



Dear Neighbors,

Remember... we are not meeting at the BREC building any more. Our new regular meeting place is now the large auditorium room at the Main Library. It is a bit large for us, but that is what we were given. The meeting time is still 7 p.m., January 14th.

It is also time to pay dues again. We are asking you to please use the dues form on the website. Just Google FGBCA and click on "Forms" to find it. The form should be filled out online, but you must then print it and bring it along with your check to the meeting (or mail it if you are not attending). The reason for printing it online is because we cannot always read your handwriting. As the form indicates, if you were a member in 2015 and you pay before the end of January, you get the early-bird discount and only need to pay \$75. If you wait until February, you pay the full Membership dues of \$100. If you were not a member in 2015, you may join for \$50.

To encourage people to attend this January meeting, I am personally providing a nice door prize. We will draw for the winner at the end of the meeting. While not as exciting as the current large lottery drawing, your chance of winning is considerably better.

We will have a bit of business to conduct. Attached is the Proposed Budget for 2016, the Treasurer's Report and the Minutes from the November meeting to approve. Our speakers include Christopher Kersey and Sarah Holliday-James.

Christopher is the manager of the Highland Road Park Observatory. He will share suggestions on how to have light in your yard without its negative effects. While we all want to use our lights for protection at night, we ought to also be aware of the possibility that we may be shining them into the bedroom of our next door neighbor. This is called light trespassing. You are probably aware of the new style billboards that resemble huge TV screens and when the advertisement has lots of white in it, it becomes difficult to see the road from the glare created. Some glare is created by security lights on utility poles, and even improperly aimed street lights. The last problem is referred to as sky glow. When was the last time you saw the milky way? If you are my age, you may remember seeing it as a child. I had the good fortune about 15+ years ago while in the high dry desert area of Oregon (away from any

large city) to see the sky so thick with stars that you could not find the constellations. It was so spectacular! We saw shooting stars and satellites. We just stared up in amazement until our necks hurt. Then we leaned against our car in the parking lot and rested our heads on the top of the car just taking it all in. It was so exciting. We often forget to look up.

Our other guest is Sarah Holliday-James. You may remember her as our expert in parliamentary procedure. Since we have added a "Crime Prevention District" Committee to our organization, Sarah is going to go over the parliamentary formalities that we all need to follow, but these districts in particular. The keeping of careful minutes is very important. We can all benefit from a refresher course.

Please do invite all your members to attend the Federation meetings. We now have more than enough space to accommodate everyone. As I keep reminding you, eventually you will get burned out and you will have no one who knows what to do following you in office, messing up all the good stuff you instituted. Let's face the truth... we all think our organization is OUR baby. You have to let a step-parent in sooner or later to care for the baby.

Sincerely,

Nancy Curry

Federation of Greater Baton Rouge Civic Associations

President ----- Nancy Curry

1st Vice President ---- Clifford Grout

2nd Vice President --- Jason Jacob

Treasurer ----- Dennis Dixon

Secretary -----

Federation Phone ---- (225) 926-1459

Minutes (not yet approved) of the Federation Meeting of November 12, 2015

The Federation of Greater Baton Rouge Civic Associations met on Thursday, November 12, 2015, at the BREC Tennis Center Building, Room 111, Independence Park, on Independence Blvd near Lobdell Ave. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by President Nancy Curry. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. Attendees then introduced themselves.

Attendees

There were 19 attendees, not including the speakers. There were 18 homeowner associations represented. A list of the attendees along with the names of their homeowner associations is presented at the end of these minutes.

Quorum

There was a quorum at this meeting.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's Report for Year-to-Date through 9-30-2015 was sent to all Federation members. It shows that the Federation membership is now 64 associations. Total cash assets are \$35,144.51. Income was greater than last year and expenses were lower. ***A motion was made and approved to accept the Treasurer's Report.***

Minutes from the Previous Meeting

Minutes from the October 8, 2015, meeting were sent to all Federation members by e-mail and/or U.S. Mail on November 9 so they could be read prior to this meeting. ***A motion was made to approve these minutes. The motion was approved.***

Election of Four Federation Board Members for 2 year terms (2016 – 2017)

It was moved and seconded that the following four individuals recommended by the Nominating Committee be elected to the Board of Directors of the Federation to serve for the 2 year term (2016 – 2017):

Daryl Blacher – Goodwood Homesites (new member of the Board)
Clifford Grout – Broadmoor (Clifford served the two year term 2014 –2015)
Jason Jacob – Shenandoah North (Jason served 2 two year terms: 2012 – 2013 and 2014 – 2015)
Andrew Kuyoro – Villa del Rey (new member of the Board)

The motion was approved.

