

EAST NEW ORLEANS NEIGHBORHOOD ADVISORY COMMISSION (ENONAC)

GENERAL MEETING

St. Maria Goretti Community Center ~ 7300 Crowder Blvd

Tuesday, July 11, 2017 @ 6:00 p.m.

MINUTES

Executive Board Members:

P – Denotes member present, E – Denotes member excused, A – Denotes member absent, V – vacant position

P	Sylvia Scineaux-Richard, President	P	Romona Baudy , 1 st Vice President
A	Brenda Jackson, 2 nd Vice President	P	Karol Sanders, Treasurer
P	Carroll Denesse, Member At Large	P	Maxine Weaver, Member At Large
A	Arthur Busby, Parliamentarian	P	Lydia Leon, Secretary

Attendees: See attached sign-in sheets.

I. Call to order/Roll Call

Meeting was called to order by President, Scineaux-Richard at 6:10 p.m. After the roll call, we had a quorum.

II. Introduction of Special Guest(s): Sherae Hunter, Mayor’s Office of Neighborhood Engagement

III. Review and Approval of Agenda: Comm. Baudy made a motion to approve the agenda and Comm. Sanders seconded. After the vote, the motion passed.

IV. Review and Approval of June General Meeting Minutes: tabled until next meeting

V. Review and Approval of Treasurer’s Report(s): Comm. Sanders passed out and read the Treasurer’s report June 1 thru June 30, 2017. There was a donation of \$5 for the Parcel Fee from Walter Umrani and two donations via United Way (from UPS employees) for \$165.06 and \$120.00. The ending balance for the period was \$32,801.06

Comm. Denesse made a motion to approve the Treasurer’s Report and Comm. Hebert seconded. After the vote, the motion passed.

VI. New Business

A. Assets of East New Orleans: Pres. Scineaux-Richard began the discussion by saying what is it that is valuable to others that would make them come and do business in the East. There is a committed community that Katrina and nothing else can stop us from revitalizing our community. She said we have Lakefront Airport, the only other airport in City of New Orleans. Money should be spent to renovate and upgrade Downman Road as it is the direct path to the Lakefront Airport. The ENO can provide access to rail, water and air which could promote business and economic development. We should be able to attract a variety of business because of the vast amount of affordable land for commercial business, especially warehouses, technology companies and research development. Large companies need warehouses to store their products for distribution and the East could provide that in the Almonaster corridor. The average income is just as good as or better than other areas. We have Bayou Savage National Wildlife Refuge, the only one of its kind in the South and a perfect venue to develop as a tourist attraction as a family activity. This is another asset for the East. We have SUNO, UNO and a Delgado branch and some of the best elementary and junior high schools in the City in our ENO area. We have Joe Brown Park, a state of art Nature Center, East New Orleans Hospital and a newly built Regional Library. We need to talk about all the positives of ENO. Waterway was created for NASA with space work. Canals cleaned can become recreational facilities. We have one of the best flood protection in our area. She said we need better signage when coming into our area. We should welcome and advertise ENO assets in the as they are entering I-10 East to the City of New Orleans.

VII. Old Business

A. Voter Drive Initiative. Pres. Scineaux-Richard said we need to get to the place where we in ENO can advocate for ourselves. A critical piece of this is getting our residents to get out and vote in the elections. We need to improve our voter turnout because it serves to show our political representatives that we are important, serious and committed to getting our fair share of the City’s budget. She stated ENO residents have not gotten the voter turnout in previous elections that is critical to sending that message.

1. **Objectives:** Pres. Scineaux-Richard said that one objective would be how to get residents to register to vote and turn out for the elections. Develop and pass out voter information cards make signs or flyers to encourage the vote. Maybe get block captains in each subdivision to get residents to sign up to vote. We can have a Voter registration drive and tell them the importance of getting out to vote. Resident, Gerald Hampton suggested trying to communicate to the residents about issues that affect the East and then coming out to vote. He said try to get them to participate in the civic issues that affect their community. Ms. Editha Amacker suggests that signs that advertise the date of the election. She also said we should concentrate on the registered voters and work on the ones who are not going out to vote. Maybe encourage the elder and our qualified youth to get out to vote. Maybe the elders don't understand how they can vote by mail. We should also compile and make available a list of polling places and times so everyone will know where to vote.

B. **Master Plan Amendments:** Ms. Amacker said that the City Council Master Plan meeting was Monday, July 10 at 10am at City Council Chambers. There was a diagram presented that was incorrect and the Council /CPC was asked to change it. It showed a 'heavy poverty track' which is mostly commercial area. This is the same chart shown approximately 6-7 years ago and they were told at that time the information was incorrect. Scineaux-Richard will look into why this faulty information has not been corrected.

Comm. Hebert talked about there being three (3) community centers in the East – one on Crowder, one at Joe Brown and one on Chef which are beautiful. Some are not being used because not fully redone since Katrina.

Ms. Amacker said that there was a section on opportunity spots – only one in the East. She said we need to look at the size of the area and demographics to help people looking for development. She said to look at the Plaza site and going back toward Downman. This is good but should not be the only area involved. Michoud area should also be looked at and also the Industrial Canal area. She said the meeting to take public comments on July 27 is when voting on amendments at City Council Chambers will take place. The meeting starts at 10am. The Amendments for parks are already in place and it seems that the amendments will be put in the Master Plan. We can advocate for our request and tell the City what we want them to do. We need to continue these issues after the Master Plan is settled. The next thing occurring is to request funding for our changes, i.e., the parks.

VIII. Announcements

A. **Entergy Supplemental Application:** Monique Harding spoke about Entergy having a second smaller facility proposed and asked the City to pick one. The deadline is October 31, 2017 for City Council to decide. There is no voice from the community once the choice is made. She said we should come out and talk at City Council Chambers meeting on Wednesday, July 26, 2017 at 10am. Entergy's profit will be about 11%. She asked everyone to contact City Council members and urge them to establish a fair process for New Orleans residents to have a voice in the decision on Entergy's proposed project. Alex Dunn from Entergy, a district manager, said there is no guaranteed profit of 11%. He said residents need to attend the public meetings to get the correct information. The 11% is an estimated profit and not guaranteed profit.

IX. Community Info

A. **Royal Brewery of New Orleans:** Owners Mandy & Raymond Pumilla said that they are located at 7366 Townsend Place off Morrison, near Lakefront Airport. They had a grand opening and 1500 people attended. They came here to invite NOE residents to their business. They chose ENO after looking at uptown and other areas of the city and chose our community. They are happy to be a part of NOE community. They said that they also do tours, parties, etc.

B. Sewerage & Water Board is having a neighborhood information meeting to discuss the status of drainage improvements on Florida Avenue from Mazant Street to St. Ferdinand St. on July 20 at 6pm at St. Mary of the Angels Church, 3501 N. Miro St.

C. Voters East of the Industrial Canal (VEOTIC) is having a 'New Orleans Political Man' forum at St. Maria Goretti on Tuesday July 18, 2017 at 6pm. Flyers are on the table in front.

D. Hannah's Klozet is having a 'Resiliency Gala' on Saturday July 29 at 6:30pm. Dinner at 7pm at Grand Ballroom at UNO. Flyers are on the table in front.

E. There will be Voter's Initiative forums on August 5, September 14 and September 19. More info to come on time and where they will be held.

X. Adjournment: Comm. Baudy made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Comm. Legaux seconded. After the vote, the motion passed. Meeting was adjourned at 7:25pm.

Submitted by
Lydia Leon, Secretary