

GENERAL MEETING

St. Maria Gorreti Community Center ~ 7300 Crowder Blvd

Tuesday, May 12, 2015 @ 6:00 p.m.

MINUTES

Executive Board Members:

P – Denotes member present, E – Denotes member excused, A – Denotes member absent, V – vacant position

P	Sylvia Scineaux-Richard, President	E	Romona Baudy, 1 st Vice President
P	Brenda Jackson, 2 nd Vice President	P	Karol Sanders, Treasurer
P	Carroll Denesse, Member At Large	P	Joan Heisser, Member At Large
P	Arthur Busby, Parliamentarian	P	Lydia Leon, Secretary

Attendees: See attached sign-in sheets.

I. Call to order/Roll Call --- Meeting was called to order by the President, Scineaux Richard at 6:08 p.m. After roll call, we had a quorum.

II. Special Guests --- Sgt. T. K. Lane, Commander Lawrence Dupree both of the 7th District NOPD and Derrick Francis, Boards & Commissions Manager from the Mayor’s Office were guests at the meeting.

III. Review and Approval of Agenda --- Comm. Bickham made a motion to accept the agenda for this meeting and Comm. Denesse seconded. After the vote, the motion passed with no objections.

IV. Review and Approval of Minutes --- Comm. Denesse made a motion to accept the minutes from the April 14, 2015 meeting with the noted corrections and Comm. Weaver seconded. After the vote, the motion passed with a correction that a typing error omitting Michele Sanders of Kenilworth’s first name and that there were two pre-fab houses discussed in the Kenilworth area and not one.

Pearl Cantrelle, resident of Kenilworth stated that Safety and Permits allowed the contractors to do minimum square footage on the houses which does not meet with subdivision covenant. Safety and Permits does not enforce subdivision covenants, only city guidelines.

Comm. Heisser went to a BZA meeting with Comm. Penny where there were two cases to heard, one was in the Gentilly area and the other one was in Sherwood Forest (ENO). The BZA approved the same issue on the driveway in Gentilly and they denied the one in East New Orleans, even though the issues were identical. Scineaux Richard said that we need to find a universal way to address these types of issues regarding driveways/carport requirements.

V. Treasurer’s Report --- Karol Sanders read the treasurer’s report and passed it out to the board and CAB Members.

Treasurer’s report from April 1, 2015 thru April 30, 2015

Beginning Bal. -----	\$28,504.19
Total Deposits -----	\$0.00
Total Expenses-----	\$3,053.01
Ending Bal. -----	\$25,451.18

Comm. Penny made a motion to accept the treasurer’s report and Comm. Weaver seconded. After the vote, the motion passed. There was a question about the difference in the two professional fees and it was explained that it was for two different months.

VI. New Business

A. Public Safety--- Commander Dupree gave us updates on public safety and he promised that Chief Harrison would come to the next meeting as long as the Mayor does not send him somewhere else. The Traffic and Tactical Street unit has bike cops assigned to N O East. The response time is bad because of the amount of calls that are received. Scineaux Richards said that the murder rate in the East has gone up and that is a great concern to the community. What is the reason for the increase in murders? Wesley Bishop was quoted as saying that people who lived in Mid-City or Uptown/Central City and live in apartments and now they are living in the East and violence follows them. Antoine Jackson asked what the total number of cops in the city is. Commander Dupree said that he does not know about the whole city only the East. There are a total of 90 on the street in the East. There are twelve cops in the day, 18 on the second shift and 12 at night not counting special patrols. Derrick Francis said that Sgt. Lane is doing a great job and stays on top of things and we need to stay active and vigilant. Myra Mitchell, resident of Castle Manor said that ladies of the night are coming out when the school children are waiting for the bus. Dupree stated that Vice Squad handles those

kinds of issues. Daniel Morgan, resident of Spring Lake asked if an emergency alert app like the one used in the French Quarter would help NOPD in the East. Commander Dupree said yes but that just as in the French Quarter they would need donations to fund it. Comm. Bickham said that black on black crime is worst. When NOPD puts the young men in jail are they asking them why they did the crimes? Some motives are known but they never tell the police why. Kenilworth resident, Pearl Cantrelle said that she was almost the victim of a crime at 2:00 a.m. but the officers came quickly and that she was pleased with the response. Comm. Jackson asked about the lock down on Crowder and what was it all about. Commander Dupree said that an individual was buying dope with a friend and they both got nervous and one shot the other one. He reminded us of the meetings on Wednesday at NOPD at 6:00 P.M. Scineaux Richard thanked the officers for coming to the meeting.

B. Spiritual Outreach Report --- The committee for the Spiritual & Business Outreach are Comms. Marcia McWilliams, Calvin Spears, Janie Blackmon, and Cherie LaCour Duckworth, chair. This ad hoc committee was formed to protect the quality of life in our neighborhoods and to get our spiritual and business communities involved. They will also address the lack of Economic Development that will be impacted by non-conforming businesses on our major streets. The school in the East being built on Read right now is too close to that location for the halfway house. The breakfast meeting with the Clergy tentative date we are looking at is 8:00 a.m. on May 18, 2015 at the NOE Hospital.

VII. Old Business

A. Halfway House Resolution--- Comm. Penny asked if we can meet with the Criminologist to look at other locations of the proposed Halfway House. It was suggested that all CAB members send copies of Sylvia's letter to all residents to make them aware of the plans for location of the halfway house. Comm. Weaver said that a petition would get better results. A resolution R-15-2 in opposition to the location of the Halfway House at 10000 I-10 Service Road was drawn up and Comm. Heisser made a motion to adopt the resolution and Comm. Weaver seconded. After the vote, the motion passed with no objections.

Other Halfway houses seem to be in the industrial areas. Comm. Weaver made a motion to add the petition to the resolution to get all CAB members and their residents to sign it and Comm. DeGrasse seconded. After the vote, the motion passed. The three most important reasons should be on the petition as short and clear as possible and give it to the city council.

B. Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance ---- The meeting is at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, May 14, 2015 at City Hall in the council chambers. Today Scineaux Richard found out that Councilman Gray did submit something to the City Council on the CZO but it was only one page and she has not read it yet. Debbie Degruy called and was told by a member of his staff that none of our submitted requests were incorporated into the CZO. Scineaux Richard stated that on Thursday we need to let them know that we want to be part of the process and want our voices heard and our representatives need to acknowledge our opinions. The Councilman needs to communicate with the residents of N O East. Mrs. Zimmerman, ENO resident said that she is not happy with Gray and his opinion about ABO's in the East.

C. Education Committee Report --- There are no new developments other than they need to meet with the developer for the Thurgood Marshall Collegiate Academy. CM Gray did change zoning from residential to commercial zoning in that area. It was stated that on Grant and Wilson a new school is being built across from a dumping area at 7700 Wilson but they cannot find out who owns the property.

VIII. Community Info

A. Sabrina Mays Montana expressed a desire to join the Education Committee. Scineaux Richard thanked her for her willingness to serve and will pass that info to the chair.

B. Scineaux Richard said that the ENONAC newsletter would like to include information from the subdivisions on what's going on in their neighborhoods. She requested that CAB submit info.

IX. Adjournment --- Having no more business, Comm. Heisser made a motion to adjourn meeting and Comm. Williams seconded. After the vote, the motion passed with no objections. Meeting adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

Submitted by Lydia Leon
Secretary