**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**LOWER NINTH WARD ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT**

**BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**Wednesday, April 17, 2024, at 5:30 PM**

**Date:** 4/17/2024

Time: 5:30 P.M.

**Location:**  Andrew Pete Sanchez Copelin-Byrd Center 1616 Fats Domino Ave

**Minutes Prepared by: Secretary Calhoun**

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER @ 5:46 P.M. by** **Chairman W. Waiters**

# In attendance: Commissioners

R. DAVIS, Y. Martin, K. Henry, S. Mosgrove, L. Waters, W. Calhoun, W. Waiters.

Absent: O. Tucker Bush, L. Tate, J. Morris.

14 community members were in attendance.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Motion by Comm’r. R. Davis; 2nd by. Comm’r. S Mosgrove. Motion Carried. (with no objection)

# Approval of minutes

The minutes were tabled to make necessary correction(s). They shall be presented at the next monthly board meeting for approval. Motion by Comm’r. R. Davis; 2nd by Comm’r. W. Calhoun. Motion Carried (with no objection)

# OLD BUSINESS

Election of Board Secretary.

Commissioners Keshia Henry, and Rev. Willie L. Calhoun Jr. were nominated for the position of secretary. All 7 commissioners present participated in the voting.

Commissioner W. Calhoun received 5 votes, Commissioner K. Henry received 1 vote, and there was 1 abstention.

# CHairman’s Report

Chairman requested the appointment of two ad-hoc committee.

1. Strategic Plans Review Committee. The committee will review the Trepwise plan and the Regional Urban Design Team (RUDAT)plan. The RUDAT plan was conducted by the American Institute of Architects (AIA), The city of New Orleans and over 200 community residents and organizations. It was also noted that RUDAT was included in the Trepwire plan.

Comm. Martin motion that a special meeting to address strategic planning and Strategic plan review ad-hoc committee, the motion was 2nd by Comm. Davis. Motion Pass. The following are on the Strategic Plans Review Committee: Comm. S. Mosgrove, community members Shane Booker and Betty Perez.

Commissioner Henry questioned the acceptance of the RUDAT Plan by the L9EDD Board. That the plan was not discussed nor accepted by the board. (The minutes of January 18, 2023 reflects the board discussion of the RUDAT plan.)

2. By Laws Review Committee was Motion by Comm’r K Henry 2nd By Comm’r Y Davis (Motion Carried). The following are committee members commissioners K. Henry, R. Davis, Y. Martin, and community member Arlene Madine.

**Quarterly Reports**

The chairman reported that, Charles F. Webb; CPA, has completed the quarterly reports. The reports are now up to date and are ready for submission to the state.

# treasury’s Report

A financial report was not submitted.

# New Business

Capital Outlay Committee (COC) Report was presented by Comm. Leon Waters Vice-Chairman of (COC). The committee meeting was held on March 28, 2024 in the MLK High School Library.

Comm. Waters presented to the board the LX Bio-Tech project had been presented to board as flag ship project. Trepwire had recommended that the L9EDD board select a flagship project. He stated that some missteps had been made, between the board members as well as community. He stated more community involvement was needed. The status of the LX project is that Xavier University, and the Scientists, and NOLABA are interested in continuing. The COC committee agreed to present the LX Project to the full board. He closed his report.

Community member- Lindsay Edwards Stated her object to the LX Project.

Community member – Ron Mazier requested that his presentation on Lower 9 Business Resource Center at NENA be moved up from the 5th position. Chairman Waiters agreed.

Mr. Mazier- Stated the resource programs that are housed/ held at NENA. Such as, financial

Literacy, youth programs, and community events. He noted his credentials and background in these areas. Ms. Helaine Nealy the community outreach and program manager for NENA stated her credentials and involvement with civil and community work. Ms. Nealy also spoke about her displeasure with the L9EDD Board.

Comm. Henry questioned as to when the resource center will start.

Sect’y. Calhoun asked Mr. Mazier what his ask of this board is. His respond was that the board consider renting space from NENA as a resource business resource center for $2,000.00 a month.

Comm. Henry- stated that for transparency all projects should be through an RFP.

Comm. Henry- motion that all projects have a RFP. 2ND by Comm. Y. Martin. (Motion carried)

The following agenda items that were a part of the capital outlay committee report. Youth Entrepreneurship Program, (CSED), Encalarde Youth Entrepreneurship 101 Program, and Drainage Program (CSED) were not discussed.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Ms. Roylene Johnson introduced herself as a community liaison for Seventh Day Adventist Congregation.

Ms. Betty Perez asked about future funding for the L9EDD. She was told L9 future funding is unknown at this time.

**Announcements**

No Announcements were made.

# Next meeting

**Tentatively set for 5/15/2024**