



December 2019

DEDICATED ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT EFFORT

Maintaining a professional organization working for Vermilion's success.

- Made year-end changes to 2019 Budget
- Ensured board members & staff completed ethics training/certification
- Researched IEDC professional development track - coordinated purchase with One Acadiana
- Received financial contribution from the Town of Erath; Received commitment from Police Jury to contribute in 2020
- Received financial contributions from the Vermilion Chamber of Commerce, IOS, & Enviro Resources
- Met with Laura Hanes of News15 - discussed opportunities for coverage of local stories
- Created 2019 Year in Review document with annual totals and highlights
- Completed notifications to appropriate elected officials for January meeting
- Cross-referenced 2020 Action Plan with regional One Acadiana Program of Work
- Attended One Acadiana board meeting - discussed visual presentation with Marketing Director for Regional Celebration
- Completed fiscal year IRS paperwork for AEDC; Reviewed D&O insurance paperwork; Authorized bills for payments



EXISTING BUSINESS ASSISTANCE

Encourage expansion & spending for a self-supported economy.

- Attended Woodbriar Assisted Living groundbreaking
- Worked with Project Babs contact on federal registration process
- Answered 2 requests for information & assisted 1 jobseeker with their search
- Conducted 1 business visit with local business owner/decision maker
- Promoted Small Business Saturday participants for the holiday season



Matching local talent with local jobs.

- Worked with 2 jobseekers on their job search
- Promoted available position at Dehart's Shipyard
- Distributed e-newsletter featuring details about Career Connections & 55 by 25 Summit
- Board met with Lonnie Richard & Emily Broussard from VPSB to collaborate on promoting Workkeys testing and evaluation with business community
- Evaluated local hiring issues with Workforce Director, Ryan LaGrange of LEDA

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT



Inspiring & attracting investment opportunities.

- Contacted local officials about opportunities with the Stine Lumber facility
- Evaluated Prospect Merango - no site matches
- Reviewed Fabtech prospect list; Received information for upcoming Advanced Manufacturing Expo
- Collaborated with each municipality to create new Doing Business Guides for each community
- Populated LED/Entergy Site Selection database with 27 Vermilion Parish properties
- Submitted a 115-acre site to LED for the state work plan; Site accepted; Zach Hager is working with listing agent to secure a meeting with the property's listing agent
- Researched contact and availability of former Schwegmann facility for a real estate agent & her client
- Cross-referenced property database requirements with Entergy/LED's to better market local properties
- Contacted Prospect Owl about meeting with a tax incentive specialist

Using agriculture, aquaculture & fisheries to keep our uniqueness.



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Supporting improvements & partnerships to create better communities.

- Contacted local experts about a vacancy on the State of the Coast Advisory Council conference committee
- Evaluated film scouting request from motion picture "Sucker" - community didn't meet customer requirements
- Shared 20 positive articles on VEDA and Keep It Local, Vermilion Facebook pages to build community pride and share useful information with followers
- Contacted George Marks with Nunu in Arnaudville and Kaplan administration about instituting a Creative Placemaking Initiative for Kaplan
- Met with the Leadership Vermilion Alumni group; Created a survey to question members about their interest in a potential professional development opportunity
- Attended Vermilion Arts Council board meeting to discuss plans for 2020

UPCOMING EVENTS

- 1/7 - One Acadiana Government Affairs Meeting with Speaker Taylor Barras
- 1/8 - VEDA Board Meeting
- 1/9 - Seafood Summit Presentation-Planning Meeting
- 1/10 - 55 by 25 Summit
- 1/15 - One Acadiana Executive Committee Meeting
- 1/21 - One Acadiana Board of Directors Meeting
- 1/23 - IEDC Webinar "Drawn Together: Arts & Economic Development"
- TBD - Kaplan Creative Placemaking Meeting

