



DEDICATED ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT EFFORT

Maintaining a professional organization working for Vermilion's success.



- Sent e-newsletter to 480 recipients featuring tips about reaching goals in 2019, how to apply for a Keep It Local Spotlight, and a link to Aidan Broussard's board member spotlight
- Hosted Board Member Training with 7 board members in attendance over two sessions
- Provided copies of May Highlights to all stakeholder groups
- Updated online initiatives listing to reflect current projects and objectives
- Began "Client Quotes" posts showcasing our relationship with the business community
- Participated in one-hour radio interview with Bernadette Lee of KPEL
- Notified appointing authorities of expiring board terms; processed paperwork
- Prepared invoices for Enviro Resources & IOS
- Board Member Spotlight (social media & press release): Aidan Broussard

EXISTING BUSINESS ASSISTANCE

Assisting the existing business community is our #1 concern.



- Answered 12 requests for information
- Launched Project Skin - a company expanding locally into new product lines & markets
- Conducted 5 business visits with decision makers/company representatives
- Contacted 11 additional businesses requesting the opportunity to provide a business visitation and accompanying resource matching
- Began planning fall & winter Business Tune-Ups with training providers on Workforce Programs, Public Relations, and maximizing business results



Encourage local spending to have an economy that's self-supported.

- Published Business Spotlight for Vermilion Office Supply

We're matching our local jobs with our local talent.

- Promoted job openings. outside the job fair, at two local businesses/agencies

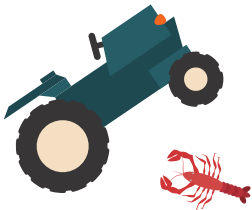


BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT



Drawing attention to investment opportunities.

- Worked with two entrepreneurs, provided resources and insight on how to bring their business concept to Vermilion
- Sent outreach postcards to six new businesses locating in Gueydan, Kaplan, and Abbeville
- Evaluated Prospects Salt & Aerosol - no site matches
- Held meeting with the four coastal port director's to discuss opportunities & local advantages - made action plan to help secure more local contracts from expanding businesses



Using agriculture & aquaculture to keep our uniqueness.

- Attended Acadiana Food Alliance Summit and toured three Vermilion Parish farms & food-oriented businesses to look for opportunities and make connections
- Received Letter of Support from the Farm Bureau Federation with regards to our Cattle initiative



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Supporting improvements & partnerships that create better communities.

- Shared 57 positive articles on VEDA and Keep It Local, Vermilion Facebook pages to build community pride and share useful information with followers
- Assisted Vermilion Arts Council in outreach to Councilman Plaisance to discuss future performances at Lafitte Park
- Worked with Councilwoman Melissa Guidry on submission of Kaplan's Retirement Community designation for the LMA Awards
- Reviewed Vermilion's Community Competitiveness scores - 300%+ improvement since 2014!

UPCOMING EVENTS

7/3: Cajun Culture Association board meeting

7/9: Coastal Port Director's Meeting - Cameron, Vermilion, Twin Parish, Iberia - with Representative Bourriaque

7/12: Vermilion Vision Ribbon Cutting

7/18: Leadership Vermilion Commerce & Sustainability Day

7/19: Chloe Rose Ribbon Cutting

7/30: Community Group meeting with VP School Board

7/31: Meet the new LED Project Managers

Summer (Pending review): Development Ready Community Workshop - VEDA, 1A, LED