

RECORD OF DISCUSSION

Homebuilding Plan for Treme/Lafitte and Tulane/Gravier

Date 6:00 – 8:00, March 10th, 2010
Sojourner Truth Community Center, 2200 Lafitte St.

Next Meeting 6:00-8:00, April 14th, 2010
Sojourner Truth Community Center, 2200 Lafitte St.

Participants:

Alvin Banks
Miss Jessie Boyd
Trenise Bryant
Paulette Clay

Daniel Eames
Jennie Gordon
Emelda Paul
Anthony Pendleton

Harry Reed
Lachia Rodriguez
Charissa Stevenson
Beryl Thomas

Sojourner Truth Family Supportive Services: Sombra Davis Williams
Providence/Enterprise: Matt Morrin, Andreanecia Morris
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 Alvin Banks.

I. Sojourner Truth / Resident Council Update

Sombra Davis Williams:

- Money Wise trainings underway here at the Sojourner Truth Community Center.
- With vertical construction beginning soon, things have been busy at the Center getting people connected to Section 3 opportunities. Most of the people who have completed interest forms have not been former Lafitte residents. Extensive outreach has been conducted towards every former resident who hinted in the 2008 survey that they were interested in employment opportunities, but there has not been much response. Anyone who is interested in Section 3 employment opportunities should contact the Center as soon as possible.

II. Tulane Health Center

Gillian Locascio

- Tulane Health Center staff and development team is working hard to get construction of the new Center at the former Ruth's Chris on North Broad and Orleans underway. Unfortunately, there have been some delays and the new Center is not likely to open until 2011.

III. Lafitte Redevelopment Updates

Matt Morrin:

- Very close to “going vertical.” Other than that, no major updates
- **Question:** Why do residents have to undergo a credit check? **Alvin Banks:** Credit check will not be as prohibitive as people might think.
- **Question:** Will there be three-bedroom units in the 134 units that will be completed in the first phase? **Matt Morrin:** Yes
- **Question:** Will priority be given to single mothers or seniors? **Matt Morrin:** No, priority is given to former Lafitte residents.
- **Question:** Will everybody who was at Lafitte pre-Katrina be able to come back? **Matt Morrin:** When the new apartments become available, former Lafitte residents will have the first chance to rent the apartments.
- **Question:** Is there a plan for seniors? Can they move into the 134 units currently being built? **Matt Morrin:** A senior home is part of the Providence/Enterprise plan, although that will come after the first phase of development. Either way, seniors can move into the units currently being built, but they are not reserved for seniors.

VIII. Adjournment

- Door prizes and dinner served

Next Meeting: April 14th, 2010 at Sojourner Truth.