

DDD Commission Meeting
June 10, 2008, 8:00 a.m.
Baton Rouge Area Foundation, 402 N. 4th St.

Attending: Cheri Morial Ausberry, Mark Bensabat, Norman Chenevert,
Derrell Cohoon, Brace Godfrey, Van Mayhall, Chris Nichols

Others in Attendance: Lydia Acosta, Katie Allen, Rev. Chris Andrews, Copper Alvarez,
James Andermann, Joe Anthony, Stephen Arceneaux, Paul Arrigo,
Debbie Ashe, Jo Landry Bagewell, Brad Bates, Danny Belanger,
Charles Bennett, Frances Bennett, Carolyn Bennett, Susannah
Bing, Gary Black, Mary Boston, Greg Brandao, Dave Briggs,
Carrie Broussard, Dana Brown, Mike Bruce, Rex Cabaniss, Nancy
Broussard, Chad Calder, Cpl. Kyle Callihan, Gayle Carnahan,
Nancy Carter, Ashley Casey, Lindsey Cavalier, Tim Cockerham,
Jody P. Coco, Todd Cooper, Cpl. Don Coppola, Sara Courtney,
Melissa Daly, Chad Danos, Pete Darling, Karen Dean, Andi
DeJohn, John Denman, Rachel DiResto, Lacey Dupre, Kendrick
Ebanks, Kirk Edwards, Madeline Ellis, Matt Emory, Eric
Engeman, Tress Fereday, Derek Fitch, Carley Fleming, Jeff Fluhr,
Joey Furr, Mike Futrell, Ed Gaskin, Carol Gikas, Lydia Gikas,
Debbie Gill, Brian Goad, Trey Godfrey, Krista Goodin, Derek
Gordon, Ranah Gray, Francis Grayson, Jill Green, Scott Hall,
Gwen Hamilton, Jason Hargraves, John Hart, John O. Hearin, Jerry
Hebert, Mike Herschman, Kim Hodgeson, Ryan Holcomb, Tom
Holden, Alice Howe, Joe Hynes, David Jacobs, Staci Jamieson,
Donnie Jarreu, Ingrid Payne Johnson, Ernest Junius, Jason Keller,
Laney Keller, Stafford Kendall, Eddie King, Joe Labbe, Dana
LaFonta, Debbie Lapeyrouse, Justin Lemoine, Tom Livesay, Paul
Lockett, Diane Losavio, Steven Lumpkin, Katie Maloney, Nikki
Essix Manuel, Nicole Marshall, Jill Martinez, Laure Mary, Richard
Mary, Katherine Mason, Dee Mather, Robert McClearin, Danny
McGlynn, Carrie Miller, BJ Mililello, Al McDuff, Jeremy
Meighan, Penny Murray, Richard Neal, Dyke Nelson, Janie
Oldfield, Mary Olinde, Theresa Overby, Bill Palmer, Greg Palmer,
Lisa Perron, Bill Phillips, Eric Poche, Johnny Palazzotto, Tina
Rance, Trula Remson, Daniel Rhodes, Davis Rhorer, Erin Rolf,
Kerry Ruiz, Kristen Sanders, Samuel Sanders, John Schneider,
Katherine Scherer, Terry Serio, Larry Sciacchetano, Joe Sciortino,
Larry Selders, Lonnie Seals, Darlene Shingleur, Pam Sills,
Lorraine Slade, Lisa Smith, John Snow, Mike Songy, Kathleen
Spencer, Bill Stark, John Stewart, George Strain, Kristin Stutes,
Cherry Talbert, Todd Teepeli, Jeremy Tennant, Ted Terrell, Boo
Thomas, Clark Vega, Dalis Waguespack, Jermaine Watson, Brad
Way, Tara Wicker, Olivia Watkins, Cpl. Mark Weber, Emily
Wharton, Matt Wilks, Bubba Willis, Michael Wilson, Kate
Wilson, Beau Wolfe, Erin Wood

1. Mr. Derrell Cohoon called the meeting to order.
2. Mr. Derrell Cohoon declared a quorum.
3. Mr. Chenevert moved to approve the agenda, Mr. Mayhall seconded and the agenda was approved as amended.
4. Ms. Nichols moved to approve the May 13, 2008 minutes, Mr. Mayhall seconded and the minutes were approved.

Mr. Rhorer thanked the Baton Rouge Area Foundation for hosting the Commission meeting.

5. Board Action – DDD Assessment – The Commission viewed, via power point, photographs of downtown projects. Each Commissioner received a copy of the advertisement. Mr. Rhorer informed the Commission that the Metropolitan Council will consider the four year renewal of the DDD’s 10-mill property tax. **Mr. Norman Chenevert moved to approve the four year roll forward of the DDD’s property tax to remain at 10mill. Mr. Bensabat seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.**

Lydia Acosta Recognition – The Commission viewed, via power point, a photograph of Ms. Acosta. Mr. Cohoon introduced Ms. Acosta and thanked her for supporting downtown and wished her the best with her new position. Ms. Acosta thanked the DDD for their previous endorsement of the library tax renewal and encouraged everyone to continue supporting the EBR Parish Library System.

