

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
CADDO PARISH COMMISSION'S
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
HELD ON THE 3rd DAY OF MARCH, 2025

The Caddo Parish Economic Development Committee met in legal session on the above date at 12:00 noon in the Government Plaza Chambers Conference Room, with the following members were present constituting a quorum: Commissioners Gage-Watts, Lazarus, Thomas, and G. Young (4). ABSENT: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, and J. Young (3).

The invocation and Pledge of Allegiance were foregone. There were no Public Comments nor Agenda Additions, so the Committee moved onto New Business.

NEW BUSINESS

- *Discuss and solicit appointment of enthusiastic volunteers to serve as foundational Film & Entertainment Advisory Board members*

Attorney Frazier introduced Assistant Parish Attorney Cytheria Jernigan to the Committee.

Mr. G. Young said that the Film & Entertainment Advisory Board was established last year. The purpose of this board is to identify and cultivate local talent for entertainment. The aim is to establish the areas as a major film and entertainment center.

Mr. G. Young encouraged all the Commissioners who want to participate, to do so.

He also mentioned that smaller groups discussions of this board was suggested to facility project development. He would also like to create a mass choir representing religious and organizational groups to part of this board. This choir could go out into the community and encourage citizens to sing. He would also like dance offs in the community. Mr. G. Young envisioned local televisions partnerships to broadcast community events for global outreach. He would like this board to obtain corporate sponsorships for sustainability.

Mrs. Gage-Watts agreed with strategic partnerships with local church organizations. She also mentioned that Caddo Parish needs a stronger identity. She suggested partnering with SRAC and celebrating through the arts. Mrs. Gage-Watts said that the Youth Council could work on this as well. She suggested that a plan is needed to execute this vision.

Mr. Thomas agreed and would like to volunteer to be part of this board. He is excited to see film and entertainment to come back to Caddo Parish.

Attorney Frazier suggested that a mission be established for this board. Establishing these parameters are crucial for enabling the Committee to be successful.

Mr. G. Young understood and said that this mission statement and charge needs to be transportable to the Citizens Advisory Board.

Commissioners Gage-Watts, Thomas, Cothran, and G. Young all volunteered to be part of the initial board.

It was **moved by Mr. G. Young**, seconded by Mrs. Gage-Watts, *to appoint Commissioners Cothran, Gage-Watts, Thomas, and G. Young to the Film & Entertainment Advisory Board. Motion carried unanimously by those members who were present and Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, and J. Young being absent (3).*

Mrs. Gage-Watts mentioned that one more member is needed for this board.

Mr. G. Young suggested that the Advisory Board members meet to delegate tasks for each member.

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 12:38 p.m.



Michelle Nations
Assistant to the Commission Clerk