

Iberville Parish Advisory Leadership Council Minutes

Meeting Date: September 19, 2006

Meeting Time: 6:30 PM

The group was welcomed to the meeting by Parish Chair Deborah C. Cross. The following people were in attendance: Deborah C. Cross, Kimberly Jones, Shannon Dietz, Fran Bartee, Cecil Ramagos, Beau Bouquet, John Gay, Danny Pearce, and Noah Medine Jr.

The group viewed a power point presentation addressing the roles and responsibilities of the Iberville Parish LCES Advisory Leadership Council.

Prior to the meeting date, members received a copy of the Annual Report to Governing Bodies which was presented to the Iberville Parish Government in May 2006. This report detailed the accomplishments of the Iberville Parish Cooperative Extension Service for the 2005-06 year. Advisory Council members were asked to view the report and bring to the meeting ideas and issues which would address the needs of the Iberville parish clientele.

The following topics were presented at the meeting:

Agriculture:

- Winter and Summer field days
- Continue the seed program and variety development in sugarcane and soybean research
- Master Gardener program thought to be successful; however, more hands on programming needed in classes
- Master Farmer program needs to be more informative and promoted parish-wide
- Ag Leadership Program beneficial but not enough promotion
- Parish Tours in conjunction with the Farm Bureau would be beneficial

FCS:

- Considered a lost art and is used to incorporate life skills needed for productive youth and young adults
- Need to work on the following: Financial Management, Workforce Development, Obesity among youth

Youth Development:

- Issues of concern were: drugs/alcohol pressures, childhood obesity, greater parental involvement
- The involvement of youth is very effective in current programming
- Would like to see some of the following programs in the parish: Gardening project or fast food farms project, job shadowing, tours and/or field days specifically designed for youth, and basic life skills such as sewing, financial management, personal development and workforce development

Community:

- Better public relations
- Continue Farm Bureau partnering
- Continue working with Capital RC&D
- Expanded volunteer programs
- Working closer with Businesses and Iberville Parish Chamber

Other comments:

- Members would like to see more intense PR of the AgCenter through marketing channels such as: newspapers, direct mail, posters, website, and flyers
- Promote greater parental involvement