

## **Esplanade Ridge/Treme Civic Association**

### **Board Meeting Minutes**

March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2009

ERTCA Board President Matt Norton called meeting to order at 6:41 p.m. at Bill Edwards's resident on Esplanade Avenue.

Board Members present included Marie Marcel, L.T. Thomas, Bill Edwards, Marva Arcenaux, Gregory Douglas and Rhodesia Douglas.

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

Guests present included Hank and Pat Braden.

### **Order of Business**

1. 1137 Esplanade Avenue - Most board members agreed ERTCA should take an official stand and to write a letter against the project. G. Douglas argued that the proposed structure does not support the lot's small dimensions. Marie added that the Historic Treme and Faubourg St. John associations are opposing. M. Norton called for a vote. L.T. Thomas motioned to oppose the HRI plan based on massing, zoning, parking and the number of affordable units. Motion was carried unanimously.
2. 2003 Kerlerec - From all accounts, construction appears to be shut down. B. Edwards spoke to the City of New Orleans' Office of Safety and Permits. Owner violated permit which only granted for a single unit structure but owner is building it for two units.
3. Odyssey House Proposal M. Norton informed the Board and guests that Odyssey House decided at the last moment to cancel its attendance at this night's meeting, but that it is open to more discussion about the proposition of their takeover of the Bethany House Buildings on Esplanade at a later time. Board members and guests shared their collective opposition to locating a homeless shelter and/or drug rehabilitation on Esplanade near Broad. H. Braden stated that the group can not unilaterally do anything due to zoning. P. Braden talked about the terrible state of the present building which pre-Katrina served as an assisted-living facility. Discussion also included the likely negative impact and effects of such a proposition to the neighboring school and its students. All agreed this is a terrible idea and voted to opposing these efforts.
4. Newsletter  
Target date for launch is the month of April, which some board members expressed as too aggressive. B. Edwards agreed to speak to potential advertiser such as the Churchill Downs group. R. Douglas stated that she would research bulk rate application process.

Meeting adjourned 7:18 p.m.