EAST NEW ORLEANS NEIGHBORHOOD ADVISORY COMMISSION (ENONAC) <u>www.enonac.org</u> GENERAL MEETING 7th District NOPD, 10101 Dwyer Rd., New Orleans, LA 70128 Tuesday, May 10, 2016 @ 6:00 p.m. MINUTES

Executive Board Members:

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

Р	Sylvia Scineaux-Richard, President	Р	Romona Baudy , 1 st Vice President
Р	Brenda Jackson, 2 nd Vice President	Р	Karol Sanders, Treasurer
Р	Carroll Denesse, Member At Large	Р	Joan Heisser, Member At Large
А	Arthur Busby, Parliamentarian	Е	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 6:16 p.m. After the roll call, a quorum was established.

II. Introduction of Special Guests

Miles Granderson, Sherman Strategies representing RaceTrac gas station

III. Approval of Agenda

Comm. McWilliams made a motion to approve the agenda for the general meeting and Comm. Duckworth seconded. After the vote the motion passed.

IV. Approval of April 12, 2016 General Meeting Minutes

Minutes from the April 12, 2016 General Meeting were read and Comm. Williams made a motion to accept the minutes and Comm. Weaver seconded. After the vote, the motion passed.

V. Treasurer's Report

The treasurer's report was read by Comm. Sanders and everyone was given copies of the report. Comm. Busby made a motion to accept the treasurer's report and Comm. Hebert seconded. After the vote, the motion carried.

VI. New Business

A. Zoning Docket 051/16: Proposed gas station & ABO sales at 5700 Read Blvd. ENONAC has taken a cautious view of liquor licenses. The RaceTrac gas station will need approval. There was concern at the time about 24 hr. security and loitering. Pres Scineaux Richard stated that we want the Mall back and have for 10 years. We did not approve before because we were leery of the developers. We met with the new developers and asked all the needed questions about taxes, rents, etc. We wanted it to be family friendly and have good façade. He said that RaceTrac has agreed to move next to the Save-A-Lot so the interest and quality are assured. The level of liquor sales was questioned. We want it off centered. We cannot be defensive on this issue or hold up the starting of the Mall. The developer has given us a drawing of the East Town Center (new name of the Plaza Mall). They will do the Mall with a 'tiff' (tax writeoff). We need to give proviso's for the RaceTrac to keep up their space for cleanliness and lawn care; no loitering. We do not know who the manager of this Mall will be. The City should have involved us in the plan. After working out the numbers, the developer stated that they will come up lower than the estimated revenues project. We need a mall to serve the community for goods and services. The City Council will vote on the 24th of May. Comm. Weaver questioned the naming of the mall. Do we have any rights to change the name? Comm. Hamilton asked if the Tiff transfer is from the old developer or is this a new tiff for these developers. The taxes generated will be put back into this project. No tiff, no development. He also mentioned that Bullard is vying for the same tenants as the East Town Center. How can we make this development work? Special needs should be given to the landscaping of the back end of the Plaza area.

Attorney Miles Granderson fielded questions on the RaceTrac gas station. He stated that they are willing to work with the community regarding landscaping, and loitering. RaceTrac is giving up the first option of purchase to move over to

parcel #3. Comm. Legaux stated we needed commitment with ENONAC and return with info at another meeting. ENONAC's HLUZ committee will get with the planner and pass on the info to the Body at another meeting. Comm. Jackson made a motion not to be in opposition to the level of liquor, safety, landscaping, etc. Comm. Busby seconded the motion. After the vote, the motion passed.

B. Master Plan Open Application Period: We need to be careful with zoning changes. Developers are requesting more zoning changes in this application period. Be the eyes in your own community. Pay attention to what is being proposed. Once the Council approves, we are stuck. We do not want to be the only eyes. ENONAC has fought for new standards for new developments. We do not want non-consistency; we want green spaces, walking paths, etc. Comm. Baudy stated that she spoke with Gray's office and was told the project will not be built at Crowder and Edgelake.

Personnel from zoning should meet with us and explain the use of slabs which are 50% damaged. Laws are not being followed. We need to support or have fundraisers in order to get an attorney to fight these causes. Comm. Duckworth suggested we invite the Vietnamese community to speak with us about an attorney. Comm. DeGrasse suggested we get the media involved with these plans to continue to develop these low income projects. Comm. Hamilton stated that the non-passing of the \$5 parcel fee hurt us and we will continue to be bombarded with these developments. Comm. Kingvalsky suggested that we ban with the French Quarter on these issues. The news media listens to these people.

C. Strive NOLA: Amy Bryant spoke that the program has been in New Orleans since April and is in 20 cities before now. It is a 4-week training for those unemployed. They are trained Monday thru Friday, from 9-4pm; working on skills, resume, interview, and placement on jobs. There is a 2-yr support system. Referrals are accepted and you must be 18-65 years of age. It is free of charge. They work with the Urban League; women and men. She gave the office information: Angela Shilou, 1340 Poydras, Suite 100, 658-4279. You can get 1 hour of free parking.

VII. Old Business

A. **Versailles Apt. Complex update:** Village of East Coalition, Maple Ridge, Willowbrook, Baler, and Mary Queen of Vietnam Church are working on a petition for signing.

B. **Dredging of NOE Canals:** Comm. Hamilton spoke and said that Cedric Grant said that the 2016 budget allows for this dredging. We are getting nowhere with this project. Bullard, Lake Forest, Bundy and Michoud had water during the last rainfall. Drains are 5-8 feet deep with sediment; drains need to be cleaned out. We will have flooded homes and businesses if this is not handled. Pumps cannot work with this condition. Comm. Hamilton made a motion that there should be a meeting and letter should be requested of Cedric Grant and Hydraulic Engineers. Comm. Baudy seconded. After the vote, the motion passed. Once the meeting is set, residents should come in droves. The canals were last dredged in 2008.

VIII. Community Info

A. Lake Forest Charter School will have a KaBOOM Playground build. They need 200 volunteers to help. It is on May 20th from 9-3pm.

B. There is new contact information for Police Engagement. Please refer to your email for more information.

C. The letter to the Political Representatives of NOE was drawn up. The 'Meet, Talk and Plan' meeting for voicing our needs is on Saturday, June 18 2016 from 10-noon at New Orleans East Hospital.

IX. Adjournment: It was moved by Comm. Duckworth and seconded by Comm DeGrasse that meeting be adjourned. After the vote, the motion passed.

Pres Scineaux-Richard mentioned that she is on the board of Gallier Hall Preservation Committee and they are hosting a 'Porch Party' on Thursday, May 12, from 5:30-7pm.