

EAST NEW ORLEANS NEIGHBORHOOD ADVISORY COMMISSION (ENONAC)

GENERAL MEETING

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

Tuesday, November 13, 2018 @ 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	P	Brenda Jackson, 1 st Vice President
A	Romona Baudy, 2nd Vice President	P	Karol Sanders, Treasurer
P	Carroll Denesse, Member At Large	A	Maxine Weaver, 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 6:14 p.m. After roll call, we did not have a quorum.

II. Introduction of Special Guest(s): Kelly Derbigny from Councilperson Nguyen’s office, Patrick Young, Director of Strive NOLA and Logan Burke, Executive Director Alliance for Affordable Energy.

III. Review and Approval of Agenda:

IV. Review and Approval of Minutes of September 11, 2018 and October 9 2018:

V. Review and Approval of Treasurer’s Report: All of these were tabled until next meeting.

VI. New Business:

A. Strive NOLA: Patrick Young spoke about 52% of African American men being unemployed. Strive NOLA, a new training program eligible for people who have been incarcerated and/or previous drug abusers. Ages 18 and above qualify. They have employed 890 people and have 71% employment rate in finding jobs. They have been able to reduce New Orleans unemployment rate to 44% from 54%. Total Community Action (TCA) and Job 1 work with Strive International. There are no programs like this in New Orleans East so Strive International is bringing one to the East at the NOE Library starting November 19 2018. It is a 4-week program of training from 10-4pm and participants are not paid. This is a new way for participants to update their skills and attitude for jobs in today’s world. Employers are brought in to speak with the participants. Also, getting calls from District C to come out there. Questions: What are the benefits and what do we need to do to help with this program? Mr. Young said to bring people into the program. They are looking for people who are really interested in bettering their job training capabilities. He said that the Library is very helpful for this program. They are committed to clients for the next two years. They do one on one assessment. They also do drug testing. Mr. Young asked if we could put flyers on our website. He said interested persons can sign up at the NOE Library. Ochsner and Four Seasons Development are employers that will be working with this class on November 19.

VII. Old Business

A. CPC Small Box Retail Diversity Study: It has been rescheduled for December 11, 2018 at 1:30pm. The study findings are to be released by November 27. Editha Amacker said that we submitted our letter to CPC concerning this matter. She said that we need to make sure that we have a large group of people so that they show up at this hearing. After CPC, it then goes to the City Council. Because NOE has so many discount stores in our area, we need to be at that meeting to express our opinion about the need to regulate their overpopulation in NOE. We have 13 Dollar Stores and we deserve more grocery stores with fresh vegetables and fruits that are necessary for a healthy lifestyle.

B. Neighborhood Summit: *Building a Resilient New Orleans Together*: Comm. Marcia McWilliams, one of the attendees gave the Commissioners an update. She said that trees are hanging off of the stop signs and other areas in her neighborhood. She spoke with Ms. Ann MacDonald of Parks and Parkways about it at the meeting and after leaving the meeting found out that they were to cut down the trees. She spoke to a man in the truck and found out that there was only one tree cutting services. Now after her call to Ms. MacDonald we now have 5 tree-cutting services. She said you can call 311 to complain about the overgrown trees/limbs issue. Cynthia Lear, Director of Sanitation, spoke about signs and neighborhood clean-up. She said to call 311 and they may be able to assist us with clean-up in our neighborhood. Comm. Landrum said that she ordered a recycling bin and had not received it as of yet and it has been over 60 months. Comm. Legaux said that at 311@nola.gov you can send pictures of problem areas to this email address. Comm. Celestand said that the summit was well-attended, very informative and there were lots of free things. Bike Easy was there and she asked Rob at Bike Easy about bike routes along Haynes and in NOE in general. Commissioners, Legaux, Landrum also Attended the Summit.

C. Litter Free Campaign: Free Litter bags are to be distributed at the Toys for Tots event on December 1, 2018. The bags are to be given to the parents. Pres. Scineaux-Richard asked if anyone could donate crayons to go in the bags along with the coloring books. Comm. Comeaux asked if Folgers was contacted. Comm. Legaux said that we should show the bags to the principals of the schools and let them know that they are being given out at the Toys for Tots event. Comm. Denesse suggested contacting Crimestoppers for a donation.

