

Second Meeting - OLD GOODWOOD CRIME PREVENTION AND NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

BOARD MEETING MINUTES - AUGUST 25, 2021 - submitted by Betty Powers, Secretary

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM. After the pledge of allegiance and prayer, the first order of business was the Administration of the Oath of Office, conducted by Sheri Morris, attorney with Daigle, Fisse, & Kessenich, to Commissioner Dan Boudreaux, who missed our first meeting. Commissioners present at this meeting were: Dan Boudreaux, Debbye Calmes, Scott Lachney, Dana Lawton, Nickie Monica, and Betty Powers. Commissioner Don Allison was absent due to a family medical emergency. Commissioner Lachney moved, Commissioner Calmes seconded, and the body accepted the minutes from the meeting of August 12, 2021.

New Business: Discussion of a Proposed Budget

Mr. Ronnie Harris, a member of the Board of the Goodwood Property Owners Association (GPOA), as per request of this board, presented a methodology for determining how to create a budget for the Old Goodwood Crime Prevention and Neighborhood Improvement District (OGCPNID). He looked at the 96 squares within the boundaries of the GPOA and counted the number of parcels in each square. The result was 2,084 residential parcels and 229 commercial parcels. Not counted were common areas, individual apartments within an apartment complex, governmental property, and property belonging to nonprofits, such as schools and churches. He did not have the information as to how many special assessments there are in OGCPNID, which would be exempt from the parcel fee. This information is available from the tax assessor's office. Mr. Harris' calculation, using the \$125/residential parcel fee and the \$400/commercial parcel fee at a collection rate of 96%, would give the District a budget of \$352,100 per year. To hire a private police patrol for 16 hours per day, 365 days per year, from the Baton Rouge City Police or the EBR Sherriff's Office at \$35/hour was calculated to be \$204,400. The hourly rate would be expected to increase as the years go by. Any money not spent on police officers working private duty could be spent on technology, such as traffic cameras, as well as other neighborhood improvements. These numbers are estimates. No specific budget is available at this time for discussion, as only a general percentage of collected assessments is available at this point in the process.

Other discussion ensued regarding the crime rate within the GPOA. Crime statistics are available on the Internet. Commissioner Monica agreed to obtain crime statistics specific to the Old Goodwood area. He emphasized the importance of input from the public and that the Board create a clear mission statement and goals. Risk management was also discussed, i.e. private patrol officers are not covered by worker's compensation insurance, the Parish Attorney's office should be addressed in regard to risk management questions, The Federation of Civic Associations is another resource for insurance questions, the GPOA has an Officers & Directors insurance policy and this Board should consider purchasing this type of insurance as well.

Commissioner Monica announced that we now have a post office box at the Audubon Post Office on Government St. and that the Goodwood Library has allowed us to reserve a meeting room for a year.

Attorney Morris assured the Board that personal financial disclosure is not required of members of boards which handle less than \$500,000.00 of public funds per year. Every calendar year each member has to take a class in ethics and in sexual harassment.

Selection of Date for the Next Meeting: Wednesday, September 8, 2021 at 6 PM, Goodwood Library, meeting room B.

The motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Lachney, seconded by Commissioner Calmes, and approved by the Board.