved onto the site.
- The developers currently have too many requests for one-bedrooms and ask that residents please spread the word to other former Lafitte residents who might need two- or three-bedroom units.
- The developers are considered where to place a playground on the site. One possible site is the backyard of one of the three-story buildings.
- The developers plan to install bike rack onsite.
- The design team for the Lafitte Greenway will start holding community meetings, like those held for Faubourg Lafitte, in August.
- Oral History Project is moving forward to commemorate history of old and new Lafitte, and even the neighborhood even before Lafitte was built. The project team will collect stories and interviews and photographs and artifacts. The development team is getting ready to release a Request for Proposal for people to complete the project.
- Matt took a vote of how many residents would like the fence around STNC to remain and how many would like it removed. More residents would like the fence to stay up for aesthetic reasons and so the children don't ruin the grass.
- Many residents said that the street lights along Orleans Avenue were not working. Matt will get the number for people to call.
- Residents said they would like to see the RTA restart the bus route along Orleans Ave.
- Residents asked about installing screen doors on their units. Matt explained that screen doors were installed for Joyce Giles (resident) based on her individual circumstances (she cannot access her house from the front door without a screen door). The developers cannot guarantee that everybody can get screen doors. Matt will talk to Lionel and see if residents that buy their own screen doors can install them. He will report back next month.
- Sombra Williams is in charge of Section 3 hiring. D'Ana has begun hiring tenants to do general maintenance around the site. There may or may not be full-time positions, but there will be occasional part-time opportunities. Residents can get applications at the front desk and can leave them with the receptionist after filling them out.

D'Ana Smith (STNC):

- The Center would like more resident input about the kind of events they want and to have residents actually plan the events.
- Mary Johnson (resident) will form a committee for activities. Anyone who would like to join that team should talk to Ms. Johnson.

VI. Adjournment

- Meeting adjourned and dinner served.

VII. Important dates

- Next meeting: Wednesday, June 8, 2011, at 6 pm