

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

Minutes of Regular Meeting  
Monday, February 5, 2018

**ATTENDANCE:**

**Present:**

Michelle Jenkins  
Elizabeth Joseph  
James Oubre, Jr.  
Peggy Joseph  
Tyler Lewis  
Evin Stein  
Kali Jenkins

**Absent:**

Tomy Acosta  
Robert Taylor

**Staff:**

Jerry Jones  
Denise Burrell

**Guest:**

George Becnel	Lois Frank
Jerry Matherne	Dayna James
Penelope Shumaker	Buddy Boe
Lucien Gauff III	Wayne Aucoin
Terry McKnight	Annette Wray
Adrienne Williams	Rudy Gomez
Yasmaine Magee	Sylvia Clayton
Chassity McComack	Jo Banner
Alvin Washington	Rena Jackson
Niakita Washington	Joy Banner
Ana Gale-Orellana	Shaun Adams
Yolanda Williams	

**I. Call to Order**

Chairwoman Michelle Jenkins called meeting to order at 12:11 p.m.

**II. Roll Call**

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

**III. Opening Prayer / Pledge of Allegiance**

Evin Stein led prayer. James Oubre Jr. led Pledge of Allegiance.

**IV. Public Comments (3) Minutes - No Comments**

**V. Adoption of Minutes from January 8, 2018 Meeting**

Motion from James Oubre Jr. and seconded by Tyler Lewis to approve the January 8, 2018 meeting minutes.

**VI. Director's Report - Jerry Jones**

**VII. Old Business - Election of Secretary**

Elizabeth Joseph moved to nominate James Oubre Jr., seconded by Evin Stein; James Oubre Jr. elected as Secretary (unopposed).

**VIII. New Business –**

• **Business Talk**

- United Front Transportation Services (Shaun Adams) shared information about their Grand Opening on February 17, 2018.
- Wayne Aucoin introduced new business Buttons & Bows
- Terry McKnight introduced her pop-up business of her homemade candles.

- **Louisiana Calling** (workforce development) – Annette Wray (introduction) & Rudy Gomez (presentation)

**IX. Community Partners' Update**

• **Entergy Louisiana** – Ana Gale-Orellana

- Building or site owners (industrial or commercial projects) please provide you information on Entergy's site selection website.

- **Louisiana Small Business Development Center** – Wayne Aucoin
  - **Lunch and Learn**
    - February 20<sup>th</sup> – “Five Steps to Start Your Food Business” Speaker Dianna Sclafani
    - April 3<sup>rd</sup> New Date “Everyone in your company is in sales” Speaker Ron Markham
    - April 24<sup>th</sup> – “Show me the Money! Accessing money to grow your business”
    - Panel discussion with bankers and consultants
    - May 8<sup>th</sup>- The Entertainment Industry - TBA
  - **SEBD Certification Workshops**
    - February 22 SEBD Certification for the FastTrac Program
      - Speaker – Wayne Aucoin
  - **Round Table Forum**
    - March 13<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> Managing Employees Business owners and employee
      - Facilitator - Ron Markham
        - March 13<sup>th</sup> - New Time 11:30 – 2:00
        - March 20<sup>th</sup> – 9:30 - 11:30
    - May 9<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> – “Build your Brand” - New Dates
      - Facilitator Erik Waters – plus a consultant panel
  - **FastTrac Program**
    - March 8<sup>th</sup> through May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2018 - Next class begins
  - **Topics to be schedule in Spring 2018**
    - QuickBooks – Work in progress
- **Port of South Louisiana** - Linda Prudhomme - Absent
- **River Parish Tourist Commission (RPTC)** – Buddy Boe
  - Will host FAM Tour for the Board Members in St. John Parish
  - Tourist Commission Meeting – Wednesday, February 7<sup>th</sup> in the Council Chambers
  - Meeting with the group organizing New Orleans’ Tri-centennial to encourage people to visit the Tri-parishes to see our attractions and stay in our hotels.
  - In the process of updating stakeholder list.
  - Website rebranding in March
  - Buddy Boe - Houston in March – Tourist Commissioners to attend the Lt. Governors new brand Louisiana Feed your Soul.
  - Jo Banner – Los Angeles (Film Conference); Houston (Media Mission)
  - Jo & Buddy – Biloxi (Travel South Domestic Tour)
  - Hosting a Chinese Tour
- **River Region Chamber of Commerce - Chassity McComack**
  - Recruitment and Engagement
  - Looking to add a staff person (recruitment & retention)
  - Special Legislation Session – Congressman Graves has a survey and would like feedback “How the new taxes will affect businesses.”
  - Chamber Perks - Raising Canes April 5<sup>th</sup> at 8:00am
  - Next Registration for Leadership River Region will be May 2018.
  - Small Biz Roundtable scheduled via SBDC targeting St. John Parish Chamber members.
  - Workforce Development Meeting February 20, 2018 at 9:00 a.m. SCLTC.
- **South Central Louisiana Technical College (SCLTC)** – Absent
  - CMT concert is March 14<sup>th</sup>
    - Tickets will be available soon.
    - Event is about empowering the students and education
  - Career Links – April 18<sup>th</sup> partnering with St. John Library; Sponsor: Shell
  - Working on renovation to the old building
  - Grant for new electrical upgrade; landscaping; new furniture
  - New welding building – tentative groundbreaking in April
- **South Central Planning and Development Commission** - Absent
- **St. John Business Association** – Absent

- **St. John Community Center & Soundstage** - Jo Banner
  - (1) Soundstage Inquiry
  - (2) Private Event Inquiries
  - (1) Event Held
  - (1) Upcoming Event
  - (4) Location Request/Scouting
  - (2) Ad Placement
  - AFCI Locations Week – February 28<sup>th</sup> – March 3<sup>rd</sup>
  - Partnering with Baton Rouge Film Commission for use of Reel Scout – an online location database
- **St. John the Baptist Parish School Board** - Absent
- **Workforce Investment Board** - Absent

**X. Announcements** – St. John Parish Library Black History Program (East Bank & West Bank) “Words and Songs of History”.

- East Bank (LaPlace): February 6th at 5:30pm – West Bank (Edgard): February 7th at 5:30pm

**XI. Adjournment**

A motion to adjourn was made by Tyler Lewis and seconded by Evin Stein. Meeting was adjourned at 1:32 pm.