



Wednesday, November 13, 2019

3-4pm

Brennan's Restaurant

417 Royal Street

Livability Committee Meeting Notes

Members present: Gail Cavett, Beverly Fulk, Brittany McGovern, Christian Pendleton, Kimberly Rosenberg

Members absent: Adrienne Thomas

Guests: Karley Frankic

Meeting was called to order at 3:02

Mr. Pendleton introduced Karley Frankic, the new Executive Director of FQMD.

Approval of the previous meeting notes Ms. Ms. McGovern moved, Ms. Cavett seconded, no discussion, approved unanimously

Mr. Pendleton read the committee mission statement.

Mr. Pendleton discussed the city's proposal to French Quarter Improvement Fund. FQMD wants the money for the two NOPD officers to perform code enforcement and put it through the Supplemental Police Patrol Program.

The City is planning on allotting \$333,356.97 on special event clean up. This is supposed to be in the existing sanitation contract and should not be doubled at improvement fund expense

Sanitation to be changed from monthly to weekly sidewalk cleaning. Empire is not doing it monthly so why give more to not do weekly. Want to add Toulouse as it is a major through street. Want to take that ~\$500,000 and use for other sanitation initiatives.

Ms. Cavett said Jackson Square should be planted to by the French Market Corporation.

Ms. Rosenberg reported that the proposed millage for parks is to be reallocated to other parks.

Public Works want \$545,000 for repaving Conti Street. Ms. McGovern confirmed DPW had already identified the funds.

Ms. Rosenberg asked if repaving Chartres Street was included. Ms. McGovern said that will be after Conti Street.

Lighting \$725,000 for 51 streetlights as recommend by the VCC.

Homeland Security funds for security cameras on Bourbon Street. Ms. Cavett said these are capital improvement funds are not what the improvement funds were intended for. Mr. Pendleton said that this does fall within the intent of the fund. Ms. McGovern said that it could come from Federal homeland security funds.

Ms. Cavett reiterated that the City has not been discussing the funds until the after they had decided they wanted the funds spent on. Mr. Pendleton said these items are things that the committee asked the City to fix. These are quality of life and safety issues.

Dept of Health ~\$686,000 for the Sobering Center. \$75,000 for Make Change to get money to go to charity instead of panhandlers.

\$12,000 for sound meters that go missing, require special training. \$30,00 for sound monitors that would be located in business to self-monitor. Enforcement would unlikely be feasible. \$50,000 for stationary monitors. Ms. Rosenberg recommend that the FQMD work on a comprehensive sound ordinance. The committee recalled a lot of complications from pervious concerns about the practicality of sound meters. \$10,270 for sharps containers. Perhaps attach to the big belly cans.

Ms. McGovern asked if there could be locks on the trash cans, so that when people rummage through it doesn't get left open and messy.

\$514,000 for 4 grounds support supervisors and 4 officers to move the Bourbon Street bollards and patrol Armstrong Park. Ms. Cavett said that this money would be another NOLA Patrol and they do not need one supervisor for each officer. It has not been vetted or socialized with any organization in the Quarter. She wants Homeland Security to make a presentation to explain the program. Ms. Rosenberg asked that the money go to the Task Force and add the responsibilities to the force. Ms. Cavett is concerned that these are not post-certified officers, but private patrol or rangers.

\$110,000 additional camera and equipment for FQMD. Ms. Cavett where are the cameras going?

\$55,000 for someone in the City's accounting office to track where and how the money is going.

Ms. Frankic reported that the Improvement Fund does not have to be finalized at the same time as the general operating budget

Big Bellys are getting retrofitted.

Ms. Fulk reported that the streetlight and sidewalk surveys were done.

Mr. Pendleton said that Ms. Frankic will be on task with accountability of the sanitation contract.

Leftover clutter, wiring, sand, etc. issue not being resolved. Ms. Cavett asked if the movie office at the City should be required to remove their leftover clutter or get fined. Ms. McGovern described the barrels, and barricades that are left over from construction, NOPD.

Gateways are still bad. Mr. Pendleton said that Palmer wants to get funding from the DDD that they are not spending on the 100 block to be spent by FQMD.

Ms. Fulk reported on sidewalks. There is too much to do, if only focus on the S&W Board where the meter pipes are sticking up and are an additional hazard. Ms. Cavett reported if a repair is done, they do a temporary repair to see if the problem was resolved and are supposed to come back and permanently

repair. There are two departments that need to coordinate and repair S&W B that contracts out to large construction companies. The bricklayers are smaller companies and are faster to make their repairs.

Multiple streetlight bases have been removed and paved over where a streetlight should have been installed.

Ms. Rosenberg asked if DPW and S&WB could come to FQMD board meeting to explain. Ms. Cavett suggested that she and Frankic go to DPW to get a figure on how much it would be to fix all these sidewalk issues. The contractor takes our study as a guide to make their own list of repairs. Mr. Pendleton will send the list of SW&B repairs to Mr. LaGrange cc Kristin Palmer and Andrew Sullivan to be done before carnival and festival seasons begin. Should be able to fix quickly.

Ms. Cavett want the \$211,00 for sidewalk cleaning to be reallocated to the 100 block streets including the alleys i.e. Clinton Street where there is heavy drug use.

Ms. McGovern reported that Cm. Palmer's office was notified about filming that will have a large impact on businesses in the Quarter and has not been permitted and the proper contacts were not provided. There is a concern about the scale and length of time of the filming. Film approved the permit. Parking already approved and the signs already went up. But NOPD and NOFD have not approved. Ms. Rosenberg said that the floats are not allowed in the Quarter. Ms. McGovern requested that Ms. Frankic support FQBA because this should not be permitted without due process. Ms. Cavett said no articulated vehicles of 30' without a special permit.

Ms. McGovern noted that road closures are not addressed by one department in City Hall and asked that in 2020 FQMD advocate for there to be a consolidated road closure coordination/coordinator. Rosenberg suggested that Task Force enforce fire lane and corner parking. Mr. Pendleton said this could be a 2020 goal.

There was a traffic enforcement officer in the Task Force but there does not seem to be doing this anymore. The turning radius for a vehicles is 31' and the tour buses cannot make those turns. When a hotel applies for a permit and the driver is supposed to have that route with them.

Ms. Cavett wants the city to require that special events must provide security plan so that emergency responders can get down the street. Mr. Pendleton remarked that enforcement remains the problem.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:01