

SOUTHEAST LOUISIANA REGIONAL ALLIANCE

Leadership Team Meeting

November 12, 2010 Meeting Summary

www.SLRAonline.net

In attendance(council): Petrice Sams-Abiodun (E); D.J. Berger (B/I); Kara Renne for Walter Brooks (ED); Kevin McCune (WD); Woody Oge' (B/I); Peggy Bourgeois (B/I); Linda Russo (B/I); Cory Turner (HS); Bill Jessee (WD); Melissa Kirsch (WD); Michael Honore' (CHNO); Bryan Moore (Orleans WIB Director)

Absent (consecutive): Leroy Crawford (6); Irma Cry (4); Glenn Hayes (3); Calvin Johnson (3); Kathleen Mix (3); Dawn Sharpe Brackett (2)

Leadership Team Updates: Rodger Scott has tendered his resignation from the Leadership Team for personal reasons.

Stacy Horn Koch is no longer with Covenant House. She has not contacted the SLRA regarding her plans concerning LT membership.

Meeting Convened: The sixth meeting of the 2010 SLRA Leadership Team was convened at 9:00am in the Conference Room at the Regional Planning Commission Bldg, 10 Veterans Blvd, Metairie, LA.

Acknowledgements:

As Chair of the Leadership Team for the past 12 months, Petrice Sams-Abiodun has been a diligent and energetic servant leader. Her team spirit has never dimmed, and her support of the SLRA and its activities has been unflagging. Despite her extremely busy professional life, she has created time to address the organization's needs and prepare for each and every Leadership Team meeting with diligence. Melissa Kirsch, 2011 Chair Elect, presented a framed Certificate of Appreciation to Petrice with the gratitude of the organization for her dedicated service.

2010 Review of Accomplishments:

Asset Mapping Project: It was announced that currently, the Regional Trading Provider Directory, a result of the Asset Mapping project, is posted to the SLRA website, www.SLRAonline.net.

While several additional providers have been located since the directory was posted, attempts to solicit information from them for inclusion in a revised edition have been largely unsuccessful. A discussion ensued regarding ways to publicize the Directory's existence, how to successfully manage updates and revisions, and how to solicit feedback from the public. Conclusions were not reached, and a meeting of the Asset Mapping project team will be called after the holiday season to address these points directly.

NCRC Advancement: This project is stationary for the present. A pilot program has been discussed based on the premise that the NCRC ranking as a hiring tool will result in a more successful employee selection, longer retention, and reduced recruitment costs. A concept paper is being prepared outlining this pilot program, which will be the basis for a grant request for funding. A team meeting to work on the concept paper will be called shortly.

WOW Factor Membership Meeting: This meeting, held in late April 2010, was successful and yielded good reactions from attendees. It was agreed that there are ways to encourage stronger membership participation, including offering additional meeting opportunities with exciting speakers and relevant topics. Suggestion offered that a planning team should be selected to begin organizing membership meetings.

Review of SLRA Strengths & Weaknesses:

Stated Strengths: Core group of very engaged members-strong participation in project team activities; early organizational surveys have provided input from each council area to use as a basis for growth and development.

Stated Weaknesses: Disengagement from general membership in all councils; lack of strong, focused organizational purpose and direction to identify the organization's purpose and direction in public realm, which makes fundraising and membership development difficult; disengagement by members of the Leadership Team, lack of consistent attendance at and follow up between meetings; need for funding stream; need for strategic plan to direct the organization to a specific goal overall, with consistent opportunities to maintain forward movement toward goal.

Review of Priorities, Recommendations for next year: Among recommendations and potential discussion areas were the following:

- Convene a strategic planning session to refine the purpose of the organization and the direction of action to achieve that purpose; identifying benchmarks within the strategy as a measurement of success
- Document the previous amounts invested in the SLRA and devise an estimated annual budget for SLRA meetings and activities as basis for determining the funding needed to sustain the organization.
- Address the funding necessity, including pros and cons of 501 (c) 3 status and the possibility of partnering with an existing 501(c)3 organization to assist with funding eligibility;
- Improvement of marketing of the organization to the public through public speaking at local meetings and events

Statement of 2011 Goals based on discussions above: Specific goal setting for 2011 was tabled pending the follow up on priorities and recommendations listed above, most particularly the strategic planning session for revisiting, redefining specific organizational goals, purpose and direction.

A meeting date/place for January 2011 was not confirmed; however Friday, January 21, 2011 is a likely choice. Meeting details to follow.