

EAST NEW ORLEANS NEIGHBORHOOD ADVISORY COMMISSION (ENONAC)

GENERAL MEETING

**St. Maria Goretti Community Center
7300 Crowder Blvd., New Orleans, LA 70127**

Tuesday, March 12, 2019 @ 6:00pm

MINUTES

Executive Board Members:

P – Denotes member present, E – Denotes member excused, A – Denotes member absent, V – vacant position

P	Sylvia Scineaux-Richard, President	A	Brenda Jackson, 1 st Vice President
P	Dawn Hebert, 2nd Vice President	P	Karol Sanders, Treasurer
P	Carroll Denesse, Member At Large	P	Karen Comeaux, Member At Large
		P	Lydia Leon, Secretary

Attendees: See attached sign-in sheets.

I. Call to order/Roll Call

Meeting was called to order by Pres. Scineaux-Richard at 6:09 p.m. After roll call, we did not have a quorum.

II. Introduction of Special Guest(s): Mr. Larry Barabino, Director of New Orleans Recreation Development Commission (NORDC) and Ms. Yvonne Martin, Office of Neighborhood Engagement

III. Review and Approval of Agenda: was tabled until a quorum was met.

IV. Review and Approval of Minutes from January 8, 2019: The minutes were read by Pres. Scineaux-Richard but approval was tabled until a quorum was met.

V. Review and Approval of Treasurer’s Report: The Treasurer’s report for both ENONAC and East New Orleans Foundation (ENOF) was tabled until a quorum was met.

VI. New Business:

A. ENONAC Economic Development Committee report: Comms. Ed Blouin, Dawn Hebert, Lydia Leon in addition to Pres. Scineaux-Richard were in attendance. Also, resident Alexcear Short (as part of the Economic Development Committee) attended the meeting. Mary A. Thomas, a community development consultant for the National Association of Real Estate Brokers (NARAB) spoke of plans to help address areas in the East that are presently blighted. Their mission is to develop the area around the old Winn Dixie on Bundy which she identified as Somerset Subdivision (Bunker Hill) and also Parc Brittany which needs rebuilding. ENONAC will help by identifying the blighted properties and report them to City Hall. Financing is with Liberty and Whitney/Hancock Banks and they are working on Chase and Capital One Banks. Pres. Scineaux-Richard said that addressing the lack of homeownership in our community is very important to our rebuilding in the East. One thing we need to address is doubles that are owned by someone but they are renting them out and are not being maintained. Comm. Linda Williams said that City Hall needs to enforce the laws on the book for maintaining their rental property. Ashley Everett said she lives on Burke Rd. and calls 311 and suggest Code Enforcement sweeps should be made every 30 days. Residents in the violator’s neighborhood should be notified of hearing date so they can attend. Comm. Hebert asked Ms. Everette for her address and they will talk to Code Enforcement about it. Comm. Bickham said that unless Code Enforcement employees are increased, we will continue to have this issue because it is a large problem. We need to take action on businesses and homes who are not keeping their property clean. Editha Amacker, Urban Planner, asked how they are going to make these properties available for redevelopment. It was stated that Ms. Thomas is locating funding to help developers to refurbish blighted properties. Editha stated she should start with properties already under the city. Mr. Arthur Busby said that at the Blight meeting, the city personnel do not look at pictures that you bring to the hearings on blighted properties.

VII. Old Business

A. Parks Millage: Mr. Larry Barabino, Director of NORDC spoke on the millage for parks and recreation. It is not a new millage but one that needs to be readdressed due to it expiring. Services provided by these entities are for the families and communities. All summer-campers go to these facilities; zoo, aquarium, and insectarium for free. Comm. Legaux said that the Nature Center has not been given their fair share and Joe Brown Park needs more than 2 swings. Residents in NOE should have parks within walking distance of their homes. We want to be sure that all our needs in NOE will be handled with this millage. We will get all the info to Mr. Barabino. They are in the process of renovations in Village de l'Est. East Shore area will have to be rebid to have enough funds to renovate the area. Also, Joe Brown Park will have new items added in the future. Mr. Wilfred Norris, resident, said that on major holidays, the gates are closed and senior citizens and kids cannot use the walking path. There was a question asked: Is this election going to be on the same day as other issues on the ballot? Mr. Barabino said that there is no new tax or increase with this millage. It will be on the ballot on May 4, 2019 and early voting is from April 20 thru 27, 2019. Comm. Weaver asked if consideration had been given to all the parks in NOE that are not operating at this time. Mr. Barabino said that Kim Abrahamson works on parks. He said that volunteers need to be available to help to make NORD successful. Michelle Sander, Vice President of Kenilworth Subdivision, made us aware that funding is never enough and help is needed from volunteers to help in playgrounds if there is a school in the neighborhood and want the kids to use the parks. Comm. Denesse said that Gorette Park has no parking and parents park on the streets and block the area where you cannot pass them. Mr. Barabino said that he will see if signs about parking can be placed. Curran, East Shore and Kerry Curley Parks are three parks that have never been returned into the refurbished condition. Comm. Hebert said we need a senior citizens community center in the East. They are looking at the old HANO building on Chef Hwy and will do a walk thru of the site with Councilperson Nguyen, according to Mr. Barabino. He said that you can come to NORD Commission meetings at 6pm to discuss these issues at City Hall on April 2, 2019. It was suggested that they hold one meeting in NOE.

VIII. Community Info/Public Comments

A. NORD: Movies in the Park: returns on March 8. For more information call (504) 658-3052

B. District E Cleanup: was scheduled for Saturday, March 16 from 8-9:30a for NOE at Village De Jardin Senior Apts; 8801 Lake Forest Blvd. but was cancelled by the residents and has not been rescheduled, according to Terrie Guerin from Councilperson Nguyen's office.

C. District E Tree Giveaway: is on Saturday, March 23 from 9-12p at Global Green located at 5400 Douglas St.

VIII. Announcements

A. Neighborhood Leaders Roundtable on Public Safety

Registration closes March 8, 2019.

B. 2019 Civic Leadership Academy enrollment began March 6

Applications must be received no later than 5pm on Monday, March 11th

C. NPP: Placement of Billboard at 13100 I-10 Service Rd.

Community Meeting is on Friday, March 23 from 5:30-6:30p at NO Hamburger & Seafood located at 12000 E. I-10 Service Rd.

Additional Info: Comm. Bickham said that the exit signs at Read and Bullard are in deplorable condition and overgrown with grass and trees are also falling down. Terrie Guerin said that they are working on that problem with Rep. Bagneris and Senator Bishop. She also said that a community meeting will be held on March 21 at 6pm at NOE Hospital on the Small Box stores. Ms. Guerin said that there will NOT be an Easter Egg hunt in NOE but they are going to the 9th ward for it. She said that on July 3, a Snow Ball Fest at either Lowes on Read or Joe Brown Park is being planned. They will have 15 snow ball stands, food and music.

One resident brought up the subject of house and car break-ins in the East. Car thefts are also a problem. She suggested that maybe everyone should keep their outside lights on at night to keep the area lit.

X. Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 7:33pm

Submitted by
Lydia Leon, Secretary