

RECORD OF DISCUSSION

Homebuilding Plan for Tremé/Lafitte and Tulane/Gravier

Date 6:00-8:00, October 12, 2011
Sojourner Truth Neighborhood Center, 2200 Lafitte St.

Next Meeting 6:00-8:00, November 9, 2011
Sojourner Truth Neighborhood Center, 2200 Lafitte St.

Participants:

Lynn Billizson	Paulette Clay	Keycia Havard
Janette Expose	Sheila Condell	Trenise Bryant
Bernice King	Jennifer Harden	Tynel Thomas
Cynthia Magraff	Ola James	Betty Walker
Barbara Carter	Andre Harris	Lynnel Miles
Natascha Williams	Patricia Devon	Henry Jiles
Mary Johnson	Ernestine Howard	Harold Brown
Joyce Giles	Pennina White	Ruly McCox
Dianne Alfred	Terry Jordan	Satzoe Collins
Dorothy Yeargin	Rochelle Robert	
Sandra Cash	Christina Quezergue	

Sojourner Truth Neighborhood Center: Carol Carter, Myra Fields, Rebekah Simon, D'Ana Smith, Sombra Williams
Providence/Enterprise: Matt Morrin, Maggie Tishman, Andreanecia Morris, Terri North
Interstate: Derek Middlestad

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. Faubourg Lafitte update

Matt Morrin (Enterprise):

- First phase is fully occupied but for one unit.
- We are starting to send notices to former Lafitte residents who are interested in moving into the second phase of the site. Will work the same as the last phase; if you are a former Lafitte resident, you get priority.
- One-bedroom units will take a little longer to finish but should be ready by January.
- We had more people interested in the first phase than we had units. If you applied for the last phase, you will now be in the queue for the second phase.

Derek Middlestad (Interstate):

- We have a list of families that we living at the Lafitte at the time of Katrina. If you were a household then, you will have first priority in reoccupying the Lafitte.

- There have been some issues with people getting charged for energy used by the commercial meters on their house. We have been sorting that out.
- If you are having any problems with your neighbors, please call and let Interstate know and we will take any necessary actions.
- Q: There's not enough security on Magic Street, particularly the children on that street. I also have concerns with the trash pickup and landscaping maintenance.
A: We are stepping up our maintenance efforts. Lionel has been here by himself; now we finally have someone else on the team. Sometimes we need the manufacturer to come out and tend to dysfunctional items in the apartment.
- Q: My neighbors and I got together to clean up the area. Some children are dropping trash around the site. Can everyone please make sure their children don't litter? Adults shouldn't litter either.
- Q: There is a construction mess in front of my house, killing the plants.
A: We're going to have to be a little forgiving while construction is being completed.

III. Faubourg Lafitte Neighborhood Association

Emelda Paul and Maggie Tishman (Providence Community Housing):

- This will begin to convene over the next few months with input from all residents.
- Residents will have to approve bylaws and elect an interim board until the site is completely occupied.

IV. Neighborhood Ambassador Program

Frieda Brown (Prevention Research Center):

- We would like to take Lafitte as an example to show other communities how to engage their members in healthy activities. I will be around Sojourner Truth trying to find out what motivates you and how to motivate other communities in the same way.
- Zumba classes on Monday.

V. Youth Evangelism

Deacon Allen Stevens (St. Peter Claver):

- St. Peter Claver will be coming over starting next month to offer assistance. They will not try find converts, but they would like to reinforce the fact that St. Peter Claver and Lafitte are one community.

VI. Security

Kevin Johnson (First Choice Security):

- Call dispatch any time you have a problem 344-4028. If you see something suspicious or if you need an escort for any reason.
- Q: What is the purpose of the security guards?
A: We will dispatch someone to your location and notify NOPD if appropriate.
- Q: Do you all have a station?

A: No not yet. We are working on making a location that you all can go into and make a complaint. For right now, you will have to call dispatch.

- Q: How often does the supervisor check on the regular security guards?

A: The supervisor on duty does spot checks, comes out randomly during the night. If there is an incident going on, he will assist in the response to that incident.

- Q: How can you assure me that me and my family are safe from what's happening on Magic Street?

A: We are doing everything we can to make it safe. If someone living at Lafitte is responsible for the disturbance, we will right up a lease violation and they will have to take to Interstate. If there are multiple lease violations, they can be evicted.

- If you leave the house early in the morning or late at night, call us and we will send someone out to keep an eye on you.

- Q: Are there plans to restart the Orleans/City Park bus?

A: Not that we know of right now.

- Q: There are people who run back and forth all night. We need cameras.

A: Until we sort out a fence arrangement or the like, there is a risk. You should call First Choice.

- Q: A lot of the landscaping is dying.

A: We need to get a good plan for watering the plants. Some of the responsibility is on the contractor who put them in. We are going to do an inspection this week.

VII. STNC Updates

Myra Fields (STNC):

- Seniors should come to senior exercise on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, 11 am - 12pm.
- Employment services, advanced computer classes, we have computers and internet available for use, open every day from 9 am to 6 pm, Moneywi\$e,
- October 28, Youth Fest, 6-9 pm, out on the yard. Audition for rapping and poetry contest.
- Life skills classes this month.
- Distributed certificates of completed classes.
- Basketball coach of the Hornets was here today with the seniors.
- We will be starting a voter registration drive.

VIII. Adjournment

- Meeting adjourned at 7:15 pm.

IX. Important dates

- Next meeting: Wednesday, November 9, 2011, at 6 pm