

**LAKE OAKS CIVIC ASSOCIATION NEIGHBORHOOD**  
**Meeting Notes/Summary**  
**Meeting Date - Thursday, September 1, 2022 – 7:00 pm**  
**The Chapel of the Holy Comforter**

**Phalon Cornist, President:**

- Extended Congratulations and expressed appreciation to Esmond Carr and Sandra Green for their placement and service on the Lakefront Management Authority Board.
- Introduced the Lake Oaks Civic Association Board to the new neighbors in attendance and welcomed them to our neighborhood family.

**Upcoming Events:**

**Fried Chicken Festival** – Saturday and Sunday, October 1 and 2, 2022

Lakefront – Franklin Avenue to Senator Ted Hickey (Seabrook) Bridge

Neighborhood concern: parking

**Night Out Against Crime** – Tuesday, October 4, 2022 – Lark Street Park at Elysian Fields (Time? tba)

👉➡️➡️ **Neighbor Request:** Donations of refreshments, helping hands, etc.

**Steak Dinner** – October 8, 2022 – 3:00 pm – 8 pm (or until food runs out).

To honor and show appreciation to the Levee Board Police Department

Police eat free. Neighbors and friends can reserve and/or purchase a dinner. (Price? tba)

👉➡️➡️ **Neighbor Request:** Donations of refreshments, monetary donations, helping hands, etc.

**Halloween – “Trunk or Treat”** - October 31, 2022 – Lark Street Park at Elysian Fields – Sundown until ...

Ghouls and monster neighbors are encouraged to costume and decorate cars.

We’re working on a plan to get the best access to trunks.

The hope is that we’ll be able to block the entrances at Music and Mandeville off Leon C Simon.

The plan is to route trick or treaters to enter at Lark Street and exit at either Music or Mandeville.

Participation without a car is also welcome... treats can be offered at a table, chair, etc.

Many neighbors may prefer to give out treats at their homes... trick or treaters are welcome to go from house to house also.

**String Quartet** – November 26, 2022 – 6 to 8 pm – This is a lovely event to set the mood for the holidays.

👉➡️➡️ **Neighbor Request:** Donations of refreshments, helping hands, etc.

**Brunch with Santa** – December 18, 2022 – 12 noon to 3 pm

We need a Santa Clause! Come volunteer to spend some time making neighborhood kids and parents happy!

Please reach out if you’d like to be the star of the show or if you know of anyone interested in being Santa.

👉➡️➡️ **Neighbor Request:** Donations of refreshments, monetary donations, helping hands, etc.

Phalon explained that he organizes these events to help us get to know our neighbors, which is a huge piece of our ***safety plan!*** We can keep each other safer when know each other and have each other’s backs.

**Other Business:**

**Car Stickers** - Lake Oaks Neighborhood Car Stickers are a great way for identification of neighbors. Stickers were offered to everyone and provided to the new neighbors in attendance.

Jose expressed thanks to Emily Edmondson ... for getting our website up and running. The website can be found at **[lakeoaksnola.com](http://lakeoaksnola.com)**.

**Lake Oaks Nola** is our identification. Please join our Facebook and Nextdoor.com groups - Lake Oaks Nola and follow us on Instagram @lakeoaksnola.

**Cameras** – We've purchased three cameras and are working on getting one or two more. We're looking for neighbors who are willing to assist with the placement and use of the cameras. Please reach out if you are able to assist.

We're also working with the city to find out it would be possible to get a camera at the corner of Leon C Simon and Elysian Fields as there are often accidents there... as many as two per week.

**Pontchartrain Beach** - The Pontchartrain Beach Foundation is still working to get the plan approved. The lease needs three approvals from the Lakefront Management Authority.

Phalon indicated that he's pretty sure that this will be in our backyard one way or another. So, we should have some control over how things are done. To be sure that things are not getting pushed past us, we need to **'show up'**! He wants to let everyone know that we should all be trying to get as much information as possible by attending meetings ... neighborhood, city council, Security District, etc. We need to **'show up'** to keep our neighborhood safe and to preserve our quiet. We need to **'show up'** at the Levee Board meetings and the City Council meetings that involve us. Power is in numbers.

