

The Design Guidelines' process is nearing the half-way point. You have given us a lot of information, and Land Design Innovations is organizing it into a design book that outlines the detailed "look" and "feel" and "theme" of the business areas within the redevelopment district. When this document is in your hands, the PSJRA will make applications available for businesses within the redevelopment area to apply for façade-improvement grants. As you may recall, PSJRA has set aside \$150,000 of our budget to provide direct assistance to businesses to improve their appearance. There will be a 50% match required (we pay half, and you pay half), and the work to be performed must begin to bring the business into compliance with the new design guidelines. There is still time for you to become involved and to make sure your opinions are heard, so please stay tuned. The next workshop will be scheduled in late July or early August.

The Advisory Committee will meet on Thursday, July 5, at 7 PM at the Washington Gym. Jodee Perez (Provisions) and Amber Davis will be presenting an exciting plan for a new business venture. I don't want to steal their thunder...but it is great (and I have heard many, many people "wish" for this exact thing), and Jodee and Amber are just the two to make it happen. We will also be discussing potential grants, the status of all the PSJRA programs and pending grants and any new business you bring to the table. If you would like to discuss anything at this meeting, feel free to let me know ahead of time by email (gail@CelebratePortSaintJoe.com) or telephone (229-6899), and I will make sure you are on the agenda. The Advisory Committee meeting is intentionally held the week prior to the regular board meeting. In this way, we are able to gather the most up-to-date information from the general public to present to the board of directors in a most timely fashion. We hope to see you there.

This month (and this is a change), the regular meeting of the PSJRA Board of Directors will be held on Monday, July 9, at 5 PM at the Fire Station. Any and all interested parties are invited to attend and participate.

Just following the regular board meeting (but held at a different location—the Washington Gym), WIM Associates will host a workshop beginning at 7 PM. Team members Tony McCray and Andrew Chin will continue the discussions with you about the best use of the "Opportunity Zones" in North Port St. Joe: Martin Luther King Boulevard, Avenue A, Washington School and the 98 Corridor. You told us what is important to you (for example: senior living complex, retail, low-income housing), and now we want to know where you want to plan for these priorities to become reality. Thirty-seven of you have filled out survey forms to help us with the Master Plan, but we always want to hear from more of you. Please make plans to come to this workshop!

I still have all my fingers and toes crossed for success of the Williams Avenue Improvement Grant with the USDA. So far...so good!

Sometimes the summer seems to be a good time to slow down. This summer is turning into a great time for the PSJRA to speed up. Please come along for the ride. And thanks to each of you who take the time to call, to drop by and to come to the meetings. We appreciate it, and the city (and the future of the city) benefits from your participation.