

AUGUSTE “NONCO” PELAFIGUE FOUNDATION
P.O. Box 696
Arnaudville LA 70512
Jerry Richard, Nonco Memorial Prayer Garden Chairman
225-274-5177

Minutes of the Nonco Memorial Prayer Garden Meeting
Sunday, March 4, 2018 – 1:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Father Travis Abadie, Jerry Richard, Suzanne Stelly, Charles Taylor, Rod Roy, Allen LeBlanc, Iris LeBlanc, Betty Roy

LOCATION: St. John Francis Regis Parish Office and 3 proposed locations

PURPOSE: The meeting was called by Jerry Richard to report on his Monday, February 28 meeting with Father Abadie, Pastor of St. John Francis Regis Church.

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by Prayer Garden Committee Chair Jerry Richard who then called upon Father Travis Abadie for the opening prayer and comments.

Father Abadie informed the group that he will require two (2) preconditions of the Nonco Foundation regarding the Nonco Memorial Prayer Garden:

1. Esthetic Design approved by Monsignor Keith Derouen, Our Lady Queen of Angels Church, Opelousas and former Pastor of the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist; and
2. Establishment of a Maintenance Fund which will generate sufficient **interest** to cover the cost of maintenance of the Nonco Memorial Prayer Garden.

Father Abadie stressed the fact that the Nonco Foundation would be responsible for correcting the drainage problem which exists in front of the Rectory.

Before leaving the group, he recommended that the Committee pray for guidance. He suggested three areas but left the decision up to the Nonco Foundation.

Iris LeBlanc explained to the group that Our Lady Queen of Angels has a simple garden with lots of greenery and the Stations of the Cross and that it is a beautiful and very peaceful place to meditate.

The Committee left the Parish Office and first visited the present proposed location of the Garden which is the area in front of the Parish Office. Drainage is a huge and expensive problem which, according to Father Abadie, the Foundation would have to bear. Traffic noise and privacy are also issues.

The second location to consider is the Bayou Teche bank behind the church. Jerry will consult with the Corp of Engineers to see what problems we may encounter. The Marie Lalonde and Jacques Arnaud oak trees are registered with the Live Oak Society. The attached "Basic Care of a Live Oak" guidelines would have to be followed.

The third possible location is the Adoration Chapel Yard. Upon reviewing this area, it is apparent that the Adoration Chapel yard is under maintenance by a group of the church parish. Suzanne Stelly reported that a group even maintains the lawn. The Nonco Foundation feels that we could not change something already established.

Because of the above stated reasons, the Committee unanimously agreed that the Bayou bank was the best choice for the Nonco Prayer Garden because of the high cost of correcting the drainage problem which exists in the location in front of the Parish Office and considering the Chapel yard is already maintained by a group.

Jerry informed the Committee that he had consulted with the ULL Ag Department regarding the landscaping of the Garden but had been informed that ULL did not have a Landscaping Architecture Department. Jerry next approached the Chancellor of the LSU Ag Department. LSU does have a Landscape Architecture Department. LSU requires a sketch of the proposed project. Jerry and Charles Taylor will prepare and submit a sketch and photographs of the proposed Bayou Teche Garden area for their input. Iris and Allen Leblanc will visit locations along the bayou and will take pictures of suitable developments.

The Nonco Memorial Prayer Garden Committee will communicate by email on March 19, 2018, following the meeting with Bishop Douglas Deshotel scheduled for Tuesday, March 13th.

Following a closing prayer, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted:

Betty Roy

FROM CORPORATION BYLAWS:

B. Objectives

The implementation of the Mission shall include the following, non-exclusive objectives:

1. Build an historical archive of the documents, photographs and artifacts regarding Auguste "Nonco" Pelafigue, the Little Flower School, its teachers and students, St. John Francis Regis Catholic Church and the League of the Sacred Heart to which the pious and devout man of God devoted his life, ever mindful of giving credit to all individuals who contributed such historical items.
2. Design and maintain a website which will publish the historical information, events and resources, etc., so that anyone, regardless of location, will have access to the legacy of Auguste "Nonco" Pelafigue and the programs of this Foundation and how to become active members of the Foundation.
3. Build the Auguste "Nonco" Pelafigue Memorial Prayer Garden in the Arnaudville community to provide a peaceful and contemplative place for local citizens and for visitors to become educated about the life and legacy of Nonco.
4. Establish a Scholarship Fund for seminarians and candidates to the Religious Life.
5. Hold community events promoting Auguste "Nonco" Pelafigue's contribution to the Arnaudville community which will benefit participants of all ages.
6. Further the religious work started by Auguste "Nonco" Pelafigue in the League of the Sacred Heart and in the Catholic Church to encourage more participation in both.
7. Conduct activities to bring together community organizations which will at the same time further the missions of the various organizations and ultimately enhance the message of love that Auguste "Nonco" Pelafigue spread through his ministry.
8. Encourage family members, citizens and interested parties to participate on committees of the Foundation which will provide potential members of the Board of Directors.
9. Maintain finances on a sound basis.
10. Maintain all records of the organizations and permit complete transparency in all of the Foundation's dealings.
11. Build a membership base of qualified individuals who will provide staff and who will assist in planning programs for the Foundation.
12. Incorporate the French language in all programs of the Foundation since this was Auguste "Nonco" Pelafigue's native language.
13. Develop evaluations of all facets of the organization in order to improve the programs of the Foundation.
14. The ultimate objective of the Auguste "Nonco" Pelafigue Foundation is his beatification and canonization.