- Tentative and definitive dates for Lakefront Management Authority meetings can be found at [nolalakefront.com](http://nolalakefront.com).

**Security Tax** - John Pierce, Treasurer of the Security District, indicated that the November elections will include the vote to re-fund the security tax in the amount of \$400 per household. Unfortunately, although we are currently very underfunded for security, we likely will not be able to raise that amount. A flyer will be distributed to neighbors with the actual wording as it will appear on the ballot will be distributed. It will be a majority vote. Phalon said we will just have to make the current amount work.

### **Jose Prado – Treasurer**

As of July 31, 2022, the balance of the account was \$18,587.97 with nothing outstanding. Paid HOA memberships are up to 152 so we're trending in the right direction. When Phalon took over, we were at 92 homes and last year we were at 128. The neighborhood is comprised of 314 properties. Phalon said the dues at \$25 don't come close to covering the events we put on. We're able to do many of the things due to the generosity of neighbors.

### **Motions –**

Jose Prado presented –

- Motion to spend up to \$150 out of Lake Oaks Civic Association's general fund for drinks/refreshments for Halloween.
- Motion to spend up to \$750 out of Lake Oaks Civic Association's general fund for the String Quartet Holiday Kickoff.
- Motion to spend up to \$750 out of Lake Oaks Civic Association's general fund for brunch with Santa.

Phalon Cornist presented:

- Motion to raise the Association Dues from \$25 to \$40 beginning next year, January 1, 2023.

**All of the above motions were seconded, then passed with all in favor.**

Jose expressed appreciation and thanks to –

- Deneen Dahn for the list of email and phone numbers which will help in getting all of the homes informed.
- Emily Edmondson all she's done and is doing with getting our website and social media up and going.

- Councilman Eugene Greene's office for making efforts to do things like getting our lights up and working. We still have some down with the critical ones being the one at the entrance to the neighborhood on Lark and missing one at music and oriole, corner of music and lake oaks.

Phalon explained that we're making efforts to get the email and text list organized and he and Jose are asking neighbors to provide contact information including email and cell phone numbers to Jose Prado - [jpradolakeoaks@aol.com](mailto:jpradolakeoaks@aol.com), 310-890-3648 and/or Lisa Ahmed - [lahmed@latterblum.com](mailto:lahmed@latterblum.com), 504-495-8145. We're also requesting that neighbors talk with their neighbors regarding providing information for this list. Going forward, we will be using email, texts, our facebook group, nextdoor group, and website to communicate with everyone. Distribution of flyers to homes will be done very seldom ... only for special/important events. Jose explained the process we use to send things blind so that information is kept confidential. The list is kept current by Jose Prado and Lisa Ahmed. It will not be shared with anyone and will not be used for anything other than our neighborhood communications.

### **Anne Kiefer – Liaison to Councilman Eugene Green's Office**

Anne expresses her belief that if we work together, things will get better. She wants everyone to know that we're in this together and we'll get through it together. She requests that everyone please keep reaching out to her and Councilman Greene's office for help.

Trees blocking lights and hanging low in streets were mentioned. Ann will provide the name of the contact to Phalon.

She invites everyone to attend meetings of a small non-profit, Voices of the Victims of Crime. The group meets the second Wednesday of the month at the Newman Center at 6:00 pm. Councilman Eugene Green is always there. September 14<sup>th</sup> is the next meeting.

**Breezeways** – levee board promised us four maintenance cuts per year ... effort will be made to get a clean up organized.

Phalon will take on the effort to get Rouses to clean up their store and location.

Phalon mentioned that we can provide service hours because we are non-profit. So, any teenagers looking for service hours are encouraged to reach out to get information about how they can help.

Sallie Arnoult announced that neighbor, Dr. Norman Francis, will be honored with the documentary, "A Legacy of Leadership". It will be shown on WYES Tuesday, September 27. Congratulations Dr. Francis!

**Please feel free to contact any of us with any questions, concerns, requests, suggestions, etc.**

### **Lake Oaks Civic Association Contact Information:**

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Lisa Ahmed, Secretary – (504) 495-8145 – [lahmed@latterblum.com](mailto:lahmed@latterblum.com)

