

Historic Spanish Town Civic Association Board of Directors

Minutes

Sunday, August 18th, 2013 6:30 p.m.
at

721 N. 8th St.

The Creole Cottage

Board Members Present: Travis Moore, Chair; Derrick White, Vice-Chair; Cherine Patin, Treasurer; June Pulliam, Recording Secretary; Stephen Carroll; Michael Beck; Stephen Bellflower

Absent Board Members: Christopher Robertson; Tiffani Patterson,

Guests: Marie Constantin; Toni Higginbotham; Mary Jane Marcantel; Darryl Gissell, Debbie Daniels; Femi Euba; Shelly

Chair Moore called the meeting to order at 6:34

Cherine moved to have the minutes adopt the minutes from June and July and Carroll seconded. The motion carried.

Annual Meeting Agenda: scheduled for September 22nd at the parish hall at St. Joseph's Cathedral from 6:00-7:30.

Moore discussed the process for nomination of new Board members, which included nominating people from the floor the day of the Annual meeting. He also stated that there will be information in the newsletter about nominating people for Board membership.

Beck reported that he will give an award for the people who have helped him with the invasive pest project, and Patin reported that she will be able to give both the security and treasurer's report at the annual meeting.

Moore also asked that Board members solicit contributions to raffle for the annual meeting. Additionally, Carroll and White agreed that they would follow up on contacting donors and collecting items to be raffled. Raffle items should be brought to Cherine no later than the 17th of September.

Pulliam agreed to keep an Excel sheet of members.

Moore explained that we have four open membership positions. Patin, White, Moore, Beck and Carroll's seats are available, and Moore will not continue on the

Board as he is term limited. Beck agreed to run again, as did Patin, White and Carroll.

Moore said that we would do pizza again this year for food. Patin stated that she would try and get the pizzas donated.

Content for the newsletter will be sent to Cherine no later than Thurs, August 22nd

Beck and White discussed the issue of whether or not people could send in proxies for the Annual meeting. Beck argued that precedent permitted the Board to accept proxies, while White argued that there was nothing in the by-laws permitting proxies at annual meetings, and that Roberts Rules of order, which we follow, prohibited blanket proxies. Moore stated that at the Annual meeting, we would be permitting paid members to bring written proxies to vote for Board members. Higginbotham said that to prevent any arguments, we would come up with a proxy form that we could put in the newsletter on the membership form, as well as on the website.

Security Report: two men up to no good near Lakeland attempted to escape by Ben and Lance's property. They were apprehended this morning by the police. Marcantel reported that there are more funds for policing at night in Spanish Town to give us more coverage. The officer in the increased patrol is also our paid duty officer Brian, which gives him even more opportunity to be familiar with the neighborhood. Gissell also reported that there have been several bike thefts in the neighborhood lately, including one from the second story of one of his apartment buildings.

Treasurer's Report: Patin reported that we have a little over \$11,000 total in our account.

Beautification Report: Moore said that he needed assistant mowing and pulling weeds. He also said that the community garden had a surplus of eggplants, xenias, herbs and climbing spinach, and residents are welcome to come harvest what they need. He reported that the Beautification committee built some new beds with volunteers in April. For now, we don't have formal plots for individuals, but anyone is welcome to plant something in the garden and/or harvest.

Invasive Pest Removal Update: Beck reported that the original project area is still exterminated, one city block bounded by 6th, 7th, STR and Lakeland Drive. At present, his committee is working on the block bounded by 8th, North, STR and 9th. The only trees that are back are in a fenced yard, and it is sometimes difficult to get the property owner to let committee members in as the gate is locked.

Old Business Update: The city came to the corner of 8th and Lakeland and painted the curb in front of Ben and Lance's red, and then also to the corner of Bankston's home and replaced a sign that had been removed that said "No parking here to corner" so that the garbage trucks can now negotiate the tight turn.

New Business: Higginbotham said that the big trucks are hurting the trees in the neighborhood when they pass through and they break the concrete. She said that she would like to see the Board address this issue and bring it to the attention of the city. A lot of the drivers seem to be lost and passing through the neighborhood in search of the interstate, and that perhaps we need some signage to keep the trucks out of the neighborhood. Marcantel said that the DDD has a utility section that will address problems such as this.

Marcantel said there was also a problem with non-residents having Spanish Town Parking passes that we need to get the city to address.

Marcantel also brought up the issue of Spanish Town Grocery's application for a Class B liquor license. Moore explained that the Board would not be taking a position one way or another about Taylor Blanche's application as it was not appropriate for us to do so.

Higginbotham also requested that we address parking on the sidewalks which has become a problem in the neighborhood. We need to ask the police to address this issue as it is obstructing the use of sidewalks. Daniels added that we have additional problems with people parking either on their lawns or the neutral ground.

There being no further business, Carroll moved that we close the meeting. Patin seconded the motion, which carried. The meeting concluded at 7:45 p.m.