

Garden District Civic Association Board Meeting

Tuesday, May 11, 2021

6:30 pm in the Trapp's yard

In attendance: Claire Pittman, Heather Day, Babeth Schlegel, Ted Magee, Tom Douthat, Michael Myers, Anne Trapp, Mike Helms, Robin Riemer and Mary and Willie Fontenot.

Welcome – Everyone introduced themselves to Robin Riemer, the prospective new Board member. The board can email each other at gdca2021@googlegroups.com.

Committee Updates – Claire listed and explained the committees.

Drainage: Road work on Broussard and Hundred Oaks is related to upgrading the sewer system. Claire explained that the box culvert will be changed to a bridge. It is in the design stage. The Garden District drainage problems were discussed. Drainage and runoff are not the same. Tom explained possible causes of the problems. Water could be blocked farther downstream, not in our neighborhood. If there is too much water, the culvert could become a dam. Or, pipes might be failing to get the water where it needs to go. Data and maps that have not been available are being put together now by Franklin & Associates.

Possible future events:

Mid City Garage Sale

Fall – Champagne Stroll, 4 patios

Fall picnic – think of something to draw more people – any suggestions?

Holiday Lighting Contest

Board Christmas Party

Easter Egg Hunt – on hold because wanted more people and a yard for venue

Crawfish Boil

Some kind of a neighborhood cookoff – any ideas?

A bike ride, possibly viewing murals. Bike Baton Rouge will probably help.

A history tour- Anne has historical information about the neighborhood. Mike Helms is very interested in working on this with her.

Babeth said that Samantha Jones leads historical bike rides.

A Mad About the Trees Croquette Day with an Alice in Wonderland theme and brunch.

Security: After a lively discussion, Claire asked that we have a meeting about security this summer with John Williams, Eric Troutman and Seth, the head patrolman for our police. Mike Helms offered to put research together to find what is most effective. He will spearhead. Claire reiterated that knowing neighbors is the most effective protection. Our neighborhood is great in that respect. One drawback to catching repeat offenders is that they are released so quickly. The best way to prosecute is to have camera footage of 5-6 events. We were told that defense of property is never considered a legitimate reason to draw a weapon.

Corporate Sponsors: We need more. For \$350 they can have their logo on websites and E-Blasts.

Live Oak Collective - Beats, Bubbles and Bites (music, drink, food)

Kava will be coming from Blends, a bar Downtown. A case is being donated by Heather Day's company. Katie Love is a neighborhood 12-year-old who will open the event by singing for us. Bayou Trees is sponsoring the band, *The Bayou Swingers*. Board members will look for glasses. If we have walk-up attendees, they may pay by using their smart phone to go to gdcabr.org and paying online then.

Babeth and Mary will man the sign-in tables.

At the last meeting, it was decided that stickers could be purchased for \$25 with the money going toward the trees. Signs would be available for a \$500 donation.

Mary will call Mosquito Control.

Heather will have the lawn cut and check the lots Saturday. She will arrive Sunday at noon.

The band will arrive at 2 p.m.

Mary and Anne will each bring a table. Heather will bring tables. Everyone will bring chairs.

New Board Member: Mike nominated Robin Riemer as a new Board member. Heather seconded it. Robin was unanimously approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.