



Wednesday, February 5, 2020
3:00 – 4:00 pm
Brennan's Restaurant
417 Royal Street, New Orleans

Livability Committee Meeting Notes

Members Present: Gail Cavett, Christian Pendleton, Brittany McGovern, Lee Tucker

Members Absent: Beverly Fulk, Kim Rosenberg, Adrienne Thomas

Guests: Erin Holmes, Karley D. Frankic

- A. Call to Order 2:05 and Introduction of Attendees
- B. Adoption of November 2019 meeting notes **McGovern made motion, Cavett seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously**

C.

Mr. Pendleton reported on French Quarter Improvement Fund, FQMD was successful in lobbying for drainage cleaning & repair. That was a big win. There are still some things we are struggling to resolve, but overall this is a credit to all the work that everyone has put into the effort.

Sidewalk repair will get \$500,000 and we will have a voice in the sanitation contract. Streetlight repair will get a quarter million dollars. There is back and forth with the City about Quality of Life. Karley reported on meeting re: code enforcement

The City is going to work with FQMD volunteers to get recommendations for priorities and will spread it across the Quarter.

- a. Secure allocation of funding and contracts to repair damaged sidewalks
 - b. Play and active role in renegotiating City contract for sanitation services
 - c. Secure allocation of funding and contracts to scope catch basins and storm drains for blockages and collapses
 - d. Secure funding and verify installation and repair of streetlights
 - e. Secure funding and verify implementation of Sanitation Ranger and Quality of Experience Officer for the French Quarter
- D. Presentation by Gail Cavett on Sanitation Issues:
- a. Review research findings on Sanitation contract which terminates December 2020
 - b. Discussion of impact of debris in drainage issue regarding debris in catch basins
- E. New business
- a. Hard Rock Hotel
 - i. Via Brittany McGovern:
On Friday, January 31, 2020, a meeting was held with constituents to discuss the impending Hard Rock Hotel collapse demolition. In attendance were:

Amy Stelly, VCPORA
Andrew Sullivan, CNO-District C



Brittany Mulla McGovern, FQBA
Cindy Connick, NOBC
Councilmember Kristin G Palmer, CNO-District C
David Morris, CNO
Eleanor Burke, HDLC
Erin Holmes, VCPORA
Gary Panariello, Thornton Tomasetti
Gordon McLeod, PRC
Jeanne H. Boughton, PRC
Karley Frankic, FQMD
Leigh Ferguson, DDD
Michael Duplantier, LA Landmarks Society
Miguel Viteri, CNO-CPA
Peter Trapolin, PRC
Ramsey Green, CNO-DCAO
Sandra Stokes, LA Landmarks Society
Superintendent Tim McConnell, NOFD

The City hired Manafort Brothers Inc., a third-party firm, to review all proposals submitted by contractors and the developer's insurance company and is managed by Viteri.

Gary Panariello, of Thornton Tomasetti, will design the implosion. Panariello coordinated the World Trade Center Disaster Site Recovery, as well as the Hard Rock Hotel collapse crane demolition. Panariello's plan is to first demolish 1019 and 1027 Canal Streets and 1022 Iberville Street; set a series of implosions to systemically collapse 1031 Canal Street; and then manage victim and evidence recovery during the rubble removal. The systematic collapse will bring the steel structure down atop the concrete parking garage and the parking garage down to grade. Vibrations are controlled by the number of explosives used and the sequence of detonation. Superintendent McConnell stated that the vibrations felt in the immediate area will be "less than a pile driver." The surrounding underground infrastructure on Rampart and Iberville Streets will be protected by matting and sand, like they were the crane demolition; the underground infrastructure on Canal Street is deeper and newer. There is a contingency plan if infrastructure is affected. A double-container and blast curtains will be placed in front of Saenger Theater. The implosion will create 50-feet of steel rubble atop up to 20-feet of crushed concrete, which can be safely removed at ground level. D.H. Griffin Wrecking will handle the demolition once 1031 Canal Street is felled.

Like the crane collapse, there will be an evacuation zone and an exclusion zone (shelter in place). It will take roughly ten specialists 4-5 days to run the explosives. Underground utilities will be prepped one month prior to the implosion. The zones should be completely collapsed approximately two months post implosion. The entire plan should take 3 months maximum (victim and evidence recovery protocol adds a month to a timeline).

Panariello explained that 1019 and 1027 Canal Street and 1022 Iberville Street must be removed to stop a "domino effect" from the imploded rubble. Usually, a building is collapsed into its own basement.

To date, this is the fourth plan submitted by various contractors and the developer's insurance company. Cranes cannot be utilized for a dismantling demolition for two



reasons: a crane operator must visually see what they are connecting to for safety and the length and width of the crane required for 1031 Canal Street cannot be stabilized by New Orleans' soil.

The likely implosion date is the week of March 15, 2020 or soon afterwards.

ii. Ms. McGovern: Who is taking responsibilities for the neighboring buildings?

- b. Mr. Tucker discussed his interest in Quality of Life tried to work with the City Council, Cultural Economy, 8th District, and French Market Corporation about things getting worse and worse. The loud music in the Jackson Square is causing problems for the Cathedral. Have sent emails and videos to the Cm. Palmers office and have been told that the noise ordinance is hard to enforce. Cavett said that you can sign a disturbing the peace complaint a formal legal complaint with the NOPD 8th District for a specific person disturbing your business or home. You will have to follow through with the legal process. Pendleton suggested using the Task Force App. Tucker would like to push the City to act on the 1992 Jackson Avenue Task Force and want to move the performers on the other side of the berm. McGovern reported that Kathleen Turner has resigned as the director of the French Market Corporation and Leslie Alley is the interim director of FMC. The break dancers are violating the rules of booking the artillery park space for performance. Scott Hutchinson was the last director of the Cultural Economy Office used that used Tulane students that mapped incorrectly mapped the permitted uses at Jackson Square that did not reference the law. They have had a meeting with the current administration about resolving these issues. Pendleton asked if Tucker has worked with the Cathedral? Tucker said that the priest doesn't even live in the rectory and has not taken an interest. Emphasis on time place and manner. It is a residential area considering the Pontabla is residential. Frankic suggested that Tucker work with Cavett on reviewing the law and create corrected maps.

F. Adjournment 3:09