



## **Board Meeting**

**Date and Time: March 19, 2021 at 9:00 a.m.**

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

### **AGENDA**

- ❖ Welcome
- ❖ Pledge and Opening Prayer
- ❖ Roll Call
- ❖ Approval of February 2021 Meeting Minutes
- ❖ Financial Report
- ❖ **Old Businesses**
  - ODDD Business of the Month Recognition 2021
  - City of Opelousas
  - CPEX-Joni Hammons
  - Grant Program
    - Building Improvement Grant (BIG)
- ❖ **New Business**
  - Asphalt Art Initiative
  - Pedi Bike Trail Grant
- ❖ **Board Member Comments**
- ❖ Adjourn

The following members were present in person: Chairwoman Lena Charles, Keith Broussard, Don D'Avy, Sarah Branton and Ogden Pitre

The following members were present virtually: none

The following member was absent: Pat Fontenot and Rob Hillard

The following SLED members were present in person: Bill Rodier/CEO, Taylor Lormand/E.D. and Specialist Glenda Carriere/E.D. Support Coordinator

Guest present in person were Melanie LeBouef/City Tourism and Herman Fusilier/St. Landry Parish Tourism

Joni Hammons/CPEX was present virtually.

It was determined that a quorum was present and Chair Woman Lean Charles opened the meeting at 9:12.

**Approval of February 2021 Meeting Minutes:** A motion to approve the February 2021 meeting minutes was made by Sarah Branton and seconded by Don D’Avy. Motion carried without objection.

**Financial Report:** Keith Broussard provided an overview of the February 2021 financials. A motion to accept the February 2021 financials was made by Don D’Avy and seconded by Ogden Pitre. Motion carried without objection.

**Old Business:**

- **ODDD Business of the Month Recognition 2021:** Chairwoman Lena Charles stated the members of the businesses Bodemuller’s press release. Initial press release to launch this with first.
- **City of Opelousas:** Melanie Lebouef stated there were two applicants that applied for the Main Street Grant \$55,000. The program requires the participants to put up \$5,000. She also discussed additional artwork that was done on traffic boxes to showcase artists in the area.
- **CPEX-Joni Hammons:** Joni Hammons presented an update on the masterplan. 3<sup>rd</sup> public meeting on February 27, 2021. 1<sup>st</sup> Draft recommendations has six primary categories. These are: urban design, mobility, economic development, arts and culture, sustainability, and infrastructure improvements. Discussed sharing the draft master plan with the ODDD advisory committee for feedback.
- **Grant Program**
  - **Building Improvement Grant (BIG):** Sarah Branton provided a copy of the draft plan with criteria of the grant. \$10,000 Grant, \$5,000 match. A motion to move forward on editing the draft with necessary improvements, once edited, get legal review before next meeting was made by Don D’Avy and seconded by Keith Broussard. Motion carried with no objection.

**New Business:**

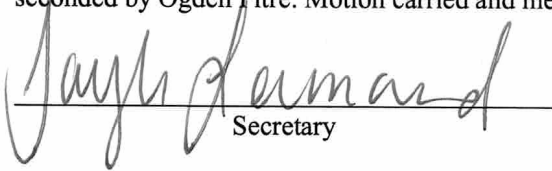
- **Asphalt Art Initiative:** Bill Rodier introduced a discussion on this \$25,000 street art grant that does not require a match. This grant was brought forth by the Acadiana Center for the Arts. Discussion was had on whether to provide a letter of support for the grant and to provide a recommendation for a specific street for the art. A motion to move forward with the Asphalt Art Initiative was made by Don D’Avy and seconded by Keith Broussard. Motion carried with no objection. A motion that the site be Bellevue Street between Court St. and Main St. was made by Don D’Avy and seconded by Sarah Branton. Motion carried with no objection. A motion for the resolution of support for the Asphalt Art Initiative was made by Sarah Branton and seconded by Ogden Pitre. Motion carried with no objection.
- **Pedi Bike Trail Grant:** Melanie LeBoeuf stated this grant has been awarded. A motion for the ODDD to partner with the City of Opelousas was made by Sarah Branton and seconded by Ogden.

**Board Member Comments:** Bill Rodier informed the board that the New Life Center RFP has not been completed and that would follow up with APC for an update on this timing. He also updated the group on the old Bordelon Ford building, and that Cody Lanclos has purchased the building for use as a sheet metal fabrication facility, but that there are not details available yet on the buildout design. Bill

Rodier also updated the board that conversations are ongoing with the Viviano Family on their properties and that the conversations are positive and productive.

The next scheduled meeting will be on Friday, April 23, 2021, at 9:00 am at SLED.

There being no further business to come before the board, a motion was made by Sarah Branton and seconded by Ogden Pitre. Motion carried and meeting was adjourned at 10:20 am.

  
Secretary

  
Chairman

