



Minutes

August 23, 2024

3:30 p.m.

The Safe Neighborhood and Crime Reduction Committee of the Southside Economic Development District met on August 23, 2024, at 3:30 p.m. at 800 Washington Street.

Present were: Roosevelt Wright, Jr., chairperson, Otis Jones. Absent was Tony Little

Also present were: Advisory members: Rev. T.J. Stevenson, and Rev. James Jackson

There was a quorum.

Mr. Wright gave an invocation.

Mr. Wright gave a brief report on the eight mini-grants. He said the SEDD board approved the mini-grants and promised upfront money has been delivered to each group. He said there were three additional applicants who filed after the deadline for the two remaining Mini-Grants.

The committee heard a presentation for Mrs. L. Marie Brown concerning the proposal from United Minds of Joint Action. She explained that her group will be working with parents and youth within the district in sessions to help avoid violence and crime.

The committee reviewed LoLos Highway 15 Food Project to serve meals in Parkview and Robinson Place as a way of attracting persons to hear messages about non-violence. However, Mrs. Stevenson and Mrs. Brown both said they were familiar with the applicant and noted failed attempts to start a restaurant in the area. Rev. Jackson, since no one was present to defend the application and red flags were evident that it may need further review.

The committee considered the application of the Life Changers of Northeast Louisiana to mentor the at-risk population within the district regarding the dangers and consequences of crime. Most members of the committee expressed appreciation for the organization's leader, Rev. Damian Coleman, for his self-funded effort and great personal risk to help achieve this goal.

It was moved by Mr. Wright and it was unanimously approved that the proposals of United Minds of Joint Action and the Life Changers of Northeast Louisiana be recommended to the SEDD Board for consideration as the final two mini-grant award recipients.

There was no citizen participation.

The meeting adjourned after 43:16 of deliberation.

