

FGCAC

Special Meeting Tuesday, August 29

ATTENDANCE:	REPRESENTING
Bishop Ryan Warner	Councilmember Fielkow
Tommy Lewis	Councilmember Midura
Chief Jimmy Scott	NOPD/Fair Grounds Race Course
Carlyn Goodwin Ducre	Mayor Nagin
Sherry Watters	Councilmember Midura
Austin Miller	Fair Grounds Race Course
Mark Conner	Fair Grounds Race Course
Daphne Lesage	Councilmember Midura
Sandra Salmen	Fair Grounds Race Course
Linda Landesberg	Councilmember Carter

Meeting called to order 6:06 pm by Bishop Warner.

Introductions of new attendees: Mark Conner, Director of Marketing Fair Grounds Race Course and Slots.

Grand Opening at the Fair Grounds

Austin Miller, Gave an overview of what will transpire in moving the slots facility to the new building. Beginning with the close of business on November 2 the now existing facility will be closed and we will continue with a soft opening until the Grand Opening of the new facility. This coincides with the beginning of the 137th thoroughbred race meet. When the facility opens it will have 350 new machines and the other machines from the old facility will be transported to the new facility.

The committee was then asked to seek a waiver from the councilmember's they represent, of the proviso of amplified music in the paddock area for a grand opening event that would take place on Friday, November 14th.

Linda Landsberg, asked if a time line had been put in place for the live music in the paddock?

Mark Conner, said the latest the music would play would probably be 9:00 pm. He went on to say this would be a controlled event and not pose a problem he thought with the neighborhood from a noise or light prospective.

Daphne Lesage, asked would the entertainment be one entertainer or a whole band?

Mark Conner, it would be a whole band. The person he has been in contact with was the poster person for last years Jazz Festival.

Carlyn Ducre, asked if she was available for the date?

Mark Conner, said she is available.

Austin Miller, responded that this would take place after the last race and that we would close the Mystery Street gate at the regular race day time 6:00 pm.

Austin Miller, addressed and asked the group what are your thoughts or concerns?

Linda Landesberg, what day of the week is November 14.

Tommy Lewis, are you limited to the number of people to attend for when you say free, you could end up with a large crowd. And how many sets and how long will the sets be?

Mark Conner, we are thinking 3 forty minute sets.

Daphne Lesage, lives on Maupras and said she did not think the music would be loud enough to disturb the neighborhood.

Carlyn Ducre, will this event be advertised in the media?

Mark Conner, no not to the public.

Jimmy Scott, police are in place and with the parking there should be no concern with the parking.

Tommy Lewis, as a group we can't make this decision it will need to be taken to the councilmember's we represent.

Sherry Watters, The DeSaix Neighborhood Association will go along with the decision of the group.

Linda Landesberg, suggest a letter be sent to all neighbors who live on Fortin Street to inform them of the event.

Carlyn Ducre, believes the Mayor will consent to the groups' recommendation.

Sherry Watters, was going to approach Councilmember Midura at another meeting she was attending later that evening to inform her of the request by the Fair Grounds.

Tommy Lewis and Linda Landesberg, will contact Kate Parker, the President of the Fauberg St. John Neighborhood Association and get her feed back.

Bishop Warner, Asked if we could then put into the minutes the recommendations after all parties are contacted.

Daphne Lesage, asked if there would be additional lighting for the event?

Austin Miller, said no extra lighting would be needed.

Sandra Salmen, updated the group on the new fencing that is in the process of going up. One of Sherry Watters members had gotten a flat tier and Sherry had notified us. In turn Dave Martin was notified and was going to ask the fencing company to please not throw any old fencing in the street.

Austin Miller, with the new fencing it will cost over \$600,000.

Bishop Warner, reminded the group the next meeting would take place on Tuesday, November 4 at 4:00 pm in the Executive Conference Room.

Austin Miller, offered to give anyone interested a tour of the new facility as it is today.

Tommy Lewis moved that we adjourn

Linda Landesberg seconded the motion.

Meeting adjourned at 6:31 pm