

**Steering Committee Meeting
March 16, 2010
Vacherie Court House Annex**

Minutes

Members Present:

Debra Bartley
Terry Borne
Tommy Bourgeois
Dianne Brathwaite
Kevin Criddle
Kathleen Favorite
Elyse Garon
Blaise Gravois
Ozane Gravois
Michael Guillot
Libby Hotard
Zeb Mayhew
Lois Moore
Michelle Octave
D'ara Pillette
Nick Steib

Member Absent:

Clara Mae Harris
Chad Weidert
David Zeringue

Other Present

Dale Hymel, St. James Parish President
Charles Ketchens, Councilman
James Brazan, Councilman
Ralph Patin, Jr., Councilman
Jason Amato, Councilman
Ken Brass, Councilman
Danny St. Pierre, Planning Commission Member
Austin Dennis, Planning Commission Member
Arthur Matherne, Planning Commission Member
Eugene Roussel, Planning Commission Member
Nicole Scott, Planning Commission Member
Ricky Roussel, Public
Matthew Zeringue, Public
Michael Calabro, Public
Paul Beier, Public
Darlene Garon, Public

The meeting was called to order at approximately 6:00pm at the Vacherie Courthouse Annex.

The first item on the agenda was Introductions. K. Belanger welcomed the group and introduced SCPDC staff and elected officials. D. Hymel explained the importance of the committee.

Next on the agenda was Committee Ground Rules. S. Caesar explained the importance of good attendance. There are nineteen members on the committee and a quorum of 10 required present to vote. She explained the meeting will alternate from one side of the river to the other each month. She advised members of the public to fill out comment cards with any comments or questions they may have. These will be addressed later on the agenda. She encouraged everyone to participate while respecting others opinions. She gave details to the members about their binders.

Item three on the agenda is Power Point Presentation. S. Caesar presented the presentation. She made everyone aware of what will happen while gathering information about the plan.

Next on the agenda is Nominations and Election of Steering Committee Chair and Vice Chair. S. Caesar and K. Belanger elaborated on the importance for the Committee to have a Chair and Vice Chair. K. Belanger made the motion to postpone the nominations for Chair and Vice Chair until the beginning of the next meeting.

Item five on the agenda was Open Discussion-Questions. With no items at this time to discuss, the committee moved on to the next item on the agenda.

The next meeting was set for April 12, 2010 at 6:00 pm. Location will be announced in a notice.

Someone asked how many other parishes have this plan. K. Belanger stated, Terrebonne, Assumption and St. John all have a plan already. St. Charles is working on its plan now and we are now working with St. James.

Questions arose about the process of the plan. K. Belanger advised that the plan will be presented to the Steering Committee who will ultimately adopt the final plan. The St. James Parish Council has entrusted this committee to adopt the plan. The Steering Committee will hand the council a blue print and SCPDC will help you derive that blue print.

K. Belanger spoke of zoning and at what point it fits in with the steering committee.

L. Marretta made the board aware that they are the outreach and was chosen because of their geographic location and your ability to touch people. He stressed the importance of inviting your neighbors, businessman and friends to these meeting so that we can get the input from everyone.

K. Belanger stated that plans should be revisited every two to three years because things do change.

Discussion ensued regarding the requirements of the committee and the location of the meeting.