

French Branch Civic Association
General Meeting Minutes
Saturday, September 6, 2025

Opening:

The regular meeting of the French Branch Civic Association was called to order at 10:02 by President Robert Broome. He led the association in a prayer and then the Pledge of Allegiance.

Speaker:

Daniel Hill – Parish Director of Engineering

Mr. Hill discussed road and drainage project that impact the French Branch area. The parish is implementing projects to address issues from most of the area being developed between 1955 to 1980 with no effective planning addressing drainage. The parish currently has multiple projects underway addressing drainage. Traffic calming studies are underway in several areas around Military Road.

1. The I-10 at Gause Blvd ramp improvement project is an upcoming project that will improve the intersection and off ramp to make it safer and increase efficiency to reduce traffic.
2. The French Branch Pond Expansion drainage study for the French Branch Retention Pond by Oschner Hospital has been completed and funds for the project have been requested in 2026. The Diversion Canal for that pond has been completed and just remains to be inspected.
3. The Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan is a wish list compiled by the Parish. There has been a suggestion of possible speed bumps and/or a bicycle path on some heavily traffic streets in the neighborhood. Jay Watson at the Department of Public Works is the point of contact for your comments or suggestions.

Parish Government Report

Jeff Corbin District 13: jcorbin@stpgov.org (985) 898-2591 Facebook page

Drainage:

The parish is currently working on cleaning out the laterals in the neighborhood. The parish will be working on the lateral between Rue de la Paix and Rue D'Azur in the near future. There are some blockages, such as fences, in the right of ways on these laterals, so they will be working with the owners. There was a question about culverts, but there are no planned culverts in our neighborhood.

Mr. Corbin is asking that we take pictures of water issues after storms, so that the parish can track where the water came from during the storm. These can be posted to his Facebook page.

The parish is currently working on a project called Military Road Urban Stormwater Ponds. This is a multi-neighborhood plan that will impact French Branch. The parish currently owns two lots on Rue Chateau that they would like to make into a storm detention pond. A detention pond is normally dry and only holds water in a rain event. The design is expected to be completed in 2025.

Water Systems:

The water towers have been built but are not functional yet. They will be tying them in starting in January 2026. Tying in all the water systems will take about nine months to complete. An alert will be sent out when your water is to be tied in. If you want to have an alert sent to you, you must opt in online at the utility's website.

Sewage:

Inspection of the parish water treatment plants will start in January 2026 in Districts 1, 2, 5, 7, 11, and 13. The inspections are free of cost. They will leave a notice a few weeks before they come. You are invited to make an appointment if you would like to be present during the inspection.

Treasurer's Report

The financial report was handed out at the beginning of the meeting and there were no questions.

Membership Report

The current membership is 32 residences.

New Business

1. The neighborhood Night Out Against Crime on October 7th from 5:30 – 7:30. It will take place on the cul-de-sac of Rue Jonathan. There will be a food truck for dinner.
2. The Architectural Review Committee needs members. Contact Robert or Phyllis if you can volunteer.
- 3. A bulk letter is going to be distributed to the neighborhood to remind everyone of the covenants. The cost will be \$300 - \$350 to conduct the mailing campaign.
3. The state is working on lowering our homeowner's insurance but it will take a couple of years to get it finalized.
4. Important Community Meetings

On-site Sewer Inspection Meeting – September 9th at Towers Bldg. 5th floor.

--This is to discuss the roll-out of the new sewage treatment systems inspection program.

Military Road Alliance – Wednesday, September 10, 2025 at 7pm, location Boyet Jr. High

--This is a recurring meeting of HOA's of Military Road neighborhoods.

Reveille Community Meeting – the last Friday of every month at 7:30 am at St. August Maison.

--This is a recurring gathering of community leaders and volunteers to celebrate everything Northshore.

All are welcome. No Cost. Doors open at 7:30 am. Meeting starts at 8:00.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30.