



Board Meeting

Date and Time: October 23, 2020 at 8:30 a.m.

Meeting Place: 5367 I-49 S. Service Road, Opelousas, LA 70570

AGENDA

- ❖ Welcome
- ❖ Pledge and Opening Prayer
- ❖ Roll Call
- ❖ Approval of September 2020 Meeting Minutes
- ❖ Financial Report
- ❖ **Old Business**
 - CPEX Presentation Update
 - City of Opelousas Updates
 - New Life Center Update
 - Viviano Family Property Meeting
 - Vine Street Project
 - Resolution of Support from City of Opelousas and St. Landry Parish Government
 - LDG Evaluation Update
- ❖ Board Member Comments
- ❖ Adjourn

The following members were present in person: Chairwoman Lena Charles, Keith Broussard, Don D’Avy, Pat Fontenot, Ogdén Pitre, Sarah Branton, and Rob Hillard.

The following members were absent: None

The following SLED staff members were in attendance: Bill Rodier/CEO-Director, Taylor Lormand/ED Specialist, and Glenda Carriere/ED Support Coordinator.

There were also present in person: Melanie Lebouef/City of Opelousas Tourism

There were also present virtually: Camille Manning-Broome/CPEX, Lyneisha Jackson/CPEX, and Jim Bradshaw/Writer

It was determined that a quorum was present.

Approval of September 2020 Meeting Minutes: A motion to approve the September 2020 meeting minutes was made by Don D’Avy and seconded by Ogden Pitre. Motion carried without objection.

Financial Report: Keith Broussard provided an overview of the September 2020 financials. A motion to accept the September 2020 financials was made by Pat Fontenot and seconded by Rob Hillard. Motion carried with no objection.

Old Business

CPEX Presentation Update: Camille Manning-Broome and Lyneisha Jackson with CPEX gave a presentation and discussed their plans to seek input and devise the vision of downtown Opelousas at a public input event scheduled for November 7, 2020. Our team has created flyers to invite contacts and friends to come downtown. Members were encouraged to share this information on their social media pages. In the event of inclement weather, we have an alternate date of November 14, 2020. We will have a tent set up at the grand opening of the Walking Track to advertise the input meeting scheduled for November 7, 2020. A press release will be issued by Mayor Julius Alsandor, Chairwoman Lena Charles, and CEO Bill Rodier at the beginning of next week to promote this public input meeting.

City of Opelousas:

New Life Center Update: Bill Rodier has been in communication with Acadiana Planning Commission about issuing an RFP (Request for Proposal) for the New Life Center. The APC is currently waiting for the CPEX plan to come closer to being concluded. The New Life Center could be a transformational project for downtown Opelousas. CPEX has been doing research but has not identified anchor redevelopment projects downtown. The board members discussed various avenues to utilize this building. A motion was made by Sarah Branton and seconded by Ogden Pitre to notify CPEX to add the New Life Center as one of our projects to the masterplan to develop. A motion was made by Sarah Branton and seconded by Rob Hillard to move forward with the RFP.

Viviano Family Property Meeting: Bill Rodier had a very positive meeting with the family. They are in discussions about finalizing the estate and properties. Bill is putting them in direct contact with CPEX to get their input on the master plan. He discussed the need for these projects to be a private-public partnerships in order to be successful. The family anticipates having things in order with the properties early in 2021.

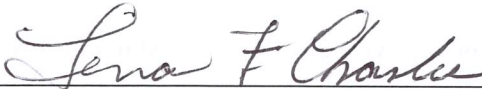
Vine Street Project: Bill Rodier discussed there being \$19.5 million dedicated to Vine Street within the DOTD internal capital outlay budget. There is also \$200,000 allowed to fund the environmental study. It was discussed that a special public meeting needed to take place between city leadership, the parish president, Secretary Wilson, Senator Boudreaux, Dustin Miller and Opelousas Downtown Development District to be clear on what the path is going forward with the reconstruction of Vine Street. A motion was made by Don D’Avy and seconded by Sarah Branton to schedule and hold a special meeting before the next scheduled board meeting.

LDG Evaluation Update: Bill Rodier stated that discussions have begun with the Industrial Board on their response to the evaluation. He also mentioned that we will be meeting with the Vision St. Landry board members on Monday to further discuss their role. After receiving feedback from the boards, Bill decided to have the staff do a breakdown analysis of their time spent. He stated he would present that data to the boards once completed. Board members would like to see new recommendations in a new proposal.

The next scheduled meeting will be held on Friday, November 20, 2020, at 9:00 am at SLED.

There being no further business to come before the board, motion to adjourn was moved by Pat Fontenot and seconded by Don D’Avy and unanimously approved that the meeting be adjourned at 10:42 pm.


Secretary


Chairman