



GDCA Annual Meeting

Saturday, Feb. 18, 2017, 9:30AM

Attendees: app. 40

Eric - Introduced current board members

Lt. Don Stone, neighborhood

- 2016 was a good year. Made arrests in Nov. of juveniles breaking into cars. Keep your cars locked!!
- Do off-duty police officers have the right to arrest individuals? Yes. Police officers have the right to arrest people whether they are on-duty or off-duty.
- Minor burglaries, car theft.
- Keeping unwanted people out of the alley. Only residents are allowed in the alleys.
- Text or call Lt. Stone if you have questions or concerns. His phone number is 975-5536.

Adam Knapp, President of Baton Rouge Chamber

- What's happening in Baton Rouge? Rest of the state is hemorrhaging jobs. However, BR is doing great with 3% job growth. Unprecedented. It has to do with general economic growth and good property value, which we have in the GD.
- BRAC works on a regional scale not just a parish scale.
- Recently BRAC has visited Austin, TX, Raleigh, NC, Columbia, SC to see why these cities continue to grow and diversify the growth
- What are Baton Rouge's issues?
 - Weakness of talent
 - We aren't well-known nationally
 - Quality of Life
 - Transportation
 - Traffic
 - How do we finance it? Working with legislature
 - Unity and strategy
 - Mega project capacity
 - Failed Greenlight 2 funding
 - Desire to see more transportation
 - I-10
 - Expansion of I-10 - failed twice environmental review
 - Quality of Place (pleasekeeplouisianabeautiful.org)

- Cleanliness of BR
- Maintenance - streets, sewage, etc
- Business retention
- Not keeping up with peer cities
 - Interstate rails, sidewalks
- Mayor Broome is meeting about this. DPW planning transition.
- Going from reactive administration to a proactive.
- Talent
 - Moved to BR but didn't grow-up here.
 - Love living here and take pride in living here.
 - Positivity of telling our story nationally
 - Talent attraction
 - Neighborhood Association - attracts talent
- Government Street project
 - Later this year
- Entergy Building Redevelopment & White Star Development
 - Done later this year

Representative Garrett Graves, U.S. Congress

- Heck of a year. Floods, tornadoes, shootings. Devastation.
- Awesome how this community came out and supported the rest of the community. Rescue people, donations, etc.
- Infrastructure
 - Worst traffic in the nation
 - Pervasive things that affect all of us
 - Give an extraordinary amount of emissions
 - We are way behind in traffic
 - .5 billion increase for infrastructure for Louisiana
 - Grant, 3rd largest, reconfigure the Washington St exit is closed.
 - White House is talking a trillion dollar infrastructure across the nation. Talking about the BR bridge to be in that.
 - Monies for the flood victims is making its way to BR. First available will be for elderly, disabled and low income.
 - 252 million for the state for the Comite project. Lower the flood levels. Livingston & North Baton Rouge too.
- Police Shootings
 - Allocate monies for the police force.
- Get Garrett Graves' information

Goals of the GDCA

- Majority of membership dues go to
 - Security

- Beautification
 - Sidewalk initiative - match \$250 for sidewalk repair
 - Entrance to the neighborhood
 - Park & Perkins
 - Park & Government
 - Added a waterline
 - Need volunteers to design & plant. Contact gdcabr@gmail.com if interested.
 - Tree Maintenance
 - Huge financial burden
 - Prune the trees on Park so they aren't being damaged by large trucks. We have tried to work with the city about making it not a feeder street, but it's not going to happen. It will continue to remain a feeder street and large trucks will need access to Park Blvd.
 - Cherokee, Kleinert and Terrace will follow
 - Dog Poop Bag Dispenser
 - Great success.
 - Now we need get neighbors to use them.
- Entergy
 - Beginning in October, GRIP initiative, replacing the gas lines in the neighborhood. Went from metal to plastic.
 - Neighbors didn't have gas previously because there was water in the line.
 - Pressure has been increased so if there is water it will move through the lines.
 - Entergy acknowledged a responsibility to put back the neighborhood.
 - There have been several instances where that is not true.
 - Entergy rep is very responsive.
 - If you have an issue in your yard, contact Eric.
 - Between Drehr and 22nd, Olive, Tulip & Myrtle, lose power more than anyone else in the neighborhood.
 - Did a major alley cleanup.
 - GDCA fixed trees and alley in that area.
 - Trying to address the outage.
- Traffic
 - Working with Councilwoman Wicker to get a 4-way stop for Cherokee and Camelia.
 - 4-way stop on St. Rose & Terrace
 - Can we have monitoring of speeding on Myrtle between Drehr and Camelia?
 - Lt. Stone - he will send out his officer to run radar. However, the last time they ran radar the majority of offenders stopped were Garden District residents.
 - Major safety problem with kids crossing Government St. to get to Dufrocq. Meets minimum requirements. Need crossing guard.

GDCA Annual Meeting Minutes
February 18, 2017

- Dufrocq - school zone on Government St.
- Events
 - Garage & Groove, Saturday, March 25
 - Garage Sale is 8 AM - 12 PM. Sign up!!
 - Food trucks, music and drinks - 11 AM - 2 PM. We need volunteers for setup, during the event and clean-up
 - Easter Egg Hunt, Sunday, April 9, 3 - 4 PM, @ City Park in the field near tennis courts
 - Crawfish Boil, Sunday, May 9, 2:30 - 5:30 PM, 1100 Block of Camelia between Olive & Myrtle.

Requests:

- Ask the neighborhood to contact their councilman about establishing a school zone on Government St by Dufrocq and crossing guard on Park Blvd and Government St for neighborhood Dufrocq students.