

RECORD OF DISCUSSION

Homebuilding Plan for Treme/Lafitte and Tulane/Gravier

Date 6:00 – 8:00, September 9th, 2009
Sojourner Truth Community Center, 2200 Lafitte St.

Next Meeting 6:00-8:00, October 14th, 2009
Sojourner Truth Community Center, 2200 Lafitte St.

Participants:

Valerie Brown
Shirley Daufauchard
Sidney Daufauchard
Claudette Freeman
Clyde Hudson
Ola James
Anna Jarvis
Valerie Johnson

Terry Jordan
Bonnie King
Diana LeBlanc
Travis LeBlanc
Cynthia Magraff
Emelda Paul
Carl Richardson
Lachia L. Rodriguez

Lachia S. Rodriguez
Lawrence Smith
Louise Smith
Tashara Smith
Beryl Thomas
Simone White

Sojourner Truth Family Supportive Services: Carol Carter, Sombra Davis Williams, D'Ana Smith
Providence/Enterprise: Jim Kelly, Matt Morrin, Andreanecia Morris, Cornelius Payne, Nick Roosevelt
Market Umbrella: Anne Spurrier
Tulane University Health Clinic: Jenna Pollock
Southeast Louisiana Legal Services: Sarah Marcello

This meeting record was drafted by Nick Roosevelt, staff at Providence. Prior to being finalized, it will be provided in draft to all meeting participants for their review. It reflects the key messages and main points raised at the meeting. It is not intended to represent a verbatim transcript.

The meeting began with an opening prayer by Miss D'Ana Smith.

I. Market Umbrella Update

Anne Spurrier

- **Farmer's Markets Information:** Market Umbrella is a farmer's market organization that currently operates two farmer's markets in Orleans Parish. There is a Saturday morning market from 8 until 12 at Girod and Magazine in the CBD and there is a Tuesday market Uptown from 9 until 1 where Broadway runs into the river. Both markets offer lots of fresh fruits, vegetables, meats, seafood and dairy. Right now there are incredible deals on fresh, local shrimp!
- **Promotions:** Market Umbrella now accepts Louisiana Purchase cards. Cards can be run through our machine in exchange for tokens that you can use at the market (same rules apply to purchase, no hot, prepared food, etc.). Right now, we will match up to \$25 worth of tokens purchased with a Louisiana Purchase card. \$50 can buy quite a bit at the market! Also, anyone in the WIC program and seniors who meet certain income requirements can receive a \$24 coupon to use at the market. If you are interested in any of these programs come out to the market and we can help you sign up or you can contact me or anyone here at the Sojourner Truth to find out more.

- **Farmer's Market Activities at Sojourner Truth:** On October 7th, there will be senior's farmer's market bingo, where you can find out more about promotions at farmer's markets. Also, on October 13th, a bus will be leaving from Sojourner Truth to go to the Uptown farmer's market.
- **Questions/Comments:**
 - What about the market at American Can on Orleans?: *Market Umbrella does not operate that market, so the promotions are not applicable there. Even so, it is a great market and I encourage you to go check it out.*
 - I had a card after the Hurricane, but don't have one anymore. How can I sign up? *Just ask me or anyone here at the Sojourner Truth and we can help you sign up!*

II. Sojourner Truth Update

Sombra Davis Williams:

- **Section 3:** Now that the groundbreaking has happened, things are starting to move on section 3! If you are at all interested, please contact me as soon as possible. Also, the first official step to get involved with Section 3 is to fill out the basic information form that we have at our front desk. Feel free to grab one as you head out. We can't officially get started on anything until that form is filled out.
- **Section 3 Job Training:** The jobs that will be available through Section 3 are construction jobs. If you have construction experience, that's great, but I know that many probably do not have construction experience. There are lots of free training opportunities right now that we can help you enter that will make you much stronger candidates for Section 3 jobs.
- **Newsletter:** Check out our most recent newsletter. There are a couple highlights we want to bring to your attention. Our Young Ambassadors program will be starting soon. Any High School Juniors or Seniors in Orleans Parish Schools that you may know can enter the program and received important training on writing, professionalism, resumes and interview skills. Also, we are continuing our Job Seekers Roundtable, which has been a great success so far. Finally, we are going to reschedule our 21st Century Training sessions to times that are more convenient for everyone, so let me know what times would work for you.
- No questions or comments were raised.

III. Southeast Louisiana Legal Services

Sarah Marcello

- I want to remind everyone that Southeast Louisiana Legal Services offers a huge range of legal services. If you or anyone you know is having legal problems, please contact us. If we can't help you, we will try our hardest to connect you with the legal resources you'll need.
- As Lafitte Re-Occupancy starts, some might have issues getting through the re-occupancy process. Please don't hesitate to call us.
- My office number is 504-274-0443
- No questions or comments were raised.

IV. Lafitte Redevelopment Update

Matt Morrin:

- As you all know by now, Lafitte is under construction. Over the next three months, we will be working on infrastructure and putting the streets back down. I'm sure some of you are concerned about some of the trees that have been cut down. This was part of the original plan so that we can have a proper layout of houses, while also putting back the streets. The majority of trees are being saved, especially those along Lafitte street.

Jim Kelly:

- You may have read in the paper over the weekend about the LIFT property next to Lafitte and how it will now be purchased by the City to make into a park. There was an error in the article that we wanted to clear up for everyone. The Sojourner Truth Center will not be purchased by the City and it will not be repurposed. Also, many of you heard Julia Takada's presentation at last month's meeting about the Lagniappe school. Lagniappe was hoping to build a top-notch charter school on a part of the LIFT property, while leaving room along the Lafitte Greenway for a park. It seems like many here were very interested in Lagniappe's proposal and we think that there has been some miscommunication on the city level. Would everyone here feel comfortable if I go to the Mayor and other people at City Hall and ask that there be more dialogue with the community? (Note: strong vocal support from meeting attendants).
- No questions or comments were raised.

V. Re-Occupancy

D'Ana Smith, Sojourner Truth Community Center

- As many of you know, Sojourner Truth has four case managers available. We are geared up to assist with re-occupancy. Now that work has begun, those who don't already have a case manager might want to contact us so that we can get the process moving.
- **Question/Comments:**
 - What about convicted felons? *We will work with everyone on a case by case basis. The best thing to do is get in touch with us so that we can figure everything out.*

VI. Tulane Community Health Center

Jenna Pollock

- There are fliers about flu prevention being distributed. On that flier is information about who is eligible for free flu shots at the Tulane Community Health Center. Please let me know if you have any questions. Also, this will be my last meeting

here at the Sojourner Truth. I have really enjoyed coming to these meetings and love working at the health center, but I am moving away from New Orleans. Gillian Locascio will be taking over as director of community outreach. She will be coming to meetings from now on. (Note: The audience gave a loud applause for Jenna and a warm welcome to Gillian)

- No questions or comments were raised.

VII. General Comments/Questions

- What is happening to the Bell school? *No plans currently. The Providence Team will look into it and get back to you at the next meeting.*
- There will be public meeting on the proposed tear-down of the Wheatley school to build a new school. It will be here at the Sojourner Truth on September 22nd at 6:30. We will have fliers at the front desk with more information.

VIII. Adjournment

- Door prizes and dinner served

Next Meeting: October 14th, 2009 at Sojourner Truth.