

EAST NEW ORLEANS NEIGHBORHOOD ADVISORY COMMISSION
(ENONAC) www.enonac.org
GENERAL MEETING
St. Maria Gorreti Community Center ~ 7300 Crowder Blvd
Tuesday, December 10, 2013 @ 6:00 p.m.
MINUTES

Executive Board Members:

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

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

Attendees: See attached sign-in sheets.

I. Call to order/Roll Call. Meeting was called to order by acting chair, Romona Baudy, in informed absence of President at 6:15pm. After the roll call, a quorum was established.

II. Special Guests. There were no special guests

III. Approval of Agenda. Comm Ed Blouin moved to amend the agenda to add two items to the agenda: 1) Candidate Forum as item #E and 2) 2014 Calendar as item #F. Comm Aaron Daste seconded the motion. After the vote, motion passed.

IV. Approval of the November 12, 2013 General Meeting minutes. Comm. Clarissa Evans moved to table the approval of the minutes until the next general meeting, as they were not available. Comm. Daste seconded the motion. After the vote, motion passed.

V. Treasurer Report. The Treasurer’s report for November 13 – December 13 was read by Comm. Karol Sanders. Copies were passed out to all CAB members. Comm Sanders stated that he invited someone from Huntington Park subdivision, but they did not show up. Comm. Daste moved to accept the Treasurer’s report. Comm. Maxine Weaver seconded the motion. After the vote, the motion passed.

VI. New Business

A. Mr. Troy Dupruis from the **Warehouse District Neighborhood Assoc.** (WDNA) spoke about an out of state developer proposing to build a 16-story building in the neighborhood that is out of scale with everything else in the neighborhood. Most other buildings are 65 feet in height and this would be 185 feet in height; 3 times taller than any other building in the area. They are asking for support around the city to contact City Council that this is not an appropriate building for this neighborhood. The Preservation Resource Center (PRC) has begun organizing and they’ve already gotten letters of support from several other neighborhoods. **Mr. Joshua Rubenstein** explained the impact to all neighborhoods if this goes forward. Corinne stated that the WDNA is one of her clients in this issue.

Comm. Janie Blackmon asked if they need a letter of support from ENONAC. Corinne explained that ENONAC does not do letters of support, but we adopt Resolutions ‘in objection to’ or ‘no objection to’. So, we could move to adopt a Resolution to object to the proposed development at Annunciation St. on behalf of the WDNA.

Comm. Greg Hamilton expressed unreadiness in not having enough information about the project. Corinne explained that they have been fighting against this project for at least the past 5 years.

Comm. Ron Carrere moved to adopt a Resolution in objection to the proposed development of Tracage at Annunciation St. and the Pontchartrain Expressway. Comm. Daste seconded the motion. After the vote, the motion passed. Corinne explained that this motion will be made into a Resolution that will be available for adoption at the next General meeting.

B. By Laws Revision. Comm. Felice Simien-Hill reported that the revision of the By Laws was mailed and/or emailed to all CAB members. She stated that comments and responses need to be made by December 30 so that they can be completed by Jan. 7, 2014. She then asked if there were any questions of the CAB. There were none.

C. Outreach to Police. Comm. Linda Williams of Rosedale was not present, therefore this issue was tabled until the next CAB meeting.

D. Conditional Use ABO Permit request meeting. Comm. Judy Washington reported about a meeting on Monday at ENO Library regarding the Shell gas station at 7358 Read at Morrison Road. She stated that they applied for a liquor license. She stated that the Vice President of her neighborhood association attended the meeting. She read the summary text message that he sent her after attending the meeting. He said that the main thing he gathered from the meeting was that there is little we can do to stop them from being able to sell alcohol and that the meeting was only a courtesy to the people in the area. Alicia Plummer of the City and Giselle Smith from Warwick West are both in favor of Shell being able to sell alcohol. Comm Washington stated that she has obtained the Shell Stations owner's phone number, in case we need to contact him. She stated that her VP was the only person from the community to show up at this meeting.

Corinne explained about NPP (Neighborhood Participation Program) and how it works. She stated that it sounds like the developer orchestrated their own neighborhood meeting and not a city meeting. She proceeded to explain what is supposed to take place; that they are to obtain a list from CPC of all neighborhoods in the area that are registered with City Hall. Before submitting the application to CPC, they are to notify each property owner, business owner with boundaries within 300 feet of the proposed project. If anyone in either Warwick East or West did not receive a letter, then they are in violation of NPP. There was a City Ordinance passed in October that says about NPP.