D. Toys for Tots: December 1, 2018; 10a-1p; St. Maria Goretti Community Center – Toys were picked up and stored at the District 2 Community Center on Crowder. There were about 40 boxes of toys. Richard Disposal got one of his trucks and a few employees to pick up and bring to District 2 Community Center for storage of the toys.

E. Holiday Extravaganza 2018: Tickets are going fast! Just a few reserved tables left.

VIII. Community Info

A. Entergy Resolution: WHAT NOW? Pres. Scineaux Richard said that she has gotten a lot of phone calls from NOE residents and how they feel about the whole issue with Entergy hiring actors to attend the meeting at City Hall to voice support for the their proposal. Logan Burke, Executive Director of the Alliance for Affordable Energy said that ENONAC is a fantastic organization. She said that the City Council has opened an investigation into the Entergy issue. She said many NOE residents were unable to get in because of the large numbers of actors taking up much space. The investigation gave their finding in a meeting on October 31 and the Council was very upset with Entergy. The Council said they want Entergy fined \$5 million dollars and wants upper executives to take an ethics class. The Council is also trying to see if that fine is sufficient or should something else be done along with the fine. The deadline on this is 30 days; that would be November 30, 2018. She said that residents of the East need to send in their views on the Entergy issue to the City Council before November 30. She said that the City Council is also open to re-opening the Entergy case and re-voting on the original proposal. Open meeting violation is also under lawsuit and another one stating Entergy did not look at any other options. The Council's Utility Commission meeting is on Thursday, December 13, 2018 at 10am in City Council chambers. She said we should email Jason Williams, Helena Moreno and Cyndi Nguyen and let them know our position on Entergy issue. Ms. Amacker said there was a reference to ENONAC in the investigation report and Entergy said that this issue was 'war'. She said that meetings were held outside of scheduled meetings to avoid notifying NOE. They wanted to avoid real public opinion on this issue. Usually a fine is extensive and \$5 million is not enough. We need to make sure that the ethics training is done and it needs to be about community input and how to deal with people. Comm. Legaux said that the issue needs to be restated and revisited and that each commissioner needs to sign it and send it to our residents and get at least 5 residents from each neighborhood to sign it. Comm. Comeaux suggested that we ask for a new vote and that the fine be increased according to the damages to NOE.

She stated that Mr. Charles Rice, former CEO of Entergy, came to her neighborhood meeting and said that activists were coming to that meeting and blowing everything out of proportion. He said that he did not care how much it costs to get people at the meeting. She said we should use his words in the resolution. She said that the ENONAC resolution should be brought to each CAB members' residents to sign and bring all of this to the meeting in December. Residents need to get their opinion to City Council before November 30. There will be a hearing in January before Judge Piper Griffin on this Entergy issue.

CAB members gave Pres. Scineaux-Richard, Ms. Amacker and the Executive Board their permission to get a resolution together and send it to them in 5 days.

VIII. Announcements

A. Short Term Rental Listening Tour by Councilperson Cyndi Nguyen took place:

- Saturday, November 10, 2018 from 5-7p; Ft. Pike Fire House; 26812 Chef Hwy.
- Sunday, November 11, 2018; 1:30-3pm; ENO Library; 5641 Read Blvd.
- Monday, November 12, 2018; 5-7pm; MLK Library; 1616 Caffin Ave. was cancelled due to the bad weather

B. Coffee with Our Cops: Meet NOPD's 7th District Officers is Thursday, November 15, 2018; 10:30am; ENO Library 5641 Read Blvd.

Joan Heisser, ENO activist, said that she is very upset about the Short Term Rental coming into our subdivision because it is not good for our neighborhood property value or quality of life. Additionally, it is prohibited by most subdivision covenants.

X. Adjournment: Meeting ended at 7:45pm.

Submitted by
Lydia Leon, Secretary