



## President's Report

### Council Meeting of Tuesday, September 18, 2018

Good evening Council Members, Ladies and Gentlemen:

**Seafood Market** – Parish Government has once again partnered with Louisiana Sea Grant to host the 2<sup>nd</sup> St. Bernard Seafood Market in Delacroix. The event provided an opportunity for local commercial fishermen to sell their seafood products directly to the public. A total of 1,879 lbs. of shrimp, 240 lbs. of crabs and 13.5 dozen soft shell crabs were sold on September 8<sup>th</sup>. Thank you to the vendors, local fishermen, volunteers and coastal staff who made this event possible.

**Weather** – We are in the peak of Hurricane Season and will continue to monitor the Gulf and its impact on our parish. Residents should have an actionable plan ready for their family in the event of severe weather. Tips and guidelines on proper emergency preparedness can be found on the SBPG website. Those residents who have additional questions please call the Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness at 504-278-4268.

**Torres Park Improvements** – Construction is still ongoing. Recently, the youth playground equipment and protective surfacing was installed across from the mural side of the civic center. The fitness area is nearly completed and waits surface pouring. Finally, the skate park is being constructed with concrete and is about two weeks, weather permitting, from completion. A ribbon cutting will be held in October. These improvements will play an important role in the vitalization of the adjacent neighborhoods and provide additional recreational outlets for our youth. Please note, this administration will be committed to providing as many recreational opportunities to the residents of this Parish as possible.

**Blighted Properties** – Within the last 6 months, Parish Government has issued 415 code violations with regards to unkempt property. The aforementioned violations include infractions such as high grass, abandoned cars, pools and general blight. Parish government is also projecting 18 to 20 properties will be ordered for demolition by the end of 2018. To conclude, if you see an area of concern please inform parish government immediately. To enhance our quality of life, every resident in St. Bernard Parish must make it a priority to combat derelict properties.

**Transportation Update** – Residents will be glad to know during the Hurricane Gordon weather event two weeks ago; Parish Government was able to resume bus service to residents Wednesday morning following event. We have also recently opened a new bus stop in front of the Fair Grounds OTB Casino in Meraux, alongside the east bound lane of W. Judge Perez.

**Women Softball League** – Val Reiss Playground will host a national Women Softball League Tournament this week. This non-for-profit league will include teams and players from 26 cities across the United States. There is over 95 teams and 1,000 players that will participate. Many of the games will be livestreamed on the internet for viewers to access remotely. Our very own Gerald's donuts will provide food for the participants and Louisville Slugger and DiMarini will set up vendor booths for those interested in purchasing sporting goods. This will be the 11<sup>th</sup> year of the all weekend event and its first time in St. Bernard Parish. We look forward to working with these wonderful women again in the future. Thanks to all those who will be participating.

**Town Hall Meeting** – Residents will be glad to know, this October, St. Bernard Parish Government will host two Town Hall Meetings to discuss the future of SLFPA (Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection East) in our community. These two meetings will be on Tuesday, October 9<sup>th</sup> in the Gauthier Cafeteria and Thursday, October 11<sup>th</sup> in the Council Chambers. Both events are scheduled to begin at 6:00 P.M. and will conclude promptly at 8:30 p.m. It is highly recommended that all interested residents attend one or both of these discussions.

**New Businesses** – I am proud to announce the opening of eight new businesses in St. Bernard Parish. The continued expansion of our local market economy has and will continue to be a primary priority for this administration. For generations, this parish has been a hub for small businesses and provided the necessary support for these 'mom and pop' shops to succeed over the course of time. Congratulations again to:

- Backyard: Bourbon, Burgers and Beer
- St. Bernard Realty
- Sunny Side Up Restaurant
- Pauly D's Café
- Pamper Your Kids Spatique
- His Glory Tutoring
- The Parish Diner
- Splash Car Wash

**Coastal Update** – September was an exciting month for the Coastal Department and the residents of Eastern St. Bernard Parish. Two significant projects will begin this week in Violet and Delacroix. Parish Government will perform maintenance dredging in the Violet Canal between LA 46 and LA 39. This work will begin Friday and is anticipated to conclude within two weeks. In other news, the Delacroix Pier Complex will begin the assembly of the Marine Travel Lift and should be completed by the end of the week. Please monitor the SBPG website and social media for opening announcements. Let's continue to propel our Parish forward!

**Upcoming Events:**

- Sipping in the Sunset
  - Thursday, September 20<sup>th</sup> – 5:00 p.m.
  - Aycock Barn
- Save LA Coalition Battle for Bayou
  - Saturday, September 22<sup>nd</sup> – 6:00 p.m.
  - Sigur Center

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Guy McInnis".

Guy McInnis  
Parish President