Comm. Hamilton commented that we should make it very hard for a business to obtain a liquor license so that they would think twice about going that route. Corinne stated that right now, this issue is non-compliance with NPP. Comm. Hamilton then moved that we make a Resolution to CPC advising that the Shell gas station is not in compliance with NPP due to improper notifications. Comm. Ed Blouin seconded the motion. Comm Daste commented that this seems to be happening quite often now and businesses should know before-hand that ENONAC is either for or against such requests; we need to have a standard. Corinne explained that these requests must be taken on a case-by-case basis.

ENONAC is a State Commission and cannot override State law; we cannot do a blanket prohibition. What can be done is put standards on gasoline service stations if they desire to sell alcohol, such as square footage of the store; how many gas pumps they have, landscaping etc. put in the Zoning Code. This was tried about 2 years ago, it went to City Hall and then it just stopped; went nowhere.

Comm. Sanders commented that the last 2 requests we encountered were tabled until the January CPC meeting. Ed Blouin, Member at Large, commented that we should support the affected neighborhoods. Corinne stated that all requests must be handled on a case-by-case basis and needs to be incorporated in the Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance for New Orleans East. But we need more people to show up at the Zoning meetings other than the same 3 people. The acting chair asked that the motion be repeated. After the vote, motion passed.

E. Candidate Forum. Comm Blouin stated that he contacted neighborhood presidents to ask if we should do a Candidate Forum for District E and At Large City Council seats. There was 1 out of 16 called that said we should do all the candidates. As the appointed chair, Comm. Blouin stated that we must vote on having the forum on Jan. 14, which is our next General meeting and then on how much time to allow; an hour or an hour and one-half.

Comm. Hamilton moved that we have the Candidate Forum at the next General meeting of ENONAC on Jan 14, 2014. Comm. Blackmon seconded the motion. After the vote, the motion passed. Comm. Blackmon commented especially to the Commissioners that come out and really pay attention to these candidates.

F. **Calendar.** Corinne stated that we need to adopt the Calendar for 2014, but first we need to vote on our official journal for placement of meeting notices for the year. She received 2 estimates; the Advocate cost would be \$168 and the Times Picayune would be \$750. Comm. Daste moved that we choose the Advocate for our official journal. Comm. Carrere seconded the motion. Corinne explained that the ad is 2 x 3 and posted once a year, before the first meeting of the year. After the vote, motion passed.

Corinne then explained the Calendar: General meeting on the second Tuesday of the month at St. Maria Goretti at 6pm and the CAB meeting on the last Tuesday of each month with the exception of Christmas and Executive Board meeting every other month, same time and place. It was so moved by Comm. Carrere and seconded by Comm. Daste.

VII. Old Business

A. The **Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance**, the chair stated, was spoken about earlier.

B. **Holiday Extravaganza.** Comm Baudy reminded that the event is this Friday night and tickets can be purchased in the back of the room. Comm. Denesse commented that we are also taking returned tickets. Comm. Leon stated that she still has raffle tickets not picked up yet. A couple of the raffle prizes were shown; a signed Jersey and a signed basketball, which were obtained by Dawn Hebert.

C. **Quality of Life.** Comm. Baudy then read a letter from Dawn Hebert, the chair of this committee regarding the litter pick-up that happened on December 1, 2013. Dawn stated that she was disappointed by the lack of participation by ENONAC. Comm. Hamilton commented that this was on a Sunday morning where most people are in church. Comm. Blackmon commented that this is a lesson learned and we must move on into 2014. Comm. Blouin commented that he thinks we should also be included in the planning.

There was a questions form the Audience about whether the Parcel Fee would be placed back on the ballot again this year. Comm. Baudy explained that we must wait 6 months before it is brought up again, but yes it will be.

VIII. **Announcements.** Comm. Leon announced that the Executive Board has refreshments in the back of the room that everyone is welcome to.

IX. **Adjournment.** Comm. Blouin motioned for adjournment and was seconded by a host of members. Meeting was adjourned at 7:05pm

Respectfully submitted
Claire H. White
Secretary