

**FRIENDS of the MANCHAC GREENWAY (FMG) MEETING MINUTES**  
**2:00, Thursday, August 25, 2022 @ St. John the Baptist Parish Council Chambers**  
**1811 W. Airline Hwy., LaPlace, LA**

ATTENDANCE:

Tom Dumas, Galen Schum, Greg Maurin, Tara Lambeth (St. John Parish Planning and Zoning Director), Ben Taylor, Dwight Williams (Pontchartrain Conservancy) and Robert Arcuri (St. John Parish Council, Dist. 5).

APPROVAL OF 7/28/22 MEETING MINUTES

FINANCIAL REPORT - Galen Schum:

- Galen reported he has successfully re-enrolled FMG in the System for Awards Management (SAM), required for applications for government grants.
- Current unencumbered funds available are \$7,778.95.

GREENWAY MASTER PLAN(S) / FUNDING

**St. John Parish**

- Tara Lambeth reported that St. John, St. Tammany and Tangipahoa Parishes have jointly applied for the "Safe Streets And Roads For All Grant Program" to aid in transportation planning between these parishes.

**Tangipahoa Parish**

- Ben reported trying to reach out to Tangipahoa Parish Councilwoman Bridgett Hyde about resuming meetings of Tangipahoa Parish's Manchac Greenway Committee. He also asked her to help research a previous Road Transfer Program between Tangipahoa Parish and the LA Dept. Transportation and Development for the old Hammond Hwy. (LA 30).
- Ben received the consensus of the board to ask representatives from the New Orleans Regional Planning Commission and/or or Bike Easy to help advocate the Louisiana Bootlace Trail/Ring Around the Lake/Manchac Greenway before the Tangipahoa Parish Council.

INFRASTRUCTURE:

- Robert Arcuri reported that Sunset Park has been placed under the management and care of St. John Parish Parks and Recreation Dept., Michael Sanders, Director. Several new picnic pavilions and additional shoreline rip-rap protection has been installed in ongoing work to rehabilitate the park after Hurricane Ida.
- Mr. Arcuri and Galen reported on the previous evening's LA WL&F meeting about seismic work in Lake Maurepas in preparation of hydrogen storage in supposedly impenetrable strata one mile below the lake. This program is still in its early planning stages. Concerns about the use of seismic equipment in the lake came from a sizable contingent of members of the commercial fishing community in the Manchac area. Dr. Robert Moreau offered third party monitoring services by SLU's Turtle Cove Environmental Research Station.
- Our cypress plantings in Sunset Park have had something like a 30% survival rate and we may have another go at it in November in conjunction with the Restore the Earth Foundation plantings in the nearby LA W&F WMAs.
- Tom reported on his research on the Louisiana Outdoors Forever Program recently initiated by the State of Louisiana to take advantage of funding matches for federal infrastructure opportunities.

OUTREACH

- Ben will inquire with the NOMA to NOMA Race on Oct. 2 about what FMG can provide for participants.

NEXT MEETING

- 2:00, Wednesday, September 28, 2022 @ The Gator's Den/ Sunset Room, Galva, LA