

**St. John the Baptist Parish
Economic Development Committee**

Minutes of Regular Meeting
Monday, October 9, 2017

ATTENDANCE:

Present:

Michelle Jenkins
Elizabeth Joseph
James Oubre, Jr.
Peggy Joseph
Robert Taylor
Evin Stein
Kali Jenkins

Absent:

Tomy Acosta
Leroy Mitchell

Staff:

Jerry Jones
Denise Burrell
Laverne Toombs
Terry Abadie

Guest:

Jo Banner
Lois Frank
Mala Taylor
Wayne Aucoin
Penelope Freeman
Chassity McComack
Sylvia Clayton
Joy Banner
Yasmaine Magee
Pamela B. Allen
Rena Jackson

I. Call to Order

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

II. Roll Call

Seven (7) Committee members were present. (2) Absent. Quorum was met.

III. Prayer and Pledge

Peggy Joseph led prayer. Evin Stein led pledge of Allegiance.

IV. Public Comments

Meeting open for public comments (3) Minutes

V. Approval of Minutes

Adoption of minutes from September 11, 2017 meeting tabled to next meeting.

VI. Director's Report

Monthly EDC Update - Jerry Jones, Director

- 44th Andouille Festival draws near and set to take place from Friday, October 13 through Sunday, October 15, 2017. Festival will include a Second Line Parade, The Andouille Run, Dang Douille Eating Contest, Andouille Gumbo Cook-off and more at the St. John the Baptist Community Center. Festival will be accepting food pantry donations for hurricane victims. Those that bring a canned food item to donate, admission will cost \$1 on Friday night only.
- Attended the Rotary Club of LaPlace monthly meeting. Meeting highlighted areas we believe we can grow the community and chapter.
- Industry Career Day 2017 will be hosted by SJPB Library and South Central Louisiana Technical College-Reserve campus. Event will be held on Thursday, October 19, 2017 at both the library and Technical College.
- Continuing to work on scheduling meetings with Retails Shop owners and Commercial Real Estate Agents.
- Visit new website at www.OpportunityStJohn.com

VII. Old Business

Approval of EDC By-Laws - motioned by Michelle Jenkins and seconded by Kali Jenkins.

VIII. New Business

No New Business

IX. Community Partners Update

- **EME Consulting Group** – Absent
- **Entergy Louisiana** – Absent
- **Louisiana Small Business Development Center (LSBDC)** – Wayne Aucoin
 - Fall 2017 - FastTrac Program has 19 entrepreneurs.
 - Week 5 of the program
 - Last class is November 16, 2017
 - Lunch & Learn scheduled October 24, November 14, & December 5, 2017
 - Introduction of Assessment Consultant - Yasmaine Magee
- **Port of South Louisiana** – Absent
- **River Parishes Tourist Commission** – Rena Jackson
 - Ad Placement (3), Misc (Attending symposium from October 19th-21st)
- **River Region Chamber of Commerce (RRCC)** – Chassity McComack
 - Upcoming Events offered to small businesses-Networking events at Belle Terre Country Club Thursday, October 12, 2017 11:30 am - 1:00 pm
 - HealthCare Rollercoaster of Small Business Thursday, October 26, 2017 11:30am-1:00pm Belle Terre Country Club
 - Annual Golf Tournament Friday, October 20, 2017 at Cypress Lakes
 - Strengthen Partnership with LSBDC (Mr. Wayne Aucoin)
 - Helping market the Industry Career Day 2017 (October 19, 2017)
- **South Central Louisiana Technical College (SCL)** - Penny Freeman
 - Dean's Luncheon was held October 4th - very successful
 - Planning continues for the Career Fair slated for October 19th;10am - 4pm
 - During September, the Reserve campus was confirmed with HVAC Excellence, NAPTA and hosted SACCS team for accreditation.
 - Designed continues for the Welding building; waiting on confirmation of ground breaking.
 - Curriculum meetings are ongoing with RPCC to align the two campus programs.
 - Hosted American Welding Society Dinner on September 19th.
 - Hiring Instructors for Spring Semester Millwright and Instrumentation.
 - Now hiring for several positions at South Central LA Tech; go to the website for details.
- **South Central Planning and Development Commission (SCPDC)** - Absent
- **St. John Business Association** – Absent
- **St. John Community Center & Sound Stage** - Rena Jackson
 - Sound Stage Inquiries (4), Private Event Inquiries/Update (4), Events Held (2), Upcoming Events (2), Location Request/Scouting (4)
- **St. John the Baptist Parish School Board** - Absent
- **Workforce Investment Board** - Absent

I. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Elizabeth Joseph and seconded by Michelle Jenkins. Meeting was adjourned at 12:48 p.m.