

## OANA General Meeting Minutes — 7/20/17

Turnout was high for the General Meeting held at the Maumus Center on July 20th, and 8 new households joined the OANA.

New President Barry Lemoine called the meeting to order at 7 p.m with the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by a short video about the history of the building. He then introduced the new Officers and Board Members and explained their roles and the committees they will be chairing.

- Alison Barrios is our new Treasurer, in charge of all things money and developing our presence on Facebook.
- Vice President Charlie LeSage will be heading up the membership committee.
- Troy Barrios, chairman of the beautification committee, reported that he and the directors of the Old Arabi Community Garden have raised almost all of the funds necessary for the garden's new fences, thanks to donations from local businesses. They hope to have the fences up by October, in time to hold a Pumpkin Patch event there.
- Jenifer Heintz, our Sunshine coordinator, asked that folks contact her if they know of members in need of or deserving sunshine (birthdays, anniversaries, illnesses, condolences).
- Ray Lauga continues to head up the Sugar Fest committee, and announced the first meeting to be held on July 26th at the Sugar Museum. Sugar Fest is October 14th.

Signup sheets were provided for members interested in getting involved with any of the committees.

Barry then announced that the first fall Sippin' in the Sunset will take place September 21st, which is the International Day of Peace (get out your tie-dye and peace symbols!). Organizers are Katherine Lemoine and Shelli Gifford, and vendor applications will now be mailed to our post office box (watch for more details on this website, by e-mail and on Facebook).

A few other neighborhood happenings were mentioned. Planetarium shows are continuing through July, and schedules were available for pick-up. The Kitchen Table restaurant offers 1/2 price wine on Thursdays from 5 till close. Thursday is also Trivia Night at the 40 Arpent Taproom.

Following those announcements, the floor was opened for questions. One member asked if we had t-shirts -- we don't, but will look into it. Another brought up safety concerns caused by speeding cars and large trucks on our residential streets. This has been an ongoing problem for years, and will be alleviated when

the new access road to the sugar refinery is completed, but meanwhile a couple of good suggestions were put forward. Electronic speed monitoring signs can be requested; and a motion was passed for the Board to draft a letter, to be brought to the next General Meeting, expressing serious concerns about traffic safety in the neighborhood. Barry clarified that, though the purpose of the Association is mainly social and not political, we will address topics such as this and others (e.g. development and the locks project).

A Member Social will be held sometime in late August (details to be announced). Door prizes—a pair of hats and a gift certificate to the Coffee House—were awarded, and the meeting was adjourned at around 7:45.