

**BioDistrict New Orleans
Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes**

Thursday, March 26, 2015

935 Gravier Street, STE 2020, New Orleans, LA

Commissioners Present: Dr. Gene D.Amour, Mr. John Hope, Ms. Kelisha Garrett, Mr. Darrick LeBeouf, Ms. Kacie Kelly (via phone), Dr. Larry Hollier (via phone)

Commissioners Absent: Mr. Andy Kopplin, Mr. Charles Rice, Mr. Harold Gaspard, Mr. Henry Hays, Mr. Roger Ogden, Reverend Kaseem Short, Ms. Donna Klein, Ms. Yvette Jones

Others: New Orleans Business Alliance staff (Melissa Ehlinger, Tim Hemphill), BioDistrict legal counsel (Christopher D'Amour, James Moffett III) and one (1) member of the public (Derrick Francis)

Quorum: Not Present

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- I. **Call to Order**
Meeting was informally called to order due to lack of quorum at 12:27 PM CST.
 - II. **Roll Call**
G. D'Amour performed a roll call of board commissioners. Quorum was not present.
 - III. **Adopt Agenda for Board Meeting**
No quorum was present. No comments were made regarding the agenda.
 - IV. **Introduction of Guest(s)**
G. D'Amour recognized all of those individuals present in addition to the board.
 - V. **Call for Public Input Cards on Agenda Items**
No public input cards were received.
 - VI. **Adoption of Minutes**
G. D'Amour requested any changes to the previous meeting minutes from the present commissioners. No changes were requested. The minutes were not adopted due to lack of quorum.

VII. Financial Report

No financial report was distributed due to the absence of the financial bookkeeper at the meeting. G. D'Amour gave a verbal report on the current financial state of the organization.

VIII. Chairman's Report

G. D'Amour provided a verbal update on the transfer of the BioDistrict website to the New Orleans Business Alliance website. G. D'Amour explained the BioDistrict Associates Program which is an appeal to the board to fund and support the operating costs for running the organization. An announcement was made about the MPRAC report released by the Board of Regents and Louisiana Economic Development. G. D'Amour updated the board on the final report that will be sent to the Louisiana Recovery Authority to close out a grant as well as the State's Boards and Commissions Website to which he is in the process of submitting data.

IX. Update on New Orleans Business Alliance Initiatives

Melissa Ehlinger, Interim CEO of New Orleans Business Alliance ("NOLABA"), updated the board on the current bio work that is being coordinated by NOLABA. This includes a small business gap analysis that has been completed, a workforce gap analysis that is in progress, and a bio and health sciences industry analysis. M. Ehlinger also updated the board on the current status of the NOLABA CEO search process.

X. Other Old Business

K. Garrett asked about the status of the agreement with NOLABA and what is currently being done around the strategy development with the BioDistrict. G. D'Amour responded that once NOLABA has a CEO in place and has completed the current studies in progress, we will be able to make informed decisions about the strategy.

XI. New Business

No new business was presented.

XII. Public Comment(s)

No public comment(s) were made.

XIII. Adjournment

G. D'Amour adjourned the meeting informally due to lack of quorum, but with the approval of the commissioners present at 12:48 PM CST.