

**St. John the Baptist Parish
Economic Development Committee**
Minutes of Regular Meeting
July 11, 2016

ATTENDANCE:

Present:

Michelle Jenkins
James Oubre, Jr.
Peggy Joseph
Leroy Mitchell
Betty Joseph

Robert Taylor

Absent:

Tomy Acosta

Evin Stein

Staff:

Jerry Jones
Denise Burrell

Guest:

Que Timoll
Wayne Aucoin
Lois Frank
Corey Butler
Sheryl Gaines
Mrs. Taylor
Larry Surapuru
Sylvia Taylor
Larry Snyder

I. Call to Order

Chairwoman Peggy Joseph called meeting to order at 12:19 p.m.

II. Roll Call

Six (6) Committee members were present and Two (2) absent. Quorum was met.

III. Prayer and Pledge

Prayer was led by Mr. Leroy Mitchell. Michelle Jenkins led pledge of Allegiance.

- 2 New Committee Stakeholders from St. John the Baptist Parish School Board (Mrs. Que Timoll-Assistant Superintendent & Mr. Corey Butler-ESJ Principal)
- Introduction of Board Members & Staff
- Floor Open for comments (Councilman Larry Snyder & Councilman At Large Div. A Larry Surapuru welcome new stake holders and guest)

IV. Adoption of Minutes from June 6, 2016 Meeting

Motion from Robert Taylor and seconded by James Oubre, Jr to adopt the minutes of the June 6, 2016 meeting with no changes or corrections.

V. Monthly EDC Update

EDC Director Jerry Jones reviewed monthly economic update. Over the past month, Mr. Jones met, hosted, and/or participated in the following:

- Ron Busby-Sr. President of U.S. Black Chambers, Inc. at the 2016 Essence Festival Small Business Summit in New Orleans, LA.
- Greater New Orleans Inc.-Met with their business development staff on ways to increase the attractiveness St. John has as it relates to potential employers.
- Attended LA LED Lantern Award-annual event was held at the Governor's mansion & is an opportunity to highlight small manufacturing companies in LA. Our Regional Planning Districts receives the nominations for these awards.
- Penelope Freeman at the South Central Technical College-discussed ways the parish could increase partnership with the institution due to a desire to see an increase in student enrollment

from the St. John residents. Agreed to a meeting with Superintendent George to discuss strengthening partnerships.

- River Region Chamber Board Members & Staff-discussed ways partnership can be strengthened between the Chamber and the ED Office.
- Attended St. John Business Association Meeting
- Attended the Workforce Development Board Meeting
- Attended the Port/Presidents Breakfast
- Met with Mrs. Audrey Temple @ St. James ED Office
- Met with Gary Silbert for the selection work in SJP
- Met with Superintendent George to discuss the future collaboration with the ED department & school system. Superintendent George has accepted being a part of the monthly EDC meetings and will be listed under our committee reports.
- Hosted a meeting for the 2016 Andouille Festival
- Met with Charles Daigle, Outlook Inc., to discuss the new ED and Andouille Festival website
- Attended SCPDC Bank meeting
- Attended Education Committee meeting for the Chamber-Chamber has decided to change the name of the committee from Education Committee to Workforce Committee. It will focus on ways we can get students better prepared & qualified for the workforce.
- Attended St. John Federal Teacher Incentive Fund Grant Information Meeting
- Attended a ribbon cutting ceremony for Top Priority Enterprise L.L.C.
- Met with James Moffett with Adams & Reese
- Met with Carl Monica concerning opportunity in Garyville
- Attended the Chamber LIBIA Luncheon @ Oak Alley
- Met Chad Chancellor about target sector information that will be helpful for the site selection
- Independence Day Luncheon was held @ Regala Gym-Governor Edwards was the speaker for the event-hosted almost 480 guest of veterans & their family/love ones
- Independence Day Firework Show & Celebration-held on East & West Bank. Observations were made on how celebration can be enhanced for next year. Would like to incorporate a kids zone at the West Bank cite. Follow up meeting scheduled for this Friday to discuss the 4th of July events
- Met with Cleveland Spears-SJP Media Consultant-SJP has a total of \$90,000 in confirmed sponsorships & another \$40,000 in pending sponsorships for the future of our Andouille Festival
- Met with Joe Banner from the New Orleans Plantation Tourism Commission concerning how they could play a stronger role in the Andouille Festival
- Met with White Oak Productions concerning ways to make sure the office is efficiently working with their company in order to ensure premium entertainment selections
- Attended the Pin Oak Terminal Luncheon
- Attended an announcement at South Central Louisiana Technical College-EDA undersecretary, Jay Williams announced a \$1 million investment in a new Welding Center @ SCL
- Hosted a joint meeting with Penelope Freeman & Kevin George on ways to advance education in SJP
- Met with staff @ the Port of the South Airport-EDC Director are in talks with the airport to promote the Andouille Festival to recreational flyers across the gulf coast. The anticipated amount of planes that will fly in & attend the festival is nearly 40-50 planes. This partnership will be the first of its kind. Shuttle service will be provided to those who fly into our airport.

Open for Discussion-Councilman Larry Snyder had concerns about residents in SJP not attending South Central Technical College & how can the Parish promote enrollment.

Mrs. Que Timoll & Mr. Corey Butler gave a report on how SJP School Board is in discussion to implement for high school students to enroll at South Central Louisiana Technical College

Old Business

VI. New Business

- Ethics Training must be completed by every committee member and submit a copy of certificate to Denise Burrell via email at d.burrell@stjohn-la.gov
- Chairwoman Peggy Joseph request for more participation for the Andouille Festival.

VII. Community Partners Update

- RRCC-Chassity McComack-Absent
- South Central LA Tech-Penny Freeman-Absent
- LSBDC – Wayne Aucoin
 - Certification class start tomorrow, July 12, 2016
 - Next Fast Track class starts Mid-September.
- Tourist and Commission-Joe Banner-Absent
- South Central Planning and Development Commission-Absent
- Workforce-Absent
- Entergy-Absent
- St. John Business Association-Absent

VIII. Items of Interest

Mr. Leroy requested a copy of Robert Rules; a copy will be given to Mr. Mitchell.

IX. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Leroy Mitchell and seconded by Betty Joseph. Meeting was adjourned at 1:44p.m.