Board members whose two year terms cover the period (2015 – 2016) are:

Carole Anne Brown
Nancy Curry
Dennis Dixon

Myles Reed served the two year term 2014 – 2015 but chose not to run again for the position due to the press of other civic activities. The Federation has benefitted greatly from his contributions and will miss him as a very active and effective member of the Board of Directors.

Clifford Grout was Approved as the Newest Member of the East Baton Rouge Parish Planning Commission

President Nancy Curry announced that Clifford Grout (Broadmoor Residents Association) was approved by the Metro-Council as a member of the East Baton Rouge Parish Planning Commission. The Commission will be fortunate to have access to his experience and expertise.

Recognition of Those who Worked on the Membership Committee

Federation President Nancy Curry awarded Certificates of Appreciation to those who served on the Membership Committee and whose diligent efforts brought the number of Federation members up to 64 during year 2015, exceeding the membership of 2014. Those recognized were:

Dennis Dixon, Chairman of the Membership Committee
Joe Baiamonte
Connie Breaux
Mary Fontenot
Don Frattini
Robert Say

Guest Speaker Judy Young, Notary

Judy Young is a Notary with “Notary at Large”, 8211 Goodwood Blvd, Suite F, Baton Rouge, LA 70806. (ph 926-4320) (www.notaryatlarge.com). She explained how a homeowner association or a condo association can create a lien on a property whose owners are not complying with the applicable rules, regulations, or restrictions.

As an example, she described the steps that a homeowner association should take if a homeowner has not paid their homeowner fees or dues in a timely manner. (This assumes mandatory fees or dues.) The first thing to do is to contact the delinquent homeowner in a friendly manner by letter or by phonecall to request that payment be made. If no response is forthcoming after a reasonable period, then you send the homeowner a letter that is a “Notice of Intention to Create a Lien”. This notice contains the homeowner’s name and address and lot number, the amount owed, the date of the notice letter, the date payment must be made (10 days from date of letter), the homeowner association name & address, your name & address, where the payment is to be sent, and who the homeowner can contact if questions arise. Ms. Young provided sample copies of the “Notice of Intention to Create a Lien” for both a homeowner association and a condo association. (Copies attached.)

After the notice of intention to create a lien has been sent and the specified time has elapsed and no payment has been received, then the actual lien is created.

Ms. Young said that her "Notary at Large" firm can handle all the proper steps for you for a reasonable fee. She also cautioned that liens are not forever. For a subdivision association, after five years you must follow up with a lawsuit to recover the money owed or drop the proceedings. For a condo association, this time limit for a lien is only 1 year.

Guest Speaker Eric Romero, Director of Information Services for the City of Baton Rouge

Mr. Eric Romero, Director of Information Services for Baton Rouge, said that Baton Rouge has been named one of the top ten "Digital Cities" in the United States. This resulted from advances and achievements in digital growth in Baton Rouge. A large amount of data kept by the City has been and is being made available to the public in digital form. General categories are: Housing & Development, Government, Business & Finance, Public Safety, Transportation & Infrastructure, and Culture & Recreation. All sorts of information can be found using the new websites. You can see what is in the new digital information system by looking up "Baton Rouge" on Google and clicking on "Official Baton Rouge Government Website". Mr. Romero said the new system also provides a website mechanism, called "Expresit", that allows the public to send positive or negative comments back to the City regarding their experiences with the new information system.

Guest Speaker Warren Kron, Geographical Information System Manager for the City of Baton Rouge

Mr. Warren Kron, Manager of Geographical Information System for Baton Rouge, started his presentation by telling the group that he was very familiar with the Federation, having worked on the Horizon Plan 20 years ago. He has been working on Baton Rouge's "GIS" (Geographical Information System) project for a number of years. Baton Rouge was the first city in Louisiana to implement "GIS". The new system will replace "EBRMap" soon; and after that, "EBRMap" will no longer work. The new "GIS" system has everything that "EBRMap" had plus a lot more.

