



St. Bernard Parish Government

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Guy McInnis
Parish President

President's Report Council Meeting of Tuesday, August 2, 2016

Good Evening Councilmembers, Ladies and Gentlemen:

The 81st Conference and Exposition of the National Association of Counties (NACo) was held on July 22-25, 2016. This was a great opportunity to make contact with over 2,000 of the nation's local government leaders in order to help promote sound public policies, foster solutions and promote intergovernmental and public-private collaboration. The National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), which is due for reauthorization in 2017, has undergone significant changes through Federal legislation. During the NACo conference, FEMA officials were present for a meeting where there was open conversation concerning the impact to local communities and how the NFIP could be improved in its reauthorization. The Risk MAP Program was also discussed regarding mitigation efforts that effectively reduce the impact of disasters and facilitates local resilience through high quality risk data and flood risk awareness. I was glad to be able to participate in providing input that will ultimately help develop new and improved policy language.

St. Bernard Parish Government and Pelican Waste will partner to do a Parish-wide debris sweep August 11th through 13th. Trash Bash 2016 will begin in Arabi on Thursday, August 11th and end in eastern St. Bernard Parish on Saturday, August 13th.

The debris sweep will be held in conjunction with the second garbage pickup day of the week. Pelican Waste and Parish Government employees will work together to pick up trash that wouldn't normally be picked up curbside. This is a good time for end-of-the-summer cleaning for our residents.

Debris must be placed curbside the evening before your scheduled garbage pickup. Curbside garbage will be picked up as well. A reminder to all residents, construction and demolition debris will not be picked up.

Last week, the Fire Department completed recertification training for Emergency Medical Responder; this medical certification is for two years and replaces their current certification which expires in September.

On Friday August 12th three new Fire Recruits will graduate from the LSU Fire Academy after 14 weeks of training. They attended the Academy with Fire Recruits from all over the State. The recruits will leave the Academy with six National Certifications in Firefighting, Medical Care and Hazardous Materials response. Later this year, they will attend week long classes on Shipboard and Industrial Firefighting. Chief Stone will be the Keynote speaker for the Academy graduation ceremony.

Community Development concluded the final awarding stage of the Builder Bundle Program on Friday, July 29, 2016. In addition to the 13 Bundles that were awarded on June 24th, eight (8) new bundles were awarded to three contractors. Hotard Homes was awarded three bundles in the Carolyn Park area; K & T Institute was awarded one bundle, also in Carolyn Park; and Corne Construction was awarded four bundles in Buccaneer Villa North.

These new awards, along with first 13 bundles (ten bundles previously awarded to Lagraize Builders in the St. Claude Heights area; two bundles awarded to Ducote Doors and Millwork in the Arabi Park area; and one to Hotard Homes in the Lloyd's Town area), brings the total bundles awarded to 21 and a total of 116 lots.

The Recreation Department just finished up with the biggest Baseball/Softball season since Hurricane Katrina with a total of 654 Boys and 463 girls who made up the 91 Recreation Department baseball teams. There were also a total of eleven All-Star teams in which five won State Champions, and three teams placing in the World Series. Our Recreation Department will also host their first baseball/softball All-Star game where there have historically been

over 1,000 spectators attending. Recreation is now getting ready for the Football season where we will introduce the four new Community Zone Teams and supervisors, as we had before Katrina. We are bringing back flag football for the first time in over eleven years. Cheerleading will be starting up in August.

Our Leisure Program is up and running and will be hosting its 4th Sock Hop with the final Sock Hop for the remainder of the year being held on August 19, 2016. The Leisure Program has hosted several Line Dancing Classes, free Kids Flag Painting class, and a Children's Cheerleading & Dance Clinic, just to name a few. Soon they will be introducing Yoga, Knitting, Adult 70's Sock Hop, a Fire/Police Department basketball game and on August 27th we will host our first annual Wrestling Event. There will be many more events to follow!

Lastly, we are very pleased to report that through our Parish-wide Blight Abatement Program (which you have on your agenda) we've noticed a significant drop in High Grass Complaints over the last two weeks. The new program allows us to aggressively address grass issues on blighted and/or abandoned properties.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Guy McInnis". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "G" and "M".

Guy McInnis
Parish President