

RECORD OF DISCUSSION

Homebuilding Plan for Tremé/Lafitte and Tulane/Gravier

Date 6:00-8:00, August 10, 2011
Sojourner Truth Neighborhood Center, 2200 Lafitte St.

Next Meeting 6:00-8:00, September 14, 2011
Sojourner Truth Neighborhood Center, 2200 Lafitte St.

Participants:

Dianne Alfred
Paralee Amison
George Arceneaux
Carol Bell
Alvin Banks
Harold Brown
Trenise Bryant
Barbara Carter
Parreletta Carter
Rita Clark

Keith Dalmas
Angelina Darsey
Janette Expose
Angela Harper
NoRose Harris
Ola James
Leslie Johnson
Mary Johnson
Terri Jordan
Bernice King

Bertha Lively
Cynthia Magraff
Annie Nelson
Keith Nickelson
Emelda Paul
Carl Richardson
Debbie Robinson
Janice Sandifer
Natascha Williams
Bertis Wiltz

Sojourner Truth Neighborhood Center: Carol Carter
Providence/Enterprise: Matt Morrin
Interstate: Michele Matthew

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. Meeting commenced at 6:15 pm.

II. Introduction / Purpose

Matt Morrin (Enterprise):

- Phase 2 is almost ready. First units will be available in approximately October. There will be some more one-bedroom apartments in that phase, which will be ready in January and February. We are starting to contact those families who were on the waiting list for an apartment in phase 1. Please get the word out to other former Lafitte residents who might be interested.
- Construction has begun in old administrative building and one of the historic buildings. It is going to be a Head Start center, run by Total Community Action. It should be completed in about 9 months.
- We are not going to provide screen doors. Residents can purchase their own screen doors through the course of the next few weeks. We will provide info to residents about what sort of screen door they can buy and will see about getting a bulk discount from a provider.

- We are very appreciative of partnership that NOPD, First Choice Security, STNC, Interstate, Ms. Paul and others have formed to provide security. Please call the hotline and let us know. We assure that we are still concerned and this is still a priority for us.
- Q: Can each individual apartment have its own code?
A: Every building has a different code. We will look into getting every apartments its own code.
- Q: Can we have streetlights on Rocheblave? The lights on the building are not bright enough.
A: All our lights are on. I will see if there are any more additional lights we can add. I am happy to lead a group to advocate to the City (the Dept. of Public Works and Councilmember Susan Guidry) to get more lights installed or turned out. It won't happen overnight but we'll see what we can do.
- Q: Why is Magic Street lit up?
A: We built the lights on Magic Street. We did not build them on Rocheblave because that was an existing city street.
- Q: How will someone get in the building in the case of the emergency?
A: The management company has created one code so that police and emergency medical services can enter any building.

III. Re-occupancy and Resident Property Management Responsibilities

Michele Matthew (Interstate):

- If you have pets and did not sign the pet lease and leave the necessary deposit, you are violating your lease. There is \$300 pet deposit for dogs and cats.
- We have someone who is trying to maintain the grounds at Lafitte. Don't let your kids throw trash out the windows. Don't smoke in the building and stop out cigarettes in the halls of the multiplex buildings.
- Younger residents please assist the older residents to keep the 6-unit buildings clean.
- If you haven't received a copy of your lease, please come to the office and get a copy. There are rules and regulations you must follow. Everyone please read your lease. If you are in violation of your lease, you will be evicted.
- If you hear or see anything suspicious, call the hotline.
- I am here from 8-5 every day and 8-6 sometimes on Sundays.
- Every new resident must go through new move orientation, in which we go over the handbook and lease.
- Housekeeping inspections are coming up soon. We will notify you before we inspect your residence.
- I have been receiving a lot of calls from First Choice security involving 15-20 people gathering on the site. This is considered loitering.
- You cannot do anything that is prohibited in the lease. You are not allowed to use a barbecue grills onsite.
- Q: Can we extend the deadline to pay your rent or the date on which you incur a late fee?
A: If I extend the date for one person, I'll have to extend it for someone else. There has to be a deadline.

VI. Section 3 Updates

Sombra Williams (STNC):

- Employers onsite would like to hire more residents. If you are looking for employment and haven't already done so, please fill out the Lafitte redevelopment intake form. As onsite residents you would be considered a category 1 employee, meaning you get first priority if you have the skills that employers are looking for. Most of the jobs right now are construction related but not all.
- Green Corps is hosting a free job training for folks 18-21.
- There is another free training for all ages hosted by the Carpenters' Union on Japonica Street.

V. Faubourg Lafitte Neighborhood Watch

Sgt. Michael LaVasseur (NOPD Crime Prevention):

- We are going to bring a neighborhood watch program to the site. We are going to have 5-6 meetings about preventing theft, auto-theft, burglary, auto-burglary, rape, and possibly internet security. After the meetings, you will be an official neighborhood watch group. The object is for us to police ourselves.
- We generally meet once a month but if you want to expedite it, we could meet once a week. You all will decide exactly when during the week. We normally meet with a group of 5-6 people.
- We will give you two "Warning: Neighborhood Watch" signs. You can get additional signs for \$25 each. If you are interested, please sign up with Ms. Paul.
- Crimewalk was moved from August to October 11th. We will have a block party with food and drinks and the mayor and police chief will be here.

VI. STNC Updates

Emelda Paul (STNC):

- Jessica Olivier left so we are no longer having a youth program. We are interviewing next week and hope to resume activities soon.
- Lafitte Corridor Connection kickoff meeting, August 15, 6-8 pm, here at Sojourner Truth. Other workshops and studios are scheduled throughout the week.;
- Saturday, August 20th, the end of summer community bash, aimed at older youth.
- Saturday, July 23rd, HANO had an afterschool giveaway. We only had 13 children that went. We would like parents to get more involved and make sure that their children attend these events.
- City and police officers will be hosting an event with a DJ, brass band, food, activities for children. Resource fair to get booklet about schools and information about schools in the area. August 20th from 3-7 pm, here at STNC.
- Thelma French from TCA will come talk about job opportunities at the site as it is being built and afterwards once it's operating.

- If you need service hours, talk to Ms. Paul who is our resident coordinator. HANO will come talk about service hours
- There are opportunities for one-on-one money management, in addition to the Moneywi\$e class. Please come into the office and we will help you budget, repair your credit, etc. (Carol)
- Q: HANO police substation?
A: I have begun talking to the first district about it. We have talked about putting it in an apartment. We've talked about finding space in STNC or in one of the old buildings. It will take some time to get it up and running but it's definitely something we're interested in. (Matt)

VII. Adjournment

- Meeting adjourned at 7:08 pm.

VIII. Important dates

- Next meeting: Wednesday, September 14, 2011, at 6 pm