

Garden District Civic Association Annual Meeting
February 28, 2010 – 3:15 pm
Meeting held at Bistro Byronz

Alex Tucker – Civic Association Board President

- 1) Park Blvd. was cleaned up during the summer of 2009. Continue to try and get a water source so we can plant new plants.
- 2) Would like to get a new sign at the entrance.
- 3) Security of course a big issue – crime prevention district ground work has been started.

Tara Wicker – Our City Council representative

- 1) District 10 – this past year has been a year of action. Doing things together to move district 10 forward. Work continues on:
 - a) Park Blvd. – median project. Priority for her office.
 - b) Govt. & Park – where sign is, possible to get Dufroc to adopt area and get have Dufroc school children to plant flowers. DPW has said that a water source is possible.
 - c) Signal box on Park – we can not paint this. Possible to have lattice work around box?
 - d) By summer, trying to remove the water oaks in the medians.
 - e) Sidewalk plans for Dist. 10 – Tara has submitted and been given approval for various sidewalk projects. Contact Tara for specific sidewalks that might need attention.
 - f) City Park – “knock knock” museum is back on the radar screen. BREC is on board for this project.
 - g) Tara’s downtown office staff takes care of Tara’s schedule. She also has a staff member at Butler Center. Butler Center is available for meetings.
 - h) Leadership Meetings – top 5 major things to be submitted to Tara. This meeting is held 2nd Tuesday of every month in the Council Chambers at 6:00.
 - i) Sewer project – has to be completed by 2014.

She said she is still excited to be our council person.

Cpl. Stone – Baton Rouge Police

- 1) Addressed security patrols. We have had our share of burglaries and thefts, but nothing that most other areas also have.

- 2) Magazine salespeople – if they don't have an occupancy license they can be arrested.
- 3) BRPD – now has a new helicopter. This helicopter is in the air 3 to 4 hours a day.
- 4) Parking issues – have had some issues, but not many. It is not legal to park trailers on the roadway.

Cpl. Stone took questions from residents:

- q) Seems like there are a lot of wrecks at Terrace and Park near Perkins.
- a) Our security patrols are primarily for security issues more than radar.

- q) Anything we can do about non-residents walking in the alleys?
- a) If you see suspicious people in the alley, call the police.

- q) Break-ins during the day?
- a) Daytime is not an unusual time for break-ins. Alarm systems help.

- q) What can we do about people blocking the alleys?
- a) Illegal to block the alleys, call police.

Susannah DesRoches with Baton Rouge Green

Trees are so important to our neighborhood. They have received a grant to work with civic associations about the care of choosing of trees. This is a great learning opportunity. Can be done on a Saturday morning or a Sunday afternoon. Let Alex know what we would like to learn about.

Help keep their doors open they rely on individual donors, corporate sponsorships are down.

Dorothy Powell – Garden District resident also teaches at LSU.

Simple steps you can do to conserve energy at your home.

- 1) Lots of interest in energy conversation, why best reason to save \$\$.
- 2) Another reason, fossil fuels are running out, eventually we will run out of resources. Dependant on countries that don't like us very much.
- 3) Tips help save money – use of motion lights instead of security lights on at all times. Neighbors might appreciate.
- 4) Things she has done at her house:
 - a) compact florescent lights
 - b) raise temperature of her ac and lower temperature of her heat
 - c) Installed a hot water blanket for her hot water heater.

She has cut 30% by simple things, and has now moved on bigger steps including solar panels.

Louisiana has the best solar rebates.
Rebates available for on demand hot water heaters
Attic tent
Foam rafters – totally seal off attic.
Windows are biggest heat source lost.

Sonya Pickens financial report

Security dues have been raised to \$120 per year. Approximately 30% of residents pay dues. For 2009 we collected approx. \$27,000. Final numbers are posted on the web site.

Alex Tucker

New board year, we have two new members; Ben Broussard and Jay Nolan. We still have more openings if you would like to volunteer for the board.

2010 Annual Meeting adjourned.