

EAST NEW ORLEANS NEIGHBORHOOD ADVISORY COMMISSION (ENONAC)

GENERAL MEETING

St. Maria Goretti Community Center  
7300 Crowder Blvd., New Orleans, LA 70127

Tuesday, February 11, 2020 @ 6:00pm

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	Brenda Jackson, 1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President
A	Dawn Hebert, 2nd Vice President	P	Karol Sanders, Treasurer
P	Carroll Denesse, Member At Large	P	Maxine Weaver, Member At Large
		P	Lydia Leon, Secretary

Attendees: See attached sign-in sheets.

**I. Call to order/Roll Call**

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

**II. Review and Approval of Agenda:** There was a motion by Comm. McWilliams and seconded by Comm. Legaux to approve the agenda. After the vote, the motion passed with no objections.

**III. Review and Approval of Minutes from November 2019:** There were three months of minutes that were read by Comm. Brenda Jackson. For the Nov. 12, 2019 Minutes, Comm. Jourdain motioned and Comm. Legaux seconded for approval of those minutes. After the vote, the motion passed with no objections. For the Dec. 10, 2019 minutes, Comm. Jourdain motioned and Comm. Sanders seconded for approval of those minutes. After the vote, the motion passed with no objections. For the Jan. 14, 2020 minutes, Comm. McWilliams motioned and Comm. Landrum seconded for approval of the January minutes. After the vote, the motion passed with no objections.

**IV. Introduction of Special Guest(s):** Terrie Guerin, Chief of Staff for CM Cyndi Nguyen office. Pierce W. Huff, Community Relations, and CM Jared Brossett’s office.

**V. Treasurer’s report:** It was passed out and read by Comm. Karol Sanders.

There was a moment of silence and prayer for the death of Monsignor Earl Gauthreaux, pastor of St. Maria Goretti Church. He served as the Pastor of St. Marie Goretti for over 50 years.

**VI. New Business**

**A. CAB Swearing In:** Comm. Glenn Braud, Donna Villa, was sworn in by Clerk of City Court, Chelsea Richard Napoleon

**B. Discussion: ‘Representation without Participation’:** Pres. Scineaux-Richard made an observation. We often favor discussion on matters from other subdivisions who do not belong to ENONAC Commission. How do we get these subdivisions to engage with ENONAC? Comm. Braud commented that we need to find out why they do not belong to ENONAC. All residents of East New Orleans have a vested interest in ENONAC. How do we draw them in? Comm. Legaux said that prior to coming to ENONAC with their problems, they must have their residents’ agreement to participate. Most of the ENO people have brought problems to us. We need their time, talent and participation at meeting. Jameel Shaheer, Westlake neighborhood resident, said that CAB members bring time and talent at meeting. They should contact the ENONAC office and get the problem documented and have them to present their problem at the end of meeting. Comm. Linda Williams said that everyone knows that there are subdivisions not represented and we need them to come to meeting before they have problems and help as a group to ward off these problems. Josh Robichaux, Kenilworth resident, said that he read an article that said we are the 6th largest area in the State. Our median highest income is larger than Baton Rouge and Lake Charles. Dixie Brewery will be one of the biggest brewery selling beer in the region. Question. Why are newspapers doing all the negative news about NOE instead of talking about the positive things going on in the East? Another question. They say we have a lot of

disposable income yet all commercial development is in Jefferson, Uptown, and French Quarter and across the lake in Slidell. What can we do to get the Mayor and City Hall to bring that kind of development to our area? We have no strong business community. Sylvia says we have to be the bearers of our own news; we have to tell our own stories and brag about our resources, i.e., Regional library, Nature Center, high performing schools, rail, water and airport for commercial access. We have to bring out the positive things that are happening in our community. How can we pressure NOLA and City Hall to let these developers to look at our area? NOLA and our City Council are building up development in NOE. We still have to speak of positive developments and visit our newest ENO business developments, i.e., Dixie Brewery and Optimus Entertainment. The professionals on the news always speak positive about areas where they live. Who is representing NOE among News professionals? If we do not have representation, then maybe this is what we need to work on. Comm. Celestand said that we need to work on recruiting neighborhoods that are not in ENONAC. Comm. Blouin said there are several reasons why the neighborhoods are not members of ENONAC: 1) No one wants to come to meetings, 2) They have a hard time getting their association together. 3) If you are close to one neighborhood that are not in ENONAC maybe they could combine their efforts and work together as one.

- C. Op-Ed: Need for Affordable Housing:** We (ENONAC) need to make sure that we vote on the needs and important issues reference affordable housing. Sylvia wants the CAB to vote on a motion to allow her to investigate, write and promote the issue of standards and guidelines for developers to honor on tax credit money available for affordable housing. Comm. Linda Williams made a motion to allow Pres. Sylvia Scineaux-Richard to write up the views for ENONAC on affordable housing and represent us on this issue. Comm. Denesse seconded and motion passed without any objections. Comm. Braud asked that we see the things discussed on paper. Sylvia said any position papers would be presented to the Body for review and approval. She asked if any volunteers willing to work on or have suggestions on this issue should get in touch with her.

