

## RECORD OF DISCUSSION

### Homebuilding Plan for Treme/Lafitte and Tulane/Gravier

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**Date** 6:00 – 8:00, October 14th, 2009  
Sojourner Truth Community Center, 2200 Lafitte St.

**Next Meeting** 6:00-8:00, November 11<sup>th</sup>, 2009  
Sojourner Truth Community Center, 2200 Lafitte St.

#### Participants:

Tyra Alexander  
Demetria Bazile  
Lona Black  
Jessie Boyd  
Dorothy Bryant  
Dariel Celestin  
Shirley Daufauchard  
Sidney Daufauchard  
George Harden  
Angela Harper  
Linda Jackson

Ola James  
Anna Jarvis  
Mary Johnson  
Warren Johnson  
Beverly Jones  
Terry Jordan  
Travis LeBlanc  
Cynthia Magraff  
Emelda Paul  
Christina Quezergue  
David Rayford

Carl Richardson  
Ruby Regis  
Alona Robair  
Gale Sanders  
Lloyd Thiel  
Beryl Thomas  
Shirley Waters  
Charmaine Williams  
Josey Willis  
Simone White

Sojourner Truth Family Supportive Services: Carol Carter, D'Ana Smith  
Providence/Enterprise: Jim Kelly, Matt Morrin, Andreanecia Morris, Nick Roosevelt  
HANO: Valerie Pruitt  
Interstate Property Management: Shannon Rico  
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.*

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The meeting began with an opening prayer by Miss D'Ana Smith.

### I. Sojourner Truth Neighborhood Center Updates

#### D'Ana Smith / Emelda Paul

- **Re-occupancy:** Just a reminder that we are offering assistance with re-occupancy. If for any reason you think you might need some assistance with re-occupancy, start working with us now so that we have enough time before move-in to work through any potential issues (credit issues, criminal record, etc.). A sign-up sheet is being passed around. If you are interested in re-occupancy, please put your name and contact information down.
- **Free Flu Shots:** There are flyers in the back with information about free flu shots that will be available soon. It is particularly important to get a shot this year.
- **Un-Do Racism Workshop:** Registration for this workshop is \$200, but the Resident's Council has obtained two free spots, so please let Miss Paul know you are interested after tonight's meeting.
- No questions or comments were raised

## II. Lafitte Redevelopment Update / Re-Occupancy

### Matt Morrin

- **Re-occupancy:** We have contracted with Interstate Property Management, who will be overseeing the intake process for re-occupancy. They will be following an intake procedure that is still in draft form and not finalized. Shannon Rico from Interstate Property Management is here to say more. The intake process is not meant to keep former residents from moving in. Residents still have first right of refusal. Just the same, we want to make sure that the new Lafitte will be a safe and thriving community and so screening is necessary. We want to work with you to make sure that everyone gets the chance to move back in, but it is a two-way street and you will need to work with us.

### Shannon Rico (Interstate Property Management)

- **Re-occupancy:** We will be overseeing re-occupancy for the rental units. We have a set of guidelines, which we will follow. We will ask for credit history, status with your current housing situation (including a visit), your income and any criminal history. If you think that you might have issues with any of the categories above, it is important to start working with the Sojourner Truth staff now to try to work through any problems. If you have any concerns about the intake process, please talk with the Resident's Council. The intake procedure is not finalized and we want to make sure it is the best possible procedure to ensure that the new Lafitte is a wonderful community. Once the procedure is finalized, we will make sure to put everything in written form and distribute to all former residents. Also, besides the resources made available by Catholic Charities and Sojourner Truth, we will have our own grievance procedures for those who think they were not dealt with fairly during the intake process.

### Questions/Comments

- A number of specific questions both about the intake procedure and the new development were asked. Providence/Enterprise and IPM will take all questions raised into account as they work to create a finalized set of guidelines for occupancy. As soon as the guidelines are finished, they will be presented at the following resident meeting.

## III. Section 3 Update

### D'Ana Smith

- Sombra Davis Williams is not here today, but asked me to refer all of you to information in the back of the room about Section 3 applications. If you or anyone friends from Lafitte are interested in jobs at Lafitte, please take a look at the information, pick up an application and/or talk with Sombra.

## IV. HANO Updates

### Valerie Pruitt:

- Many residents are likely receiving Section 8 assistance. If you are interested in moving into the new Lafitte, you will need to transfer your Section 8 over to tax-credit units.
- Once you make this transfer you will not likely be able to return to Section 8 assistance so please talk with the Sojourner Truth staff or come to our offices at 3630 MacArthur (walk-ins available on Tuesdays and Thursdays)
- Question: How will we know which is which? Answer: You should get in touch with the Sojourner Truth staff and they can help you figure out your current situation.

## V. Adjournment

- Door prizes and dinner served

**Next Meeting:** November 11<sup>th</sup>, 2009 at Sojourner Truth.