

French Quarter MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Notes Livability Committee Meeting

Wednesday 3 June 2020
2:10 to 3:10pm

Via Teleconference:

<https://meetings.ringcentral.com/j/1497920985>

Meeting ID: 149 792 0985

Video:

<https://meetings.ringcentral.com/personallink.html>

Audio:

+1 (469) 445 0100

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 2:10 pm

I. and Introduction of Attendees

LIVABILITY COMMITTEE			
First Name	Last Name	Present	Absent
Christian	Pendleton	X	
Gail	Cavett		X
Beverly	Fulk		X
Brittany	McGovern	X	
Kim	Rosenberg	X	
Adrienne	Thomas		X
Dave	Jorgensen	X	
Lee	Tucker		X

GUESTS		
First Name	Last Name	Role
Karley	Frankic	Executive Director
Erin	Holmes	VCPOA
Jane	Cooper	Commissioner
Mamie	Gasperecz	Commissioner

II. Adoption of March and May 2020 meeting notes

There was not a quorum of committee members present to approve the prior meeting notes.

III. Discussion of the rollout of the Keep the Quarter Clean Campaign

Ms. Cooper reported on the Keep the Quarter Clean overview that has been filled in with the project plan and it is in process. The program is important because FQMD has wants to take advantage of the work that has been done during the COVID shutdown to sparkle up the French Quarter. And as the tourists return to our businesses we want to assure that we maintain the similar level of cleanliness. The information in the overview is factual and want our partners to make this apart of our daily activities in the French Quarter. We are waiting to see if the City is going to make any further changes to the Sanitation programming in the neighborhood. Ms. Gasperecz added that she is collecting the VCC inspector and staff pictures on the French Quarter to include with the campaign. We have started to put together a list of partner organizations and they are all excited about reaching out on the social media front. Ms. Frankic is working on the budget numbers. FQMA is also working on a light pole banner program and she is working on coordinating with them. There will be shop window decals and bumper stickers available to our neighbors. Balcony banners are considered temporary signage and therefore not reviewed by VCC and they are expected to be allowed for 90 days. Ms. Frankic is contacting the

French Quarter MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

owners of the billboard at N. Rampart and Esplanade, with hopes that the owner will consider donation of the sign rental. The group is putting together a list of potential donors and sponsors. Mr. Pendleton thanked the team for their hard work and thinks this a great way to strengthen FQMD's relationship with the City as partners.

IV. Update on bi-annual surveys

a. Sidewalk assessment

Mr. Pendleton noted that Gail Cavett normally heads up the sidewalk survey but she was not in attendance. Mr. Jorgensen reported that he, Ms. Cavett and Bob Simms have been working together on the format for the survey to inform the report. The survey has not made much progress since the middle of May. Ms. Cavett had done most of Royal Street with 20 segments of road that required surveying. There is a breakdown of the type of hazard and a breakdown of costs. As they add more data they can go out and evaluate the cost structures he has added to the report. Mr. Jorgensen reviewed a sample of his report template with a map showing streets surveyed, and a spreadsheet. He noted that manhole covers and water meter covers were a primary location of hazardous damages from Sewerage & Water Board repairs that left the sidewalk in disrepair. The spreadsheet informs charts showing the amount of repair needed to the amount of work completed. Mr. Jorgensen explained the classifications of hazards. A minor hazard would not cause a trip or fall. A hazard would cause a trip or fall. And major hazard would cause a major impediment to traffic on that sidewalk. He noted that hazard & major hazard would be an ADA violation. He noted that there is a lot of sidewalks in the French Quarter that are not compliant with the VCC guidance. He noted that there is still a lot of sidewalk to assess. Mr. Jorgensen noted that he is out of town and Ms. Cavett has been encumbered by other things to past few weeks and the project has come to a standstill for at least two weeks. Ms. Frankic asked that he share the criteria for doing the field work. Mr. Jorgensen said that he would defer to Ms. Cavett as the leader of the assessment team. He noted that the process was as simple as taking a picture and noting the condition of the photographed conditions and emailing it to him to enter the data points into the spreadsheet. Ms. Cavett trained him in her methodology and is the best to train new volunteers, but he could do the training remotely if Ms. Cavett is not available. Ms. Rosenberg said that she is more than happy to work with Ms. Cavett to start volunteering to complete the fieldwork.

Ms. Cooper asked if weeds in sidewalks were the responsibility of the property owner or the City? Ms. Frankic noted that the property owner is responsible for the sidewalk from 18" from the curb to their property. It is difficult to enforce for damages, but the weeds would be the responsibility of the owner. She noted that if the sidewalks were pressure washed as per the City contract, the weeds would not be growing in the sidewalks. Ms. Rosenberg noted that the city ordinances that allows owners to be fined. She noted that there are locations where the pressure washers could damage the building or sidewalk to get out the weed roots.

French Quarter MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

b. Streetlight conditions

Ms. Fulk was not in attendance to report on the status of the streetlight assessment.

Mr. Pendleton asked about the status of the FQIF lamp poles that the City said would arrive and be installed several months ago. **Mr. Pendleton asked Ms. Frankic to follow up with the City and find out the status of the delivery and installation.** He recalled that Ms. Fulk had previously reported that if all of the FQIF lamp poles were installed the neighborhood would be at 95%. Ms. Frankic reported on a call with Toro Balance, an engineering company that has been working with the City's Director of Utilities, about creating a 4G and 5G cell tower design to look like a French Quarter lamp pole that would be about 20' tall. The City's position that there would be no net gain in cell poles in the French Quarter. The idea is that they would replace the existing Crown Castle poles with these new lamp post style poles. Which raises the question of if existing lamp poles are replaced with these Toro Blanco poles, how will the removed poles be relocated. **Mr. Pendleton asked Ms. Frankic to report back on the cell tower designs and pole replacement.** Ms. Cooper wanted to assure that the poles were not trashed. Mr. Pendleton noted that if the poles were removed that the FQIF be reimbursed.

V. New business

Mr. Pendleton asked Ms. Frankic to report on the latest information on 5G small cell deployment in the French Quarter. She reported that the French Quarter executive directors had been working closely with the City to keep on top of the issue. Verizon has applied to SHPO for Section 106 review. They are proposing about 75 poles with about 50 being replacements and remainder being new installations. She understood that VCC was going to reject the proposal because it was not accurate to the locations and they want to see photo rendering of each location. AT&T is going to be submitting soon and T-Mobile was moving slower. The cell carriers want the poles installed by the end of the year so they are motivated to work with the City to use Toro Blanco design. She noted that they are working with NOHSEP about incorporating security cameras into the design that are compatible with the Real Time Crime Center. The City is also looking at incorporating water gauges for real time reporting of street flooding. Mr. Pendleton wanted to know the plan to maintain the poles to assure that the lights are working. **Ms. Frankic will look into the maintenance responsibility.** Ms. McGovern noted that maintenance would be the responsibility of the carrier that owns the poles. She said that the lights would have to be brighter because they will be taller, and the lights will have a wider spread to get past the 5G antenna but would have a similar light brightness. Ms. Gasperecz reported that the VCC met this week and voted to create a committee to work on the Section 106 for this issue.

VI. Next Meeting Date: The next meeting date is July 1st

VII. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 2:54pm