AUGUSTE "NONCO" PELAFIGUE FOUNDATION
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MEMORIAL PRAYER GARDEN
MISSION STATEMENT

To provide a contemplative garden where residents, parishioners and visitors to the Arnaudville, Louisiana, area, can enjoy an area reminiscent of the days when Auguste "Nonco" Pelafigue walked the countryside and enjoyed the wildflowers, birds, butterflies and all manner of flora and fauna for which he eagerly instilled an appreciation and respect. Nonco's tireless work of spreading his message of love for our surroundings and the message that we are the earth's caretakers, brought peace to those dealing with the hardships of life. The location chosen for the Memorial Prayer Garden is between Saint John Francis Regis Church and the Melancon Funeral Home so that in the times of deepest grief and need, visitors will find a peaceful garden with benches where birds and flowers may provide comfort and healing.

Adopted by the Auguste "Nonco" Pelafigue Foundation Board of Directors at its meeting on June 6, 2012.

<i>Reg. #</i>	<i>Name of Tree</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Parish</i>	<i>Yrtd</i>	<i>Owner/Sponsor</i>
4151	EDENWILDE	Coden, AL		21.00	W. Vincent Bosarge
4152	SIDNEY FRANCIS DES ROCHES	New Iberia, LA	Iberia	08.03	Guy Landry
4153	PACO SCHOONOVER OAK	Lafayette, LA	Lafayette	10.05	Ebba and Thomas Schoonover
4154	PAQUITO SCHOONOVER OAK	Lafayette, LA	Lafayette	09.07	Ebba and Thomas Schoonover
4155	GOD'S EVIDENCE OAK	Lafayette, LA	Lafayette	13.02	G. Michael Hawkins
4156	FLOY GIROUARD	Broussard, LA	Lafayette	18.06	Terry C. Girouard
4157	SAGNESS GIROUARD	Broussard, LA	Lafayette	19.03	Terry C. Girouard
4158	FIRMIN GIROUARD	Broussard, LA	Lafayette	19.00	Terry C. Girouard
4159	LE CHENE PLAT	Broussard, LA	Lafayette	18.00	Terry C. Girouard
4160	THE TIMOTHY PAUL COULON OAK (Parish President 2002)	Metairie, LA	Jefferson	10.00	Parish of Jefferson/Bissonet Garden Club
4161	THE JACQUES-ARNAUD OAK	Arnaudville, LA	St. Landry	16.00	St. John Francis Regis Catholic Church
4162	THE MARIE-LALONDE OAK	Arnaudville, LA	St. Landry	19.04	St. John Francis Regis Catholic Church
4163	PALM TERRACE SERENDIPITY OAK	Gainesville, FL		15.03	City of Gainesville
4164	DUCHESNE OAK	Grand Coteau, LA	St. Landry	21.03	Academy of Sacred Heart
4165	FURDY LAFLEUR AND WILDA LEDOUX LAFLEUR MEMORIAL OAK	Prairie Ronde, LA	St. Landry	17.11	Larry Lafleur, Janis Lafleur Barber, Miriam Lafleur Fontenot and Paula Lafleur
4166	EMAR LAFLEUR AND STELLA ANDREPONT LAFLEUR MEMORIAL OAK	Prairie Ronde, LA	St. Landry	17.01	Larry Lafleur, Janis Lafleur Barber, Miriam Lafleur Fontenot and Paula Lafleur
4167	THE GENEVIEVE MUNSON TRIMBLE OAK	City Park, New Orleans, LA (near Storyland)	Orleans	11.11	City Park of New Orleans
4168	SHIRER OAK	Metairie, LA	Jefferson	14.03	Mr. and Mrs. Robert Shirer

BASIC CARE OF A LIVE OAK

1. Do not cover the roots of a live oak within a 15 foot radius nor cover the roots with fill to no more than one quarter of the way around the tree. The roots will smother and the tree will die a slow death. Avoid parking vehicles under an oak as it compacts the soil and smothers the roots.
2. Add mulch around your tree to allow air and nourishment to help the tree with its life process. However, do not pile mulch against the trunk of the tree. A gentle slope of mulch outward from the base of the tree is proper. Do not create a volcano effect with mulch, as it can do more harm than good.
3. If a live oak has been damaged by construction work or drought it is helpful to give the tree a dose of root stimulator (note, this is different from regular fertilizer). It is not necessary to fertilize a live oak except when first planted in order to give it a good start. Fertilizer will do more harm than good to a stressed tree. Mulch it instead and water it occasionally, but heavily during droughts, soaking the entire root zone under the tree's crown canopy.
4. If your tree's canopy is very thick, you may wish to have an ISA-certified professional arborist open up the canopy to allow light and air to flow. If moss gets too thick, it may also need thinning to allow air to circulate more freely. Resurrection fern will not harm your oak; it will only enhance its beauty.
5. Never have your tree topped ("dehorned") or lion-tailed (thinned excessively, leaving only the outer branches). A good arborist will prune it so carefully that when he is gone it will be difficult to tell that he was even there.
6. Do not drive nails into a live oak. If hanging a swing or tire swing, insert the chain or rope into a rubber tube or cushioned protection layer to prevent wear on the branches and inspect the device annually to make sure it is not rubbing or strangling the limbs as the tree grows larger.
7. Do not whitewash the tree. It is one of the rules of the Live Oak Society.
8. If the tree is in a low area where the drainage pattern has changed and water sits for weeks at a time, provide for better drainage as the oak's roots can smother in water.
9. Be very careful with herbicides. A tree is just a big, broad-leaf weed to a lawn weedkiller.
10. Watch your tree for any signs of declining growth rate or crown die-back as these are symptoms of root problems which often can be treated successfully by a certified arborist if attended to early.