

Esplanade Ridge/Treme Civic Association Board Meeting

Minutes

November 5, 2008

ERTCA Board President Matt Norton called meeting to order at 6:37 p.m. at Bill Edwards's resident on Esplanade Avenue.

Board Members present included L.T. Thomas, Marie Marcel, Pat O'Brien, Bill Edwards and Rhodesia Douglas. Gregory Douglas also set in.

Hilda Young, Raymond Young and Novelt Estrella were not present.

Order of Business

1. BZA Agenda – 2 Items

First Item involved request to change zoning for a lot to allow single family house with insufficient rear yard area. R. Douglas raised questions about intended residential usage in regards to sufficient yard space for children. M. Norton moved a favor to support, seconded by P. O'Brien. The vote: 4 in favor, 1 opposed, 1 abstained. The motion passed to support BZA. The Esplanade Ridge/Treme Civic Association went on record as supporting the zoning change request by Providence Community Housing (Zoning Docket 321-08) for the November 17th BZA Meeting to permit the construction of a single-family residence with insufficient minimum depth of rear yard.

Concerning the second item, the Board went on record as opposing the zoning request unanimously by Ron Woods (Zoning Docket #330-08), which is a request to convert an existing mixed-use building into a four-family residence with insufficient minimum lot area at 2304 Saint Bernard Avenue. This property is seeking a variance from the 7,200 s.f. lot area required with a lot size of only 2,191 s.f. This is too great a variance that creates too dense a development. It also will create problems with parking and as an apartment for potential families would not provide yard area for children away from a busy St Bernard Avenue.

2. Membership Drive Status. With more than $\frac{3}{4}$ of the territory covered during the door-to-door canvas by M. Marcel, R. Douglas, G. Douglas and M. Norton, drive considered by board to be a good effort. The Youngs were not present to account for their quadrant. P. O'Brien and LT Thomas sold two new membership during the drive at Walgreen's. M. Marcel agreed to go through old membership list to contact members who hadn't renewed.

3. Gayerre Park

Board discussed next steps with project which will include cleaning terracotta, replanting shrubs and painting urns and statue base. M. Marcel noted that she regularly removes bricks along with litter from the area. B. Edwards asked that the

Board postpone doing any extensive work and to concentrate on urns until arrangements are made for re-pointing and cleaning of monument

4. December 4th PRC Presentation @ 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

M. Norton announced that ERTCA had been asked to make a presentation to 504ward group of young professionals by the PRC on the neighborhood's benefits. P. O'Brien suggested to have H. Young also there since she is also a board member at the PRC. M. Norton said that he would consult both Young and O'Brien to assist with the presentation.

5. Murders in 1970s and 80s

Tom Lowenstein, a lawyer researching unsolved murders from the time period committed in district requested Board's assistance in researching facts and information. Board decided to reserve his presentation for a general meeting.

6. Announcement

Election of Board will take place at next general meeting. M. Norton asked current members if they wished to serve again or could recommend new candidates for the ballot. P. O'Brien stated she wished to retire from the Board. Several board members recommended adding Marva Arceneaux and Gregory Douglas's name to the ballot. M Norton also recommended adding Drex Brumfield's name.

Meeting adjourned 7:28 p.m.