

**NSA New Orleans Advisory Task Force  
Delegates Meeting  
April 15, 2007**

Minutes

**Delegates in Attendance:** Kara Renne, Sandra Gunner, Dr. Tim Ryan, Joe Cochiarra, Clayton White, Julie Jones,

**Representatives of Delegates in Attendance:** Caitlin Cain representing the Regional Planning Commission, Sandra Gunner representing the New Orleans Chamber of Commerce, Sharon Martin representing the Industrial Development Board.

**Other Attendees:** Belinda Little-Wood, Executive Director; Nora Ann Winbush, Administrative Assistant;

**Call to Order:** A quorum was present and the meeting was called to order at 2:15 p.m. by Belinda Little-Wood, Executive Director.

**Adoption of Minutes:** Minutes from the prior two meetings were presented to the Board for approval.

**Proposed By-Laws:** Ms. Little-Wood provided an overview of the proposed by-laws indicating that the NOATF needed to establish guidelines for operation as a Board. She requested that the Board members review the draft carefully and submit any suggested changes to her by email or at the next meeting. The by-laws will be presented at the next. She also requested Board members to review their calendars and make suggestions as to a date for regular meetings of the Board. A meeting date was not mandated by the Ordinance that created the Board. She requested that the members narrow the possible date at a minimum to a specific week of the month and a time of day that would be more convenient.

**Notice of Interest to Homeless Service Providers & Public Benefit Conveyances:** Sample packets of information previously provided to the Board were discussed in more detail. Ms. Little-Wood outlined the outreach process required by Federal law with respect to the NSA New Orleans East Bank site. The first step includes advertising in the newspaper that the site has been declared surplus by the military and that the NOATF is soliciting notices of interest from homeless service providers and public benefit conveyance projects. Ms. Little-Wood indicated that the ad would appear in the Times-Picayune Monday, July 16, 2007. The respondents would have until November 30, 2007

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to submit proposals to the NOATF office. Concurrently, the NOATF would be issuing and RFP to engage planners to assist the Board in creating a redevelopment plan for the NSA New Orleans East Bank site.

Upon recommendation from the Office of Economic Adjustment, Ms. Little-Wood indicated to the Board that an attorney familiar with the process of documenting the outreach and public benefit conveyance alternatives would be engaged to insure that the proper documentation was in place to adequately document the outreach process. Ms. Little-Wood indicated that the funds for the attorney were included in the budget and that she would determine if an RFP should be issued to comply with City guidelines for such services.

**NOATF Sub-committee:** In order to provide a transparent, equitable review process, Ms. Little-Wood suggested that a sub-committee be formed by the Board to review the homeless service provider and public benefit conveyance responses and make recommendations to the Board. She requested the Board members to submit any possible candidates to her for consideration. In addition, she recommended that the sub-committee include M. Von Nkosi, Senior Advisor for Equitable Development for the Office of Planning and Development.

**NOATF Workshop and Tour:** The Workshop and Tour of the NSA New Orleans East Bank site was announced to be held Friday, August 3, 2007, 9:00 a.m. at 4400 Dauphine Street, New Orleans, LA. Reservations to attend the event should be provided to the NOATF office no later than July 31, 2007.

**Overview of NOATF Website:** Ms. Little-Wood provided the Board with an overview of the NOATF website. Currently, the website is included in the City of New Orleans website. All the pertinent information included in the Notice of Interest packets, as well as, contact information, frequently asked questions, mission and vision of the NOATF are included. The website is anticipated to be completed by July 13, 2007 and all information available on the web.

**Sean Cummings Presentation:** Upon an invitation from Ms. Little-Wood, Sean Cummings from the New Orleans Building Corporation presented an overview to the Board of the Reinventing the Crescent planning process. A team of internationally recognized planners have been working on a redevelopment plan a 4.1 mile stretch of the East Bank side of the river from Poland Avenue to Jackson Avenue. Since the NSA New Orleans "East Bank" site was adjacent to the project scope, the planners provided a concept that could be considered for the redevelopment of the naval site.

Mr. Cummings indicated the focus of resulting plan for the riverfront would be to bring the river back into focus to the City and provide a venue where citizens could embrace and enjoy the river on many levels. Plans for more assessable green space, extensions

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and improvements of existing green space, opportunities to observe the working wharves in the day-to-day activities, and increasing opportunities for live,work,play elements along the riverfront were all a part of the overall design.

With respect to the naval site, the planners proposed demolishing the existing buildings and replacing them with low-mid-rise housing on the industrial canal side of the property and on the Poland Avenue side of the property. The wharves would be used by the Port of New Orleans to expand the cruise ship industry. An elevated street from St. Claude approximately down the middle of the property ending in front of the cruise terminal was displayed. This street would eliminate the need for trucks and other service vehicles to use the existing residential streets in the adjacent neighborhoods.

Ms. Little-Wood reminded the Board the planners engaged by NOATF would be required to review and evaluate this concept as well as others .

**Adjournment:** With no more business to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Belinda Little-Wood  
Executive Director  
NSA New Orleans Advisory Task Force