



Fair Grounds Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting  
Tuesday, November 5, 2013

ATTENDANCE:	REPRESENTING
Bishop Ryan Warner	Councilmember Head
Tim Bryant	Fair Grounds Race Course
Sandra Salmen	Fair Grounds Race Course
Rocky Seydel	Councilmember Clarkson
Tommy Lewis	Councilmember Guidry
Sherry Watters	Councilmember Guidry
Enrico Sterling	Councilmember Guidry
Linda Landesberg	Councilmember Palmer
Wayne Benjamin	Councilmember Guidry
Jimmy Scott	NOPD
Olive Wise	Mayor Landrieu
Howard Withers	Fair Grounds Race Course
Virgil Duplessis	Fair Grounds Race Course

Meeting is called to order at 4:09 pm by Chairperson Bishop Warner.

Bishop Warner welcomed everyone and thanked them for their time and involvement in the Fair Grounds Citizens Advisory Committee. This will be the last meeting of the year.

Introduction of Howard Withers, the general manager of racing for the Fair Grounds, who likes to be called "H".

Linda Landesberg: Asked H where he worked before.

H Withers: I have worked for the Fair Grounds Corporation for over 5 years in the Off Track Betting arm of the corporation and look forward to seeing you all around the Fair Grounds.

Tim Bryant: H has worked in in many facets of racing around the country.

Bishop Warner asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the last meeting held on Tuesday, August 6, 2013 and did everyone receive the minutes.

Rocky Seydel made the motion and Oliver Wise seconded to accept the minutes from the previous meeting.

Old Business:

Tim Bryant: We had to cancel the first week of the quarter horse meet because of the threat of a storm, which meant that we had to carry the race meet into the second week of September to allow them to run their Futurity.

We had an exotic race event which always is a good learning tool. The exotic races do attract families.

Neighborhood Update:

Captain Scott: Has never seen in the 40 years he has been on the force the impact of closing a store can have on the neighborhood, in reference to the closing of the Fair Zone on Gentilly Blvd. A handout was given by Captain Scott to all of the members about the activity in the area pertaining to the police and the Fair Grounds patrol.

Linda Landesberg: Asked about the boundaries that were drawn on the hand out and Capt. Scott realized it had been drawn incorrectly and would redo and email to all of the committee members.

New Business:

Tim Bryant: The thoroughbreds have begun arriving and right now we have about 800 horses on the grounds and by the 1<sup>st</sup> of December we will be at full capacity of 1800 horses.

Opening will be on November 22<sup>nd</sup> with a 3:00 post time. We are opening earlier than normal because of Thanksgiving being so late in the month. We will have ostrich and camel racing on this day.

The number of Starlight events has been reduced to a total of 5 with the Louisiana Derby to be run on Saturday, March 29<sup>th</sup>.

We have been addressing drainage issues behind barn 41 and in front of the Derby Building facing Fortin Street.

Linda Landesberg and Rocky Seydel: Wanted to thank the Fair Grounds for their support of Voodoo on the Bayou and the Halloween Trick or Treating in the Faubourg St. John Neighborhood.

Bishop Warner: Remember if you would like to have something added to the agenda please notify me before the notices go out.

Bishop Warner informed the Committee the next meeting will be Tuesday, February 4, 2014 at 4:00 p.m. and wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving, Happy Holidays and a Happy New Year.

Bishop Warner asked for a motion to adjourn. Tim Bryant made the motion and Enrico Sterling seconded the motion.