6a. Governmental Issues

6b. Development Initiatives – Plan Baton Rouge Master Plan Phase II – The Commission viewed, via power point, photographs of downtown projects. Each Commissioner received a copy of correspondence, newspaper articles and the presentation schedule. Mr. Rhorer informed the Commission that the committee has narrowed the proposals for the plan to four firms. The firms will make their presentations on June 23 and June 24 at the LASM. Following is the schedule for the public presentation by the firms:

June 23: 10 – 12:00 (noon)

Chan Krieger Sieniewicz, HR&A, James A. Richardson, Glatting Jackson Kercher Anglin,
WHLC, Eskew + Dumez + Ripple, *Reed Hildebrand*

June 23: 3 -5 pm

Sasaki and RCLCO, *SJB Group*

June 24: 10 – 12:00 (noon)

RTKL, BBPC, ARCADIS, & Remson Haley Herpin Architects

June 24: 3 -5 pm

RKG Associates, EDSA, Looney Ricks Kiss, Performa Entertainment Real Estate & ABMB
Engineers, Inc.

North Boulevard Town Square/Riverfront Master Plan – The Commission viewed, via power point, a map indicating the location of the proposed North Blvd. Town Square. Mr. Rhorer introduced Ms. Dana Brown, Brown + Danos, Landscape Architects, project Landscape Architects.

Ms. Brown informed the Commission that Brown + Danos joint ventured with Joey Furr Design Studio for this project. The town square is envisioned to be the center of culture and civic activity in Baton Rouge. The sub-consultants are a diverse and creative team. Following is the sub-consultants and project time line:

ABMB Engineers, Holden Associates, Visual Logic, Covalent Logic, Sam Corso, PAL Productions, Jenny Peters and Chancellor “Xero” Skidmore

Phase I	Assembling Base Information	June 2008 – July 2008
Phase II	Preliminary Design	July 2008 – October 2008
Phase III	Final Design	October 2008 – December 2008
Phase IV	Construction Documents	December 2008 – May 2009
Phase X	Project Construction	May 2009 – February 2010

The contract will be submitted to the Metropolitan Council for approval this afternoon.

Albemarle Headquarters – Mr. Rhorer informed the Commission that Albemarle, a specialty chemicals company, is moving its corporate headquarters from downtown Richmond to Chase Towers, where it already operates its operational headquarters.

One Eleven at the Shaw Center – The Commission viewed, via power point, a rendering of the project and the logo. Each Commissioner received a copy of the flyer and newspaper article. Mr. Rhorer informed the Commission that preleasing for the units have commenced and encouraged everyone to visit the web site at www.cprt.com/oneeleven.

Arts & Entertainment District Update – The Commission viewed, via power point, an aerial photograph of the Council approved Arts & Entertainment District. Each Commissioner received a copy of the previous meeting agenda, correspondence and newspaper article. Mr. Rhorer informed the Commission that the Planning Commission approved to extend the boundaries of the Arts & Entertainment District to include the Old State Capitol, LASM and the levee. It will go before the Zoning Council on June 18 at 4:00 p.m. Mr. Cohoon informed the Commission that the Arts & Entertainment District Committee received the following updates from the subcommittees on May 29.

- Update on the Receptions facilities issue – in progress – thanked Brace for sharing the contract language from Lyceum Dean
- In the process of hiring a planning consultant to create an economic incentive package for the Arts and Entertainment District. This component will be included in the Plan Baton Rouge Master Plan II. The firms will present their proposals on Monday, June 23 & Tuesday, June 24

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- The Downtown Business Association continues to work on developing a partnership with the City Police.
- Negotiations continue with the state in developing the storefront space on Third Street garage to house the downtown police officers and an art gallery. The city is proceeding in securing funds for the project.
- Extended the boundaries of the Arts & Entertainment District to include the LASM Old State Capitol and the levee – will be heard by the Metropolitan Council on June 25th.

Also at the May 29th meeting the Arts & Entertainment Committee established the following sub-committees:

Sewerage and garbage issue
Road closures / use of ballads
Security

The committee will reconvene on July 1, 4:00 p.m. at Chenevert Architects.

Mr. Godfrey expressed his disappointment with an article that was published in 225 magazine. The article relegated the Lyceum to the status of being a reception hall that attracts dangerous large crowds to downtown. Mr. Godfrey read his response “letter to the editor”.

Louisiana Association of Broadcasters – The Commission viewed, via power point, a photograph of the expansion project. Mr. Fluhr informed the Commission that Louisiana Association of Broadcasters are expanding their offices by 3,000 sq. ft. The expansion will allow broadcasters in need of emergency space to use the building. The project cost is approximately \$750,000 and is scheduled for completion – fourth quarter of 2008.

