

North Port St. Joe Redevelopment

“Unification” was the word Debbie Ward used to describe the heartfelt and sincere desires being expressed in the discussions last Thursday night at the North Port St. Joe advisory committee’s deliberations.

After an initial vote (unanimous 10-0) to affirm having this advisory committee represent the citizens interests of North Port St. Joe to the PSJRA, they then moved to vote (6-3-1) to propose that they unify this advisory committee with the downtown advisory committee to provide comprehensive guidance to the PSJRA in a mutual commitment “shoulder-to-shoulder” with “our brothers and sisters” south of their community. Thus has been born the “Advisory Council” rather than the proposed “North Port St. Joe Advisory Board.”

They then proceeded to elect their Chair: Mr. James Clemons. At that point, I was privileged to turn the administrative part of the proceedings over to Mr. Clemons. I was further inspired as he proceeded to outline his vision for this group as well as his community as a whole. The “theme,” as he described it, was “Moving forward” and to “spending less time going back.”

The group then proceeded to elect their Vice-Chair: Mrs. Annie Fields.

Their stated intent in having the chair and vice-chair was that each should be able to speak for the other when the other may not be able to be where they needed to be—a wonderfully cooperative concept. They sounded to me as though they were intent on making their affirmations very real.

Mr. Clemons then went on to speak of the “guidelines” for the group to work under: “Right over wrong, good over evil, true over false,” and “say what needs to be said, in numbers and in deed.”

But don’t take my word for it – go and talk to them.

Their grace and demeanor will make you a convert to those positives that the community of North Port St. Joe will bring the rest of the City; much less how easy and effective that it could actually be to support them in helping themselves to protect the best and improve the rest.

RETAILERS: Would you like to improve your business?

We think we can help. The PSJRA is providing a VERY SPECIAL PROGRAM for you! Make plans to come and hear retail expert Rick Segel. He is nationally renowned for his insight, humor, tips and invaluable assistance to retail businesses. The breakfast seminar will be held on Friday, March 16, from 8-9:30 AM at Sunset Coastal Grill. The seminar and the breakfast are free to you! All you have to do is call to reserve your seat.

Once again, as always, keep us in mind, and we will do the same. Feel free to contact me at any time: 850-229-6899 or Gail@CelebratePortSaintJoe.com.