

Esplanade Ridge/Treme Civic Association Board Meeting

Minutes

July 2, 2008

ERTCA Board President Matt Norton called meeting to order at 6:42 p.m. at his resident on Esplanade Avenue.

Board Members present included Marie Marcel, L.T. Thomas, Hilda Young, Raymond Young, Pat O'Brien and Rhodesia Douglas.

Bill Edwards and Novelt Estrella were not present.

Order of Business

1. Night Out Against Crime

Plans for the July 22nd event were not finalized as of the meeting. Marie stated that she was awaiting confirmation from the Sheriff Marlon Guzman's office regarding food and tents. Hilda offered to place a follow-up call. Discussion followed regarding promotional activities (flyers), police officials participation, entertainment (high school bands such as Cark and McDough 35), other menu items and possible sponsors (Lil Dizzy's – bread pudding, McHardy's – chicken). All present agreed to meet early before the Membership Meeting on July 22nd at the Clark High School for 6:30 p.m. to finalize planning

2. Flag Production.

Matt stated that he has been checking into vendors and that quotes were generally coming in around \$150 per flag for silk, one-sided, 3ft. x 5 ft. One particular vendor on Magazine and Jackson looked especially reasonable- about \$2800 for 40 which would require 50% payment before they produce them. Some discussion followed about posting flag contestants on the website.

3. Odyssey House: Zoning Change Request, Parking Solutions and Voting on Position.

Discussion ensued about Odyssey House's request of the City planning Commission to change the zoning at a property at Governor Nichols and Tonti from residential to B-1 and allow a treatment center expansion. Longtime ERTCA member Tony Fennelly's letter was considered requesting the Board to oppose this change at the City Council level. Councilman James Carter's likely vote of support with the commission was weighed against strenuous complaints by residents. Marie offered up possible solution to the parking problem such as the use of empty lots for parking.

It was decided that the board should postpone its vote on the position until the next general Membership meeting after hearing

4. Membership Dues

The board agreed upon an annual membership drive date sometime in early October. Samples of the printed "B N On It!" push card was distributed. Matt discussed final updates to the membership list and a map.

5. Clark Benches

Marie stated that she is still checking into prices, noting interest in a recycled plastic model for \$179. The association's goal is to provide between 10-15 benches for the school as well as to plant trees.

6. Gayerre Monument Restoration

Marie informed the board about Pierre McGraw fundraising efforts in raising \$1,000 to \$5,000 for restoration of this neighborhood park monument. Marie gave Pierre's contact information to Matt Norton so he could contact him about ERTCA helping in this effort.

Meeting adjourned 7:32 p.m.