Belle of Baton Rouge Garage – The Commission viewed, via power point, a photograph of the neighborhood street name signs. Each Commissioner received a copy of the newspaper article. Mr. Bubba Willis informed the Commission that the 10 story, 300space parking garage is complete and the ribbon cutting ceremony is scheduled for Thursday, June 12 at 10:45 a.m. The garage is open for public use.

New Downtown Aerials – The Commission viewed, via power point, a photograph of the updated downtown aerial. Mr. Rhorer informed the Commission that the Downtown Development District (DDD) had a new aerial of downtown produced and encouraged anyone that would like a copy to contact the DDD office.

Events – Chartreuse on Lafayette: A Tableau Vivant

The Commission viewed, via Power Point, the flyer for the event. Each Commissioner received a copy of the flyer and press release for the event. Mr. Ed Gaskin informed the Commission that Trahan Architects presents: Reminiscent of the French tableau, an art form that consisted of live actors posing motionless on stage to recreate scenes from paintings, “Chartreuse on Lafayette” will provide an attraction for downtowners on their lunch break on Wednesday, June 18th from 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Mayor's Family Bike Ride - The Commission viewed, via Power Point, the flyer of the event. Cpl. Don Coppola informed the Commission that the Mayor's Family Bike Ride is scheduled for June 28 from 8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. The ride will start on the levee bike path near USS Kidd continue to the Skip Bertman Dr. and return back to the starting point. The event will also feature a Children's Safety Town, helmet give-a-ways, OLOL Health screening, music, food and beverages.

USS Kidd Star Spangled Celebration – The Commission viewed, via power point, photographs from the previous year's celebration. Each Commissioner received a copy of the flyer for the event. Mr. Rhorer briefed the Commission on the schedule of events and encouraged everyone to attend.

Manship Theatre's Fourth Annual Fourth on the 4th – The Commission viewed, via power point, a photograph of the Shaw Center and fireworks. Each Commissioner received a copy of the press release. Ms. Janie Oldfield informed the Commission that the Manship Theatre's 4th Annual Fourth on the 4th returns to the Shaw Center's fourth floor River Terrace with spectacular views of the river and Baton Rouge's annual fireworks display. The event will feature live music, summer southern food, cash bar, frozen drinks, a prime seat the fireworks! Tickets are \$50 for adult \$25 children 12 & under. For more information call 344-0334 or visit www.manshiptheatre.org.

Confetti and Fireworks MOA Fundraiser – The Commission viewed, via power point, the flyer for the event. Each Commissioner received a copy of the press release. Ms. Melissa Daly informed the Commission that the Museum of Art is hosting a July 4th fundraiser, "Confetti and Fireworks". The event will feature food, music and drinks. This is the Museum of Art's annual fundraiser and proceeds benefit the art education programs. For ticket information call 389-7200 or visit www.lsumoa.com.

Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center / 4th of July – The Commission viewed, via Power Point, the flyer for the event. Each Commissioner received a copy the flyer. Mr. Daniel Rhodes informed the Commission that the Hilton is hosting a 4th of July event. The event package will include an early check in to a deluxe guest room, two tickets to private pool side party and BBQ. For information call 344-5866.

Art Melt Fundraiser – The Commission viewed, via Power Point, the logo for the Art Melt. Ms. Melissa Daly informed the Commission that 5th Annual Art Melt, juried art show, is scheduled for Friday, July 11, 6:30 p.m. at the Brunner Gallery in the Shaw Center and along Third Street. For more information visit www.artmelt.org.

Louisiana's Saturday Night Music Festival – The Commission viewed, via Power Point, the logo for the event. Each Commissioner received a copy the newspaper article. Ms. Karen Dean informed the Commission that participating entertainment and dining venues join forces to promote four Saturday's in July as a great month to experience the downtown. The Saturday night festival begins Saturday, July 5, 2008.

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7. Ongoing – Plan Baton Rouge / Center for Planning Excellence – The Commission viewed, via Power Point, the C-PEX logo. Ms. Susan Ludwig informed the Commission that the Smart Growth Summit will be held at the Manship Theatre, Thursday, August 14 and Friday, August 15. Everyone was encouraged to register early and Ms. Ludwig thanked the sponsors.

BREADA – The Commission viewed, via Power Point, photographs of the market. Mr. Derek Fitch informed the Commission of the following events:

Friday, June 13 – Fresh from the Market cooking will feature Chef Brian Landry of from Galatoire's Bistro

Saturday, June 14 – Tomato Me Crazy

8. Correspondence – No information to report.

9. Subcommittee Update – No information to report.

10. New Business –

Mr. Paul Arrigo announced the following downtown events:

June 20 – 21 –Elvis Look Alike Contest at Hollywood Casino

July 3 – 6 – Pro Bass Challenge at the River Center

July 17 – 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Convention and Visitors Bureau Open house

Meeting adjourned.