To enter the new "GIS" system, go to website www.BRgov.com, and then click on "Maps and GIS resources". He described a number of interesting things you can do on this new "GIS" website:

- 1) Enter any address and you can see it on a map, and you can see what the zoning category is for that property.
- 2) You can also see what the "Future Land Use" category is for any property.
- 3) You can look up addresses for adjudicated property.
- 4) For any subdivision, you can see all the lots and all the street addresses.
- 5) You can view flood maps for East Baton Rouge Parish.
- 6) You can see the approximate elevations for various properties in EBR Parish.
(It was pointed out that a surveyor will still be necessary for accurate information on elevations.)
- 7) Look up days for trash and recycle pick-ups for any address.
- 8) You can get aerial views of subdivisions or individual lots.
- 9) You can obtain the geographical coordinates of any location.
- 10) You can obtain the area of any lot.
- 11) There is a traffic map that shows in real time where there are traffic incidents that are blocking roads.
- 12) This map also shows where there are construction projects and barricades.

Mr. Kron said that a "GIS" Day Event will be held on Wednesday, November 18, from 12:00 Noon till 5:00pm at City Hall, First floor. There will be a continuous demonstrations of the new "GIS" system for the public.

For those interested in further general information on “GIS” systems, they can go to website “ARCGIS.COM”.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Attendees at Federation Meeting of November 12, 2015

| | |
|---|-----------------|
| Camelot | Perry Musgrow |
| Carrington Place | Dennis Dixon |
| Centurion Place | Sarah Jeansonne |
| Garden District | Mary Fontenot |
| Goodwood Villa | Nancy Curry |
| Greenbriar Hollow | Barbara Gulotte |
| Hickory Ridge | Ben Strong |
| Jefferson Terrace, 6 th Filing (JT6) | Jon Olson |
| Kenilworth | Joe Baiamonte |
| Magnolia Estates | Harry Rauls |
| Oak Brook Civic Assoc. | Margaret Fels |
| Park Forest East | Raymond Pierre |
| Shenandoah Hills | Connie Breaux |
| Shenandoah Hills | V.W. Breaux |
| Shenandoah North | Jason Jacob |
| Sherwood Forest | James Gray |
| South Hampton Condo | Jan M. Carrio |
| Tara Civic Assoc. | Robert Say |
| Villa del Rey | Andrew Kuyoro |

Robert Say
November 12, 2015

FGBRCA Monthly SUMMARY Financial Report

Report Period: Year-To-Date 12/31/2015

Report prepared by DD on 1/8/2016

| | | |
|--|--------------------|----------------|
| Number of member Associations for 2015 | 64 | |
| | 2015 Actual | 2015 Budget |
| Checking Account Balance 1/1/2015 | \$10,656.31 | |
| RECEIPTS | | |
| 2015 Dues Income | \$5,375.00 | \$4,000 |
| Interest Income -- Checking Acct | \$- | \$5 |
| Total Receipts | <u>\$5,375.00</u> | <u>\$4,005</u> |
| DISBURSEMENTS | | |
| Office Supplies | \$36.05 | \$100 |
| Telephone | \$513.58 | \$500 |
| Postage | \$19.60 | \$350 |
| Copies | \$- | \$250 |
| Office Equipment | \$- | \$150 |
| Website | \$64.87 | \$50 |
| Membership Dues, SOS Fees | \$30.00 | \$10 |
| Public Relations & Marketing | \$796.89 | \$750 |
| Plaques & Recognition | \$55.92 | \$200 |
| Meetings (including name badges) | \$17.73 | \$50 |
| File Storage | \$484.00 | \$530 |
| Tax Preparation | \$- | \$550 |
| Contingency | \$141.75 | \$200 |
| Total Disbursements | <u>\$2,160.39</u> | <u>\$3,690</u> |
| Transferred from Savings to Checking | \$- | |
| Transferred from Checking to Telco CDs | \$- | |
| CASH ASSETS | | |
| End-of-Month Checking Account Balance | \$13,870.92 | |
| 1/1/2015 Balance: Telco Fed Credit U | \$20,771.50 | |
| Added to Telco CDs from Checking | \$- | |
| Dividends paid by Telco Fed Credit U | \$278.82 | \$100 |
| End-of-Month Telco Account Balance | \$21,050.32 | |
| End-of-Month Whitney Savings Balance | \$- | |
| Total FGBRCA Cash Assets | <u>\$34,921.24</u> | |

1. 2015 dues for 10 members were received & deposited late 2014.

