

Esplanade Ridge/Treme Civic Association
Board Meeting
December 2, 2009

Meeting called to order by Matt Norton in his residence on Esplanade Avenue at 6:44 p.m.

Board Members present: Hilda Young, (Raymond Young), Marie Marcel, L.T. Thomas, Matt Norton, Gregory Douglas and Rhodesia Douglas. Invited Guest: Sarah Hess of the Edison group.

Agenda Items:

Edison Presentation. Edison is a small art-house theatre project represented at the meeting by Sarah Hess. The group wants to purchase the Presbyterian Church and rectory house to operate the cinema and provide an adjacent residence for the owners. Several board members were excited by the idea, but vehemently objected to a huge retro marquee. Hess affirmed the group's intention to "be a part of the community." She stated that this feedback was important to them and promised to address the issue. Marie Marcel inquired about the allotted parking spaces, which Hess estimated to be around 24 including parking behind the building. Matt Norton asked if the proposed business will require a zoning change and warned about HDLC regulations. There will be a zoning change required.

Permit Fees. ERTCA Member Pat O'Brien expressed via Matt that the City Council's position to raise permit fees is counterproductive. After brief discussion, board member Gregory Douglas motioned for the board not to get involved in that particular fight. seconded by L.T. Thomas. The motion was passed.

Municipal Auditorium position. Gregory Douglas motioned that the Board send a letter to the N.O. City Council regarding the Board's disagreement. L.T Thomas stated that this redevelopment was probably going nowhere. Board voted to defer on this issue

Parkway Partners Trees.

Matt Norton asked for applications for trees. Rhodesia Douglas forwarded one request. Gregory Douglas reminded the Board about the live oak project for Ursuline Avenue. Also, Matt Norton informed the Board that \$135 will need to be paid to Parkway Partners for Felicia's tree.

Christmas Street Light Décor. Board discussed insurance costs involved in hanging wreaths along Esplanade Avenue (Broad to Claiborne) @ \$75 per block for the wreaths. M. Norton will investigate cost with Dual Insurance

Misc. Marie Marcel is leaving the board and Matt Norton is planning to step-down in his role of president.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:10 pm.