

City Council November 6, 2008
Regular Meeting Summary

News Release

November 6, 2008

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New Orleans, LA - November 6, 2008 - Today the New Orleans City Council addressed presentations on Public Information kiosks in City Hall and workforce development programs at Delgado Community College.

The Council also recognized Clerk of Council Peggy Lewis and Assistant Clerk of Council Lora Johnson for recent professional achievements.

Addresses Presentation on Public Information Kiosks in City Hall



*Public Information Kiosk
Demonstration*

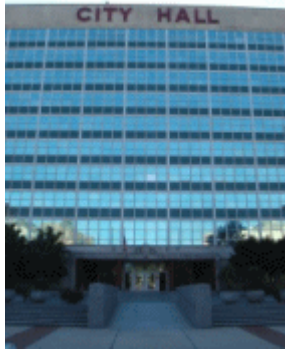
At the request of Council Vice President Arnie Fielkow, representatives of the Office of Public Advocacy and the Mayor's Office of Technology came before the Council today to give a presentation on the status of the Public Information kiosks in City Hall.

The representatives provided a description of the kiosk functions, as well as the types of information accessible through the kiosks.

Utilizing a calendar format, the kiosks display all scheduled public meetings and meeting details including date, time, location, and meeting agenda.

Councilmember Fielkow said, "The purpose of these kiosks is to provide a centralized location where the public can access information on all public meetings. We want to ensure that these kiosks are accessible and user-friendly."

The representatives brought in a kiosk machine to demonstrate the process of finding a meeting on the machine and accessing meeting details. The Offices are currently working on integrating a function on the kiosks that will allow users to search for specific meetings and details.



Supports Workforce Development

Dr. Ron Wright, Chancellor of Delgado Community College, came before the Council to give a presentation on workforce development at the request of Council President Clarkson.

Dr. Wright discussed Delgado's workforce development initiatives, as well as the importance of taking a proactive stance on this issue.

Councilmembers thanked Wright for informing them on Delgado's efforts to promote workforce development and asked that he return in the future to discuss the issue in more depth.

Recognizes Clerks for Recent Professional Achievements



Peggy Lewis and Lora Johnson

The Council recognized Clerk of Council Peggy Lewis and Assistant Clerk of Council Lora Johnson for recent honors bestowed upon them by the International Institute of Municipal Clerks and the Louisiana Municipal Clerks Association.

Ms. Lewis has fulfilled all of the requirements of the Master Municipal Clerk Academy of the International Institute of Municipal Clerks (IIMC) and has earned the designation of Master Municipal Clerk from IIMC and the designation of Louisiana Master Municipal Clerk from the Louisiana Municipal Clerks Association. These designations are the highest and most prestigious designations offered by these organizations.

Ms. Johnson has fulfilled all of the requirements to earn the designation of Louisiana Certified Municipal Deputy Clerk from the Louisiana Municipal Clerks Association.

Council President Jacquelyn Brechtel Clarkson said, "We commend these women for their outstanding accomplishments. We are proud to work with these two long-time City employees, and we thank them for all of the work they do to help us run our Council meetings effectively and efficiently."

New Orleans City Council

The New Orleans City Council is the legislative branch of New Orleans City government. The Council considers and enacts all local laws that govern the City of New Orleans. The Council also approves the operating and capital budgets for the City, as recommended by the mayor, and continually monitors revenues and expenditures for local government operations. The City Council is also the regulatory body for public utilities. It also reviews and has final say on many land use and zoning matters, as well as considers major economic development projects for the City. As a Board of Review for Orleans Parish, the Council examines appeals of property tax assessments for real estate taxes, and certifies tax rolls to the Louisiana Tax Commission. Other responsibilities of the Council include overseeing the operation of the public access television in Orleans Parish.

The City Council is comprised of five districts and two councilmembers-at-large. Council President and Councilmember-at-Large Jacquelyn Brechtel Clarkson; Council Vice-President and Councilmember-at-Large Arnie Fielkow; District "A" Councilmember Shelley Midura; District "B" Councilmember Stacy S. Head; District "C" Councilmember James Carter; District "D" Councilmember Cynthia Hedge-Morrell; and District "E" Councilmember Cynthia Willard-Lewis.