

**HISTORIC SPANISH TOWN CIVIC ASSOCIATION
(DRAFT)
October 14, 2007—Organizational Meeting for 2007-2008**

6:00 p.m.
The Lobdell House
711 N. 6th Street, Baton Rouge, La.

Board members present: Bill Good, *Chairman*, Shawn O'Brien, Pat Melancon, David Brown, Peggy Good, Shannon Markward, Gene Ransome, Melissa Eastin

Members absent: Marion Johnson

New Board Introductions

Bill Good welcomed new members Melissa Eastin and Gene Ransome, elected at the September membership meeting. Current and new members introduced themselves.

Due to Mr. Ransome's 2007-08 dues not being received prior to the election in September, his election was declared nullified under the rules. Peggy Good moved that Mr. Ransome be re-nominated and appointed to fill the vacancy thus created. Pat Melancon seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Minutes of Previous Meetings

Minutes of the September 9, 2007 meeting were read and were adopted on a motion made by Shawn O'Brien and seconded by Shannon Markward.

Minutes of the September 29, 2007 association membership meeting were reviewed. Corrections were suggested relative to the name of the band and the brand of beer at the party. Shawn O'Brien made a motion to adopt the minutes with noted corrections. David Brown seconded the motion, and the minutes were adopted.

Treasurer's Report

The board reviewed the financial report made available by the treasurer. Members discussed membership party expenditures of \$942 for event insurance and \$500 for use of the Louisiana State Museum space. The Board agreed generally that expenses for the party should be cut back in the future and that the best way to approach newly required expenses for street parties would be discussed during the coming year. The financial report showed a balance of \$15,329 after party expenditures and withdrawals for security patrols (such expenditures totalling \$2,392) and income of \$1,160 from new memberships and security patrol donations. A copy of the bank statement for the month of September, 2007 was also made available.

Shawn O'Brien moved that the report be accepted, Peggy Good seconded the motion, and the report was accepted unanimously by the Board.

DDD Update

Deferred due to Derrell Cohoon's absence

Election of Officers for 2007-08

Bill Good described the duties of each officer's position on the Board. Officers were elected unanimously as follows:

Bill Good, Chairman (re-elected), on motion by Shawn O'Brien, seconded by Shannon Markward.

Shawn O'Brien, Vice Chair (re-elected), on motion by Peggy Good, seconded by David Brown.

Peggy Good, Treasurer, on motion by Gene Ransome, seconded by Shannon Markward.

Gene Ransome, Secretary, on motion by Peggy Good, seconded by Shawn O'Brien

In addition to the regular board positions above, the Board appointed Shannon Markward as Communications Officer on a motion by David Brown, seconded by Gene Ransome and appointed John Sykes as Historian on a motion by Peggy Good and seconded by Shawn O'Brien.

Group Picture

Deferred until the next meeting

"One Baton Rouge" Resolution

Bill Good led a discussion on a "diversity resolution" presented recently by Mayor Kip Holden to the Metro Council which failed to be adopted by the council. The resolution had been considered a symbolic gesture to show that the city welcomes residents without respect to religious background, ethnicity, or sexual orientation. It was noted that the councilwoman representing Spanish Town had not voted to adopt the resolution. Mr. Good proposed that the neighborhood go on record as commending the mayor's attempt in a positive way so as to make the point that Baton Rouge should be more open minded in order to be considered a progressive city. David Brown offered to write a press release announcing the Board's intention.

David Brown made a motion, seconded by Shannon Markward, that the Board accept the mayor's resolution on behalf of Spanish Town. The motion passed unanimously.

Melissa Eastin moved that Mr. Good and Mr. Brown be directed by the Board to draft a letter to be sent to the Advocate and to the mayor's office and a press release to be sent to local news outlets. Pat Melancon seconded the motion, which was passed unanimously by the Board.

Mardi Gras Fundraising Project

The Board discussed the design for the 2008 Mardi Gras t-shirt, which had been designed by Shannon Markward and chosen by secret ballot of the entire membership at the September membership meeting from among (how many???) entries.

Ms. Markward suggested adding a women's style t-shirt with capped sleeves and a scooped neck to the order in addition to the regular men's style shirt.

The initial estimate obtained by Peggy Good for a 3-color design was \$1065 from the Silk Screen Shop (is this right??) for an initial order of 144 women's shirts plus 186 men's shirts (total 330) (if the size breakdown is available let's put it in here). Members discussed the possibility of adding more colors, which would add to the cost but be more in keeping with Ms. Markward's design. An e-mail survey of all the members as to their preference and support for the higher cost was suggested. Ms. Markward was asked to send the design to members showing the 3-, 4-, and 5-color variations.

The Board discussed obtaining sponsors to cover the cost of the t-shirts at the same price as last year, \$175, which would include one free shirt for the sponsor. It was decided that sponsors need not be from downtown, which has been customary, but that they would ideally have some tie to the neighborhood.

Bill Good showed the Board a Mardi Gras poster design obtained (from whom??) as an additional possible fundraiser. He will look into the cost of producing the poster.

Priorities for 2008

Discussion deferred until next meeting.

Other Business

The Board decided to continue its current schedule for monthly meetings i.e., the second Sunday of the month at 6:00 p.m. at the home of Bill and Peggy Good.

Adjournment

David Brown moved that the meeting be adjourned. Melissa Eastin seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

The next Board meeting will be on Sunday, November 11, 2007 at 6:00.

Business to carry forward:

1. Group photo
2. Possible Mardi Gras poster
3. List of priorities for 2008
4. Letter/press release re: One Baton Rouge resolution