



Tuesday, December 4, 2018

3-4pm

Brennan's Restaurant

417 Royal Street

Livability Committee Meeting Notes

Members present: Beverly Fulk, Albin Guillot, Brittany McGovern, Christian Pendleton, Adrienne Thomas
Members absent: Gail Cavett, Kim Rosenberg, David Speights

Guests: Renard Bridgewater

FQMD staff: Emily Remington

The meeting was called to order at 3:02pm. Pendleton welcomed members of the Committee and expressed his desire to bring attention and solutions to the livability issues within the French Quarter.

Members discussed the creation of a mission statement. Fulk and Pendleton offered amendments to the previously proposed mission statement. Pendleton discussed the possibility of including short-term rentals in the mission statement. Members discussed the possibility of the STR conversation reviving with regards to the French Quarter.

The adopted mission statement reads: The Livability Committee's mission is to address and improve the quality of life for the residents and businesses in the French quarter. This Committee shall address issues such as sanitation, repair and maintenance, sound levels, residency, and any other issues that may arise affecting our quality of life.

Members discussed what the Committee's goals should be. Guillot expressed disdain with the Big Belly trashcans and proposed a dual trashcan for public space. Remington suggested one be used for trash and one for recycling. McGovern opined that, culturally, New Orleans was not ready for such; she stated her support for replacement bins so long as they were lockable cans. Fulk recommended that goals include surveying street lights and sidewalks.

Pendleton stated that his goal was to create a list to take to the Department of Sanitation to determine which goals could be sufficiently addressed. Thomas suggested researching other historic areas' use of trash receptacles. McGovern noted that whatever was chosen should be secure and also difficult to graffiti/easy to clean.

McGovern discussed the process to report graffiti on buildings and to repair sidewalks. Guillot described a \$1M initiative under CM Palmer in her first term that was designated to replace sidewalks and had

successfully done so. Fulk suggested that the Committee try to address bicycles riding on the sidewalks; McGovern stated that NOPD prioritizes getting guns and drugs off the streets.

Members discussed power washing and the presence of NOPD officers to escort Empire during their power washing. Pendleton informed the Committee that the Mayor re-signed the contract with Empire and that he has requested a copy of the contract.

McGovern described the clutter left behind after events, to include barricades, cones, etc. McGovern suggested regular sweeps after projects (filming, construction, security events, etc.) have completed in order to reduce visual clutter within the Quarter.

Pendleton expressed his desire for all parties to improve the entryways to the French Quarter so that visitors' first impressions was favorable. McGovern suggested that the DDD partner to improve the 100 blocks.

The Committee developed the following goals:

- Replace Big Belly trashcans with lockable cans
- Survey streetlights and sidewalks and provide information to the Department of Public Works
- Achieve accountability for new sanitation contract
- Oversee removal of "leftover" clutter
- Improvement of gateways to the French Quarter

Pendleton stated his desire to meet with Sidney Torres IV to learn about how Torres was so successful in keeping the French Quarter clean when Torres had the sanitation contract.

Members discussed when to host meetings in 2019 and decided that the Tuesdays before FQMD Board meetings at 3pm (usually the first Tuesday of the month) were preferable. January 8 will be the next Livability Committee meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 3:58pm.