

**FRIENDS of the MANCHAC GREENWAY (FMG) MEETING MINUTES, Wednesday, May 25, 2022 @
Frenier Landing Restaurant, Frenier, LA**

ATTENDANCE:

Tara Lambeth - St. John Parish Director of Planning and Permits, Galen Schum, Lisa Williams, Robert Arcuri - St. John Parish Council District 5, Ben Taylor, Tom Dumas (by telephone), Dwight Williams - Pontchartrain Conservancy Outreach and Frank Neelis - Contractor for FMG (by telephone).

4/20/22 MEETING MINUTES APPROVED

FINANCIAL REPORT:

- Treasurer Galen Schum reported operational funds left in our account amount to \$7,732.95.

CONTRACTOR REPORT:

- Frank Neelis reported he is attempting to get St. John Parish Assessor Lucien Gauff and LA DOTD District 62 Right of Way Agent 4 Aaron Woods together to reconcile their understanding of property lines on either side of the Greenway in St. John. On another project: he has researched remote privies like the one he found at the Bonnet Carre Spillway visitor center for possible future use on the Greenway.

GREENWAY MASTER PLANS

- **St. John Parish** - Tara Lambeth, St. John Parish's new Director of Planning and Permits, reported ongoing work with the Greater New Orleans Regional Planning Commission, Urban Systems, LA DOTD, Tangipahoa Parish Planning and Friends of the Manchac Greenway to develop a comprehensive plan for the Manchac Greenway in both St. John and Tangipahoa Parishes. Letters of intent have been sent to the National Scenic Byways Program for funds for widening and striping the shoulder of the Greenway for a bike path in St. John Parish. These funds could also possibly be used at a match to gain even greater amounts for work on the Greenway.

INFRASTRUCTURE:

- **Cypress planting** - Lisa reported watering the Bald Cypress trees recently planted by FMG on the lakeshore at Sunset Park. It appears all but three of the 40 trees are doing well.

- **Sunset Park** - Councilman Arcuri reported St. John Parish contractor Kerry Brignac is in the process of acquiring more concrete rip-rap to fortify the Lake Maurepas shore in the park. The Parish and the Laplace Lions Club are soliciting donations of materials to rebuild the shelters and fencing in the park that were lost to Hurricane Ida. An attempt by StJtBP Planning to gain funding from the AARP for the park

- **Shell Bank Bayou Boat Launch** - It appears that after some confusion about property lines and boundaries at this location earlier this Spring, the status-quo with the use of this facility has returned and hundreds continue to enjoy launching boats here. Its proper management remains on the wish list submitted by the FMG to St. John Parish.

- **LA NERR** - The Barataria Basin has been eliminated from the competition for this federal program and now there are two - Atchafalaya and Pontchartrain. A final decision is imminent.

- **Port Manchac** - The call to reorient the use of this facility from light industrial to education, recreation and environmental tourism appears to be on hold while it is to function as a depot for materials used in carbon sequestering under Lake Maurepas.

OUTREACH:

- Ben reported the FMG Adopt-A-Road litter pick-up on 5/21/22 was highly successful as it coincided with the Tangipahoa Parish Manchac Litter Clean-up held the same day and provided much appreciated assistance.

NEXT MEETING:

2:00, Thursday, June 30, 2022 @ the Gator's Den/Sunset Stop, Galva, LA