



East Baton Rouge Parish Overall Advisory Leadership Council Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: Tuesday, August 3, 2010
Time: 10:00 – 11:45 a.m.
Location: Burden Research Center
Meeting Called to Order: Sharman Charles
Facilitator: Sharman Charles
Minutes Recorded/Prepared: Sharman Charles,
Eva Davis and Stephanie Dozier

East Baton Rouge Parish
805 St. Louis Street
Baton Rouge, Louisiana
70802-6456
(225) 389-3055
(225) 389-7634
E-mail:
ebr@agcenter.lsu.edu
Visit our website:
www.lsuagcenter.com
www.suagcenter.com

Research and Extension

Programs

- Agriculture
- Economic/Community Development
- Environment/Natural Resources
- Family/Nutrition/Health
- 4-H Youth Programs

Members in attendance are as follow:

Claire Fontenot	Eva Davis	Ginnie Bolin
Terrence Marshall	Gisele Haralson	Andi Abraham
Buddy Tucker	Dr. Gina Eubanks	
Sharman Charles	Michael Stewart	

Sharman Charles opened the meeting and welcomed council members. Advisory members introduced themselves and the agencies/groups in which they represent.

Sharman informed members of the purpose of the meeting and the roles and structure of the advisory council. Members of the council were informed that their role would be to guide the overall parish programming efforts. Additionally, she stated that the role of the members is to serve as advocates for the parish extension office.

Mrs. Charles reviewed the missions of both the LSU AgCenter and the Southern University AgCenter, how both AgCenters are organized, funded, and educational programming responsibilities of the faculty and staff in East Baton Rouge. She discussed program updates and changes to staffing within the parish office.

Sharman and Dr. Gina Eubanks discussed proposed budget cuts and the impact it would have on both AgCenters. Dr. Eubanks emphasized that we are committed to doing the job with less funds to serve the community. Mrs. Charles discussed that we are potentially looking at a 23% budget cut to the LSU AgCenter beginning July 1, 2011. Sharman emphasized that we need to continue developing cooperative agreements to increase local financial support. Agreements with local government, schools, other governmental agencies and non-governmental groups/organizations need to be increased. Sharman shared contact information for members of the Board of Regents and LSU Board of Supervisors; she encouraged face-to-face meetings or phone calls if possible. She asked advisory members to make contact with these groups to voice support for the AgCenters. More importantly, she emphasized the importance of advisory members and their clientele to tell their stories about the benefits and impact of

the AgCenters on their lives. Additionally, she asked members to provide any feedback from these contacts.

Next, Sharman led the discussion with council members to address new needs with those recommendations that had previously been identified and develop new recommendations for parish staff. The recommendations were as follow:

1. Financial resource management/Financial Literacy (all economic groups) -
 - a. Include other organizations/businesses to assist with outreach; those proposed include banks, community involvement groups, Urban League
2. Wellness education – schools and community centers (healthy choices, STD's, prenatal, exercise, etc.) -
 - a. Expand programs to include more gardening (including flower gardens)
 - b. Incorporating nutrition programs within schools to include parents & students
 - Note: These recommendations will be passed to the parish FCS Advisory Leadership Council
3. Early childhood development programs –
 - a. Increase outreach to Head Start programs
 - b. Parenting skills
4. Programs targeting youth violence, anger management
 - a. Train-the-trainer programs targeting youth violence prevention should be conducted partnering with schools and community organizations.
 - Note: This recommendation will be passed on to the parish 4-H Advisory Leadership Council
5. Marketing of programs –
 - a. Provide displays at parish libraries to promote programs
 - b. Conduct educational programs at parish libraries
 - c. Take advantage of opportunities where there will be large groups of people
 - d. Market at other public events, such as Life After 50
 - e. Display at Burden's Harvest Days event
 - f. Booth on parish programs at Spring Garden Show
 - g. Include information on parish programs in Ed Cullen's column

Additional recommendations include:

1. Utilizing other associations to help facilitate programs (i.e. Faith Based community)
2. 4-H groups participating in Trees & Trails at Burden. Older 4-H'ers could utilize this as a service learning project.

Members ranked the recommendations by priority. Sharman closed by thanking council members for their participation. Members will receive minutes, updates & next meeting notification via email.

Meeting was adjourned.