



Board Meeting

Date and Time: December 18, 2020 at 9:00 a.m.

Meeting Place: 5367 I-49 S. Service Road, Opelousas, LA 70570

AGENDA

- ❖ Welcome
- ❖ Pledge and Opening Prayer
- ❖ Roll Call
- ❖ Approval of November 2020 Meeting Minutes
- ❖ Financial Report
 - Engagement Letter
- ❖ CPEX Update – Presentation by Joni Hammons, Project Manager
- ❖ City of Opelousas Updates
- ❖ **New Business**
 - Discussion of Election of Officers in January 2021
 - Board Reappointment - December 2020
 - Sexual Harassment and Ethics
 - Business Recognition Certificate
 - Letter of Appreciation and Support to Local and State Partners
 - Review of Goals and Objectives for January 2021
- ❖ **Old Business**
- ❖ Board Member Comments
- ❖ Adjourn

The following members were present in person: Chairwoman Lena Charles, Keith Broussard, Don D’Avy, Ogden Pitre, Rob Hillard and Sarah Branton.

The following members were present virtually: Pat Fontenot

The following members were absent: None

The following SLED staff members were in attendance in person: Bill Rodier/CEO-Director, Glenda Carriere/Support Coordinator and Taylor Lormand/Development Specialist

There was also present in person: Melanie LeBouef and Mayor Julius Alsandor

There were also present virtually: Joni Hammons, Janet Tharp, and Herman Fusilier.

It was determined that a quorum was present.

Approval of November 2020 Meeting Minutes: A motion to approve the November 2020 meeting minutes was made by Sarah Branton and seconded by Don D’Avy. Motion carried without objection.

Financial Report: Keith Broussard provided an overview of the November 2020 financials. A motion to accept the November 2020 financials was made by Don D’Avy and seconded by Rob Hillard. Motion carried with no objection.

Engagement Letter: A motion to accept Going, Sebastian, Fisher, & LeBouef, LLP for accounting services was made by Keith Broussard and seconded by Don D’Avy. Motion carried with no objection.

City of Opelousas Updates: Mayor Alsandor thanked the ODDD for their efforts and collaboration to support the Vine Street Project. He stated there are currently twenty-nine (29) streets in the City of Opelousas in need of repair. They received funding and are meeting with a contractor. He is waiting for a cooperative endeavor agreement to come back from Baton Rouge. He is not doing all reconstruction, and some roads will be overlays. His main objective is Heather Drive, which will cost approximately 140,000 dollars to reconstruct. Pipes are over 75 to 100 years old, and there have been setbacks due to COVID. Solid Waste is in Opelousas and are picking up trash/debris from the storms.

Melanie LeBouef with the City of Opelousas Tourism stated new businesses have opened downtown in the last quarter.

Herman Fusilier stated he had nothing to add.

CPEX Update: Joni Hammons and Janet Tharp of CPEX made a presentation of the masterplan virtually. Joni reinforced the need to keep the community behind us and the project visible. Getting information out and communicating to make people feel well informed. Joni shared an overview summarizing the analysis and public input meeting. She also discussed the next steps and what we should look forward to in the future.

Bill Rodier encouraged the board members to read a book called “Building a Vibrant Community” by Quint Studer.

New Business

Discussion of Election of Officers in January 2021: Chairwoman Lena Charles communicated to the board members the Election of Officers at the January 22, 2021 meeting.

Board Reappointment-December 2020: Keith Broussard needs an appointment letter from Senator Gerald Boudreaux.

Sexual Harassment and Ethics: Glenda Carriere will be sending out reminders to the board members regarding completing Prevention of Sexual Harassment and Ethics training.

Business Recognition: Chairwoman Lena Charles wants to recognize businesses in the district, highlighting old and new.

Letter of Appreciation and Support to Local and State Partners: Chairwoman Lena Charles stated she sent a letter to the board members to review. She then sent these letters to Senator Boudreaux, Dustin Miller, Mayor Alsandor, Parish President Jessie Bellard, and Secretary Shawn Wilson to let them know how much we appreciate their efforts.

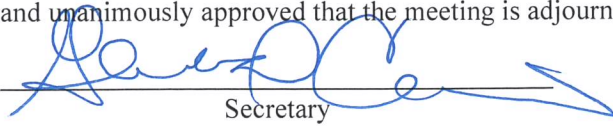
Review of Goals and Objectives for January 2021: Chairwoman Lena Charles encouraged the board members to review the goals and objectives on the website, such as the Lighting, Vine Street Advocacy, and TAP Grant. At our January meeting, we will be setting goals for 2021. One of our necessary goals will be to complete the masterplan.

Old Business

Board Member Comments: Sarah Branton inquired as to who bought the Country Club – Dwayne Hargroder. Lena Charles reported on Master Plan Survey follow up. She contacted minister’s alliance and furnish survey download app and reference telephone number for assistance. Taylor Lormand is working with the schools.

The next scheduled meeting will be on Friday, January 22, 2020, at 9:00 am at SLED.

There being no further business to come before the board, a motion was made by Rob Hillard, seconded by Ogden Pitre, and unanimously approved that the meeting is adjourned at 10:33 am.


Secretary


Chairman