

EAST NEW ORLEANS NEIGHBORHOOD ADVISORY COMMISSION (ENONAC)

GENERAL MEETING

St. Maria Goretti Community Center ~ 7300 Crowder Blvd

Tuesday, June 13, 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	A	Romona Baudy , 1 st Vice President
A	Brenda Jackson, 2 nd Vice President	P	Karol Sanders, Treasurer
P	Carroll Denesse, Member At Large	A	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 6:09 p.m. After the roll call, we did not have a quorum. This will be an informational meeting until a quorum is reached.

II. Introduction of Special Guest(s): Tyronne Walker, Communications Director, Mayor’s Office

III. Review and Approval of Agenda: tabled until quorum met

IV. Review and Approval of May General Meeting Minutes: tabled until quorum met

V. Review and Approval of Treasurer’s Report(s): tabled until quorum met

It was proposed to move Mr. Tyrone Walker, Communications Director, Office of the Mayor, up on the agenda because he had another conflicting appointment.

C. Mayor’s Response to Call for Secession: Mr. Walker gave out information **on Secession for New Orleans East; Fiction vs Truth.** (See attached) He said that any concerns from residents are important to the City. Sherae Hunter, Mayor’s Office of Neighborhood Engagement said that the city’s focus is as an anchor in the area. There has been investment in the Hospital, Joe Brown Park and the Library. The taxes collected from the East are between \$11-12 million and \$900 million has been invested. From the 9th Ward, \$1-2 million and \$65 million have been invested. The City’s property tax collection is \$120 million. Mr. Jim Ewers, an ENO resident, asked for some specifics on retail activity. He stated we travel East or West for retail and restaurants. Is there a plan for economic development in the East and what is it? From 2010 until now there are just a few more restaurants in the East. Can we have someone from the city’s Economic Development Department to come to our next meeting to give an update on what is being done to attract more businesses to the East? He also asked how are the monies issued? Is it on the same basis as what is collected as taxes? Every citizen invests in the City. Homeowners always pay more.

A resident of Little Woods asked what percentage of monies invested in the East was City money and what was FEMA money. Can those figures be sent to us? Another resident stated that there is blighted property next door to her that she cuts grass to keep it clean. Why doesn’t the City take care of these blighted properties? Mr. Walker answered that some blight is on private property and city cannot do anything with it. He said that the City does intervene where they are able. They have to follow the law. Walker asked for the address of the blighted property (7728 Lacombe St.) and stated he would look into it. Another resident, Darren Rousseau, said he lives in front of Ernest Morial School on Grant St. and stated that the owner of that property has not cut grass in over 30 years. He also gave Mr. Walker the address (7732 Grant St.). Mr. Walker said that properties are sometimes sold at tax sales but they cannot get clear titles to begin working on these houses quickly. It has to go through legal process.

Ms. Editha Amacker, Urban Planner, mentioned that ENONAC submitted amendments for the Master Plan for improvements of parks, streets and transportation. She said that the amendments on transportation were mixed with Mayor’s office proposal. We asked about road construction replacing sidewalks and can Mayor’s office look at our needs as suburban area and take a harder look at our amendments. Mr. Walker said yes, he will ask them to review them.

Comm. Legaux wanted to know what \$9million was spent on in NOE. She said that there are no catch basins and that there are 10 blocks of streets that need repair in her area. There is nowhere for water to go. She has walked the streets with Councilman Gray. She said that we should have in writing a document that shows how to compare dollar for dollar. Walker stated that he will and within 24 hours have a list of every street included in the \$900 million in street repairs submitted. Pres. Scineaux-Richard asked the CAB to have a meeting with their residents to let ENONAC know what their issues are so that we can help resolve their issues. Issues should be in writing. ENONAC always announce their meetings.

VI. New Business

A. ENONAC will co-sponsor with AAWPP for future mayoral candidate forum. It will be on Tuesday, September 26, 2017 from 6:30 to 8pm at Dillard University Georges Auditorium.

B. City Planning Commission items

- 1) On June 13, 2017 **ZD 049/17**: Zoning change request from S-RS to S-RD at 13954 My-Viet Dr.
- 2) Also on June 13, 2017, **ZD 052/17**: To permit a minor motor vehicle service & repair facility at 7358 Chef Hwy. There has been no opposition to either request as of today.
- 3) On July 11, 2017, **ZD 065/17**: Condition use request to permit a large day care center at 7391 Read Blvd. There has been no opposition received as of today.

VII. Old Business

A. RTA Strategic Mobility Plan update. Mr. David Fields said that they are still collecting info from residents and will let us know when all the info is completed.

B. CAB Volunteers: 1) Voter Registration Committee: Pres. Scineaux-Richard said we must vote to have a voice. She said we must do something to increase the vote of residents in the East. She wants to get a committee together to go out into our neighborhoods and increase our voting in the East. We had a very low turnout in the last few elections and that needs to change. We will discuss more at our next meeting since we do not have a quorum to vote.

VIII. Announcements:

A. Clean Sweep in North Kenilworth was on Saturday, June 10, 2017. Comm. Denesse wanted to thank everyone for helping them to pick up trash in their community. A resident from Florida, Jenna Bernstein, was at the meeting and said that she went to Baton Rouge to speak on our behalf and said that she will continue to help as long as she is in the city. She said that NOE needs to stand up and be heard.

B. NOE Hospital signage application was discussed. A copy of a letter sent to the City Planning Commission to revise the signage around the hospital site to make it easier to navigate and gain direct and faster access to needed healthcare. The hospital sits back from the main thoroughfare and makes it difficult to access during times of emergency. There was a meeting on October 5, 2015 with the City of NO on revising this signage around the hospital.

C. Comm. Hamilton reminded everyone that Sewerage & Water Board and the City still has not responded to our resolution about dredging our canals. He also stated that the City of New Orleans is now considered #1 in the murder rate and East New Orleans residents need to be concerned about that issue. The committee handling the proposal to have NOE secede was told to give ENONAC a date and time for their meetings and we would announce them but our agenda was long and time did not permit them to speak again at this meeting as we had allowed them as an agenda item audience at two earlier meetings.

IX. Adjournment: Comm. Comeaux made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Comm. Penny seconded. After the vote, the motion passed. Meeting was adjourned at 7:21pm.

Submitted by
Lydia Leon, Secretary