

Update 6-4-21

Most people know by now that the zoning text change in the ordinance to keep short-term rentals out of our previously zoned "single-family" dwellings passed muster at the Zoning Commission hearing on June 1, 2021. Now we must email or hard copy our councilman, Jake Airey, to keep it that way. Our councilmen will have the last say when it comes up for the final council vote that enacts it into law. Details and a YouTube link to the Zoning Commission meeting is posted at www.eiohforum.com under "community issues".

There are several issues that need to be addressed. If there is a rental next to you that is causing a problem for you, it is code enforcement's job is to visit and handle the situation. The tax status of that residence can be investigated as it is illegal to claim homestead exemption if the owner is not living in the house or a for-profit business is being operated. The parish will place a cease and desist order on the property.

You should submit a complaint form to the Code Enforcement department. A copy of the form is available on the "Links" tab at www.eiohforum.com

It is embarrassing to say and with heart felt sorrow, that our parish president, Mike Cooper, the one we worked so hard throughout the neighborhood to get elected, has pulled his backing, along with the Army Corps of Engineers for our flood protection project. His reasoning, as I understand, is that if he goes against the Corps, the rest of the parish will not receive flood protection. Sad, Sad, Sad. It was our effort that created the levee board that drew up the plans, got the studies done, and fought throughout these 15 years to see fruition. There are several excuses used to come to this conclusion, but my personal opinion is that President Cooper needs to be reminded how this side of the parish carried him. There is a plan to visit him and if you want to go, let us know. I would like representatives of Moonraker, Eden Isles, Oak Harbor and Clipper Estates present at the meeting. The other neighborhoods of our Southeast Slidell should join us as well. I know our levee board is hard at work on an alternative. Their message is, "Don't give up. It's not over." More on this issue at another time.

Recently no trespassing signs were posted along the lake side of Moonraker Dr. I have been hard at work to find the source. I looked up the company name on the signs and what came up was the newest subdivision along the service road which does not make sense. The signs don't look official, and when I called the number on them, the sheriff's department indicated that it doesn't know anything about the signs or their legality. Parish sent Sgt. Casnave to investigate. Parish ordinance called me to say that we should wait for several weeks to see if anyone sees something or knows something to report. Please let me know. This situation is a first.

The parish's "New Directions 2040 Plan" coupled with the survey that followed does not appear to coincide with the desires of our residents. see <https://mailchi.mp/0284e2f2b61f/new-directions-2040-newsletter-2>

I beg you to stay informed. Join the Moonraker homeowners' organization, just \$50 for the year. see www.moonrakerisland.org

We need to pull our neighborhoods together and work towards a stronger voice. In that spirit we met with Rick Franzo of the Concerned Citizens of St. Tammany organization on June 3, 2021. Their group is a parish wide citizens advocate that has been very effective in the past in resolving problems with the parish. In our meeting it was found that our goals and concerns were in close alignment. The thought is that we would have a much stronger voice with our elected officials if our neighborhoods also became members of their group. See www.ccstp.org and their Facebook site. Their focus is on good government. Some of their present concerns are accountability of elected officials, taxes, flood protection and getting an inspector general. They also agreed to investigate the short term rental problem.

Thanks,
Bonnie Peyroux