

Gentilly Terrace & Gardens Improvement Association
Meeting Minutes
April 13, 2011

President **Lisa Kamuf** started the meeting at 7:10 pm

Lisa gave the **Treasurer's report**. We have \$1195.44 in the account. We had a net profit of \$280.13 from the neighborhood garage sale. Lisa stated that many buyers at the garage sale liked the neighborhood's vibrant comeback from Katrina.

Allison from the **Munch Factory** (a new restaurant at 5339 Franklin Blvd.) dropped off menus for the membership in attendance. **Dan Falk** stated that the restaurant is open from 5:00 to 9:30 pm Monday thru Friday. The food is very good. (Later, Dan found out that the restaurant is open Tuesday thru Friday from 5:00 to 9:30 pm and also open for brunch on Saturday from 10 till 2 as well.)

Councilmember Cynthia Hedge-Morrell

Several issues were discussed:

- **Street Repairs** -- St. Bernard (from Filmore to Robert E. Lee) will be repaired after Sewerage and Water Board work is done under the street.
- **Street Lights** -- If you called about a street light before, you must call again. There is a new computerized system now and the old info wasn't transferred. Call 311. You can get an email reply
- **Lots with high grass** -- A hearing is needed to obtain the right to access the property and cut the grass. The hearings are proceeding at a faster clip now (about 800/month). The usual wait is about 3 months.
- **Gentilly Woods Shopping Center** -- There were 3 responses for the redevelopment of the property: 1) Wal-Mart Neighborhood Market, 2) Apartments above stores, 3) Thor Industries (the people who owned the property before Katrina). The Pontilly Neighborhood doesn't want Wal-Mart, but it looks like the best option. The "apartments above stores" concept was not within the scope of the request for proposals. Thor Industries didn't clean up the site for 3 years, Cynthia is not inclined to give them a shot at redeveloping, considering their track record.
- **Council redistricting** -- each council district has to have about 65,000 residents ($\pm 5\%$). There is a re-districting meeting on Thursday, April 14th, in Council chambers.
- **Zoning Change for 3670 Gentilly Blvd.** -- there is a request to change the zoning to allow a dentist office. Edgewood Park has approved it with provisos (the commercial zoning will not pass on to the next owner if it is sold, the owner must live on the property).

Sergeant Prochaska and Officer Nelson of the NOPD

- **Neighborhood Watch** -- the neighborhood must take active participation to make it work. Six meetings are needed for the training. One person must head the effort. Block Captains are also needed.
- **Drag Racing along Gentilly Blvd** -- someone from the audience mentioned that every Wednesday and Sunday night between sundown and 2 am, a group of motorcyclists drag race on Gentilly. Sergeant Prochaska stated that it is difficult to catch them. They obscure their license plates and also escape at over 100 mph.
- **Recent Break-ins** -- they have a tentative ID on the suspect. They are hoping to make an arrest soon.

Mickey Barthelemy handed out copies of a City Planning Commission notice regarding the zoning change for **3670 Gentilly Blvd.** The zoning change will be voted on in the Council Chambers on May 10 at 1:30 pm.

The meeting ended at 8:35 pm