

**St. John the Baptist Parish
Economic Development Committee
Minutes of Regular Meeting
September 12, 2016**

ATTENDANCE:

Present:

Tomy Acosta
Michelle Jenkins
James Oubre, Jr.
Peggy Joseph
Leroy Mitchell
Betty Joseph
Robert Taylor

Absent:

Evin Stein

Staff:

Jerry Jones
Denise Burrell
Terri Abadie
Laverne Saulny

Guest:

Lucien Gauff
Joe Banner
Wayne Aucoin
Chasity McComack
Linda Pruddhome
Lois Frank
Steve Fraker
Sheryl Gaines
Mrs. Taylor
Lisa Maloz
Penny Freeman

I. Call to Order

Chairwoman Peggy Joseph called meeting to order at 12:05 p.m.

II. Roll Call

Eight (7) Committee members present with (1) absent-Evin Stein. Quorum was met.

III. Prayer and Pledge

Ms. Betty Joseph led prayer. James Oubre led pledge of Allegiance.

- Meeting open for public comments (3) Minutes (No Comments)

IV. Adoption of Minutes from September 12, 2016 Meeting

Motion from Leroy Mitchell and seconded by Michelle Jenkins to adopt the minutes of the September 12, 2016 meeting with no changes or corrections.

V. Monthly EDC Update-Director's Report

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

- Met with artist Dana Bardell concerning the 2016 Andouille poster.
- Met with EME Consultant to discussion description of contract.(T. Acosta requested EME provide to board a listing of small businesses she provided services or will provide service to).
- Met with Stirling properties about economic development and development incentives available in SJP.
- Met with Chris Guilliand from Entergy to discuss the ongoing ED projects & sites in SJP.
- Attended the Chamber luncheon with Senator Bill Cassidy as guest speaker.
- Met with White Oak productions on the entertainment of the festival.
- Met with Public Works and CCapital Projects on the Andouille Grounds and Maintenance.
- EDC Director recognize Joe Banner in regards to Queen Sugar Event (very successful).

Old Business

Chairwoman Peggy Joseph reminded all EDC Committee Members to complete the required Ethics Training and submit a copy of certificate to Denise Burrell via email at d.burrell@stjohn-la.gov

VI. New Business

EDC Director-Jerry Jones gave a brief video presentation of what TIFS is and how it work (presented community, board, & stakeholders an excel spread sheet of ED Fund break down).

Questions & Concerns:

- EDC noted a lot of cuts were made this year (Andouille Fest) such as (security, entertainment, & marketing).
- Joe Banner inquired doing a study on Festival.
- James Oubre questioned what organization would be responsible for promotions such as hotels to discount rooms.
- Joe Banner suggested teaming with NOLA to understand their strategies.
- Celebrity Judge for gumbo contest is Chef Jeff.
- EDC Director noted budget will be prepared with the amount parish allocate(will use it for its purpose).
- TIFF-Ochsner-145 new jobs (Sterling Properties-builders)
- EDC Director noted possible development in (Garyville, Mt. Airy, Wallace, Belle Terre). Looking at Historical sites.
- EDC Director will schedule meeting with Ochsner to attend next month's EDC meeting.
- EDC appointment to Tourist & Commission Board-Chairwoman Peggy Joseph recommend Betty Joseph to be appointed. Motion by Leroy Mitchell-2nd by Tommy Acosta.

VII. Community Partners Update

- RRCC-Chassity McComack
 - *Workforce roundtable solution summit. 30 to 40 people to start with at the Technical College. Dr. Waguespack will facilitate summit.
 - *40K jobs will need filling for construction.
- South Central LA Tech-Penny Freeman
 - *September 20, 2016 American Welding Society Dinner at 6:00p.m.
 - *September 30, 2016 WLU Graduation (GED graduation)
 - *October 19, 2016 De'Jeuner Scholarship Luncheon 11:30a.m.-1:00p.m. Guest speaker Mike PEtiller-181 Regala Park Rd. Reserve. \$50 per person.
 - *Working with Delgado with grant. Students for Delgado will be enrolled in the Industrial Maintenance program and will be NCCR accredited.
- LSBDC – Wayne Aucoin
- FastTrac workshop begin September 15, 2016 (in need of 10 more students)
- Tourist and Commission-Joe Banner
 - *Attended travel meeting showcase in Grapevine Texas. Met with 40 travelers & bloggers.
 - *Film side planned a town hall for local area.
 - *October 17, 2016 meeting schedule in regards to film industry.
- South Central Planning and Development Commission-Absent
- Port of South-Linda Pruddhome
 - *Airport sending out flyers to promote festival.
 - *Involved in putting together capital projects for 2016-17 year.

*50 million+ of projects at the port.

- Workforce-Absent
- Entergy-Absent

- St. John the Baptist Parish School Board-Absent

- St. John Business Association-Steve Fraker
 - *Meet the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 6:00p.m. September 14, 2016 meeting will be held at Petra's.
 - *October 12, 2016-Social at Frenier Landing.

- CAO Report
- Dupont & Denka will be on a shutdown at the end of October.
- Noranda introduce with Charlie Sellers & expected sale at the end of October.
- LB Bergeron confirmed Air Products-Reserve will become Evonik on November 1, 2016.

VIII. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Tomy Acosta and seconded by Betty Joseph. Meeting was adjourned at 1:32pm.