## VII. Old Business

- A. S.O.U.L. Tree Planting/Community Impact Grant:** SOUL went to Lake Forest Estates' meeting. They said they can help with tree planting in 2 weeks to 1 month. CAB members must be involved in the process. \$1500 Grant is available which should be enough for at least 2 subdivisions.
- B. Parcel Fee – Crime Summit:** It was decided to discontinue the Parcel Fee campaign for this year. We will direct our attention to Juvenile Crime Summit. We will still work on the Family Fest this year. ENONAC will collaborate with other organizations to get this Summit done on proposed date of March 21<sup>st</sup>. Comm. Hebert, Karen Comeaux, Comm. Jourdain, Comm. Marcia McWilliams, Comm. Maxine Weaver are on this committee. Pres. Scineaux-Richard said that committee is doing a great job. Terrie Guerin of CM Nguyen's office, said that there is a meeting with Judges on juvenile crime at 10:30am on the same day. At this time there is no place to host it yet. She will speak with the Councilwoman Cyndi to see what can be worked out. Comm. Hamilton asked why the parcel fee was dropped. The committee chair felt that they were not prepared to get it on the ballot this year. The committee is not dissolved, just need more time to work. Comm. Braud presented a diagram of the NPP process and made copies for CAB members to look at so we can all be on the same page. The website was also given. Sylvia will get Claire to send it out via email to everyone.
- C. FEEDBACK: Community Meetings**
- 1. Assisted Living Center at 6400 Hayne Blvd.:** Comm. Blouin said that Mr. Busby went to the meeting and presentation was ok and not an issue. The meeting was on Tuesday, Jan 14 at 6pm at the WYNDHAM Garden Hotel.
  - 2. Frenchman's Wharf development: NPP mtg on Jan. 21 by Nguyen –** This is a very concerning issue. At the first meeting, the presenters did not give the proper info and appeared to be unprepared. Comm. Weaver said that the second meeting was better. Comm. Linda Williams said they need to have the meetings closer to the area involved because there are several schools closer to that site where meetings so more convenient for neighbors to attend. Alexcar Short,

Donna Villa resident, said the developer was talking about having an area for children and she told him that children can go to the park. She said that when she goes to a hotel, she does not want to see children running around outside. Mr. Shaheer, a resident of Westlake Subdivision said he was working with someone who wants to do single homes on Frenchmen's Wharf property. He said this property is right by his home and a hotel is not what they want in that area

**D. DEFERRED CPC Hearings (from Jan. 14) to be held on FEBRUARY 11**

- 1. ZD 007/20: Req. to permit 2-family dwelling in a single family residential district at 7941 Devine Ave. (Villa Sites)** Comm. Legaux said that there were no problems that we know of on this issue.
- 2. ZD 009/20: Req. to permit an educational facility (vocational) at 8460 Morrison Rd.**
- 3. ZD 010/20: Req. by Light City Church to permit an educational facility (primary & secondary) at 8820-8900 Hayne and 7928 Burke Ave.** – More info is needed on this project.

**VIII. Community Info/Public Comments**

**A. Optimus Entertainment - Grand Opening held Thursday, Feb. 6, 2020; 6-8pm; 9820 Lake Forest Blvd.**

- Comm. Linda Williams said she had fun and really enjoyed it. She even rode the bumper cars. There are areas for small kids and larger kids. There is also an area where older people can get a massage while they are waiting on the kids. Several CAB members went and enjoyed it and some went back again after the opening. Comm. Woods said this was a big plus for NOE.
- There was a question about when CPC is coming back online. There is no date yet.
- Terrie Guerin said that because of the manufacturing company that is in the East that they are getting more companies who are interested incoming in the East. The Mayor went to Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to ask for \$5 million to improve infrastructure.
- Comm. Hamilton asked, what if anything is going on with the Lowe's building? Ms. Guerin said, yes there are 3 production companies interested in that property. Comm. Denesse asked what happened to the Race Trac gas station that was supposed to come on Read. Ms. Guerin said they still have some issues to clear up.
- Sylvia said that N.O. Regional Business Park Board (NORBPB) whose mission is to improve the growth of business and develop new business in NOE, will now have a member from ENONAC to be selected by the Mayor. Sylvia received a letter stating that ENONAC is to submit 3 nominees. She asked if any Commissioners are interested, they should submit their resume to Claire. NORBPB Board meets once a month. Think about this if you are interested and feel that you are qualified and want to serve. The Mayor will select one person from the three names we submit. Please contact Sylvia if you are interested.

**IX. Announcements**

**A. New Links Phase II Community Meetings re: Proposed concepts for updated Regional Transit Network - For NOE: Thursday, Feb. 13, 2020; 10:30-12 and 5:30-7pm; ENO Library, 5641 Read Blvd.**

**X. Adjournment:** There was a motion for adjournment by Comm. Jackson and second by Comm. Sanders. After the vote, the motion passed. Meeting was adjourned at 7:53pm.

Submitted by Lydia Leon, Secretary