



Board Meeting

Date and Time: August 20, 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 July 23, 2021, Meeting Minutes
- ❖ ODDD Business Recognition Program
 - Java Square Café – Manager Eva Noel – August Awardee
- ❖ Monthly Financial Report
 - Annual Audit (Status)
- ❖ **Old Business:**
 - ODDD Master Plan Initiatives:
 - ODDD Master Plan Final Adoption, August 10, 2021
 - ODDD Grant Program, BIG Awardees for year 2021
 - City of Opelousas
 - South City Park Master Plan Proposal, presented by Land Architecture, LLC
 - Asphalt Art Initiative Grant, (Fall)
 - Pedi Bike Trail Grant
 - Tap Grant Landry Street
 - Keep Opelousas Clean Initiative
 - ODD Grant Program
 - Building Improvement Grant (BIG)
- ❖ **New Business**
- ❖ **Board Member Comments**
 - ODDD Celebrates Two Big Wins, Congratulation!
- ❖ **Adjourn**

Next Meeting Date: Friday, September 24, 2021, at 9:00 a.m. on the campus of SLED. Public and any interested parties are invited to attend. If you require reasonable accommodations your request should be submitted as far in advance as possible.

The following members were present in person: Chairwoman Lena Charles, Keith Broussard, Don D'Avy, Pat Fontenot, Ogden Pitre, and Rob Hillard

The following members were present virtually: Sara Branton

The following member was absent:

The following SLED members were present in person: Bill Rodier/CEO and Janece Riser/SLED

The following SLED members were present virtually: Taylor Lormand

Guest present in person were Eva Noel, Herman Fuselier (St. Landry Parish Tourism), Melanie Leboeuf (St. Landry Parish Tourism) and Ashley Lormand (Java Square Café), Mayor Julius Alsandor (City of Opelousas), Bruce Gaudin, Lt. Jody White (Opelousas Police Department)

It was determined that a quorum was present and Chairwoman Lena Charles opened the meeting at 9:12 am.

Approval of July 23, 2021 Meeting Minutes: A motion to approve the July 2021 meeting minutes was made by Pat Fontenot and seconded by Rob Hillard. Motion carried without objection.

ODDD Business of the Month Recognition 2021: Chairwoman Lena Charles presented a certificate of recognition to Ashley & Carlos Lormand on behalf of the Java Square Café for August 2021.

Financial Report: Keith Broussard provided an overview of the July 2021 financials. Mr. Broussard advised that the audit is moving along smoothly. A motion to accept the July 2021 financials was made by Don D'avy and seconded by Ogden Pitre. Motion carried without objection.

Old Business:

- **ODDD Master Plan Initiatives:**

- Chairman Lena Charles gave an update that the ODDD Master Plan was adopted by the Opelousas Parish Council at the August 10th City Council Meeting. (No motion required)
- There were 7 applications received for The Building Improvement Grant. A selection committee met in August. The ODDD Grant Program, BIG Awardees for year 2021 are
 - Robbie Sebastien / Sebastien Dupre Awarded \$1300 of \$ 2600 project
 - Shawana Johnson / Wild Child Awarded \$1425 of \$ 2850 project
 - Michael Fontenot / Frank's Awarded \$2500 of \$11,200 project
 - Jonathan Sebastien / Chilala Holdings Awarded \$2500 of \$80,000 project
 - Vera Nagy / LaPetite Chateau Awarded \$2275 of \$12,933 project

The committee advised that for the \$10,000 investment, the total amount of the projects was over \$100,000.00. Because some projects came in under \$2,500, There was a 5th awardee. The committee requested that an additional \$125 be given to the fifth awardee to allow the complete \$2,500. A motion was made by Pat Fontenot to provide the additional funding of \$125.00 to the fifth awardee and seconded by Don D'Avy. Motion passed with no objections.

- **City of Opelousas:**

- Michael Cullen with Land Architecture, LLC gave a presentation on possibilities for South City Park Master Plan Proposal. After a brief discussion, a motion was made for the Opelousas Downtown Development District to proceed forward in a cooperative endeavor agreement with the City of Opelousas for 50% match for the redevelopment of South Park with Land Architecture, LLC in a principal contract by Pat Fontenot and seconded by Rob Hillard. Motion carried without objection.
- A second motion was made to allow Chairperson Lena Charles and Bill Rodier to engage

Bruce Gaudin to draft a CEA between the ODDD and the City of Opelousas to support the City of Opelousas with the cost for the project not to exceed \$44,500 by Don D'avy and seconded by Ogden Pitre. Motion carried without objection.

- A third motion was made to allow the chairperson Lena Charles to sign CEA between ODDD and the City of Opelousas was made by Pat Fontenot and seconded by Rob Hilliard. Motion carried without objection.
- The Asphalt Art Initiative Grant updates will be given Fall of 2021.
- Chairman Charles there were no updates on the Pedi Bike Trail Grant.
- TAP Grant Landry Street - ODDD is awaiting the State Traffic Engineer to provide guidance for the signage for handicap accessible areas for the TAP Grant along Landry Street.
- Keep Opelousas Clean Initiative - Chairwoman Charles discussed the need to divide areas of the city to proceed in attacking the need for a Clean City Initiative. The City will need to have a committee because ODDD will not assume the responsibility of spearheading this project.
- **ODDD Grant Program**
 - . If funds are remaining, we will begin accepting applications again.

New Business:

- Bill Rodier updated the committee with information on the 2 new businesses that are looking at the Bohanie Property near the Post Office next to Lowes. They have met with DOTD in reference to a traffic analysis. This is a part of the ODDD mechanism. Both properties should be under contract real soon.
- Bill Rodier also advised that he has received calls from building owners interpreting their property that were listed on the Master Plan as future potential green spaces.


Board Member Comments:

- Chairman Leana Charles congratulated the board on three big wins today.

The next scheduled meeting will be on Friday, September 24, 2021, at 9:00 am at SLED.

There being no further business to come before the board, a motion was made by Keith Broussard and seconded by Ogden Pitre. Motion carried and meeting was adjourned at 10:49 am.


Secretary


Chairman