

DDD Commission Meeting
June 8, 2010, 8:00 a.m.
Old State Capitol, 100 North Blvd.

Attending: Cheri Ausberry, Derrell Cohoon, Norman Chenevert,
Fran Gladden, Van Mayhall, Chris Nichols

Others in Attendance: James Andermann, Chris Andrews, Joe Anthony, Stephen Arceneaux, Rene Areng, Paul Arrigo, Jo Landry Bagwell, Susan Bailey, Jay Basist, Ed Batson, Mary W. Baus, Kyle Beall, Michael Beck, Danny Belanger, Cory Belden, Carolyn Bennett, Frances Bennett, Carla Bergeron, Jennifer Berniard, Ricky Besson, Susannah Bing, Gary Black, Tara Bradford, Jenny K. Branton, Brittanny Bland, Mary Boston, Linda Bowsher, Tara Bradford, Lula Breaux, Kayla Brewer, Dave Briggs, Jeremy Broussard, Kevin Broussard, Deron Brown, Christina Bourg, Linda Bowsher, Mike Bruce, Erin Brush, Eddie Budd, Lyles Budden, Jimmy Burland, Jason Burns, Lacy Burris, Rex Cabaniss, Chad Calder, Patricia Calfee, Gayle Carnahan, John Carpenter, Nancy Carter, Ashley Casey, Trey Castleberry, Lindsey Cavalier, Jack Chapman, Linda Chauviere, Nancy Chesson, Jennifer Chighizola, Charles Coates, Erin Cocharn, Tim Cockerham, Sonya Collins, Ronnie Comeaux, Todd Cooper, Whitney Cooper, Paul Counce, Sara Courtney, Ron Crum, Melissa Daly, Chad Danos, Jay Dardenne, Pete Darling, Kim Daugherty, Miriam Davey, Emmett David, Nedra Davis, Gerritt Dawson, Angela DeGravelles, Andi DeJohn, Rachel DiResto, Brian Dixon, Lauren Dodds, Patrick Downs, Maggie Drake, Tom DuBos, Huey Dugas, Jeff Duhe, Patricia Duncan, Gary Dunn, Katherine Dunstan, Lacey Dupre, Mary Durusau, Ryan Dwyer, Scott Dyer, Kelli Eason, Kendrick Ebanks, John Eblen, Kirk Edwards, Bridger Eglin, Jon Elvert, Eric Engeman, Nikki Essix, Pauline Ewing, Bart Farmer, Cassie Felder, Natalie Fielding, Derek Fitch, Carley Fleming, Jessica Foleg, Janatha Forrest, Flynn Foster, Judy Foust, Carole Fredrickson, Steve Fuller, Joey Furr, Mike Futrell, Ed Gaskin, Brian Gates, Susan Gavrelis, Bryan Gerace, Josh Gettys, Carol Gikas, Gary Gilbert, Debbie Gill, Brian Goad, Trey Godfrey, Krista Goodin, Derek Gordon, Gary Graham, Selena Grant, Jill Green, Blaine Grimes, Becky Gustafson, Lauren Gutierrez, Rev. Howard Hall, Jennifer Hall, Jill Hancock, Tyelise Harrison, John Hart, Kristel Hawkins, Dawn Hebert, Michelle Hebert, Kristin Hebert, John Helm, Vida Henderson, Walker Higgins, Kim Hodgeson, Robert Hodges, Ryan Holcomb, Tom Holden, Jeff Holeman, Jake Holinga, Helen Holland, Eric Holley, Capt. Virginia Holmes, Mona Holthaus, Lael Holton, Danielle Honeycutt, John Hough, Krista Howard, Marielle Howard, Alice Howe, Rose Hudson, Nicole Huffstetier, Joe Hynes, David Jacobs, Lt. Stephenia M. Jackson, Staci Jamieson, Ted James, Ingrid Payne Johnson, Tammy Johnston, Emma James, Sadie Roberts Joseph, Ernest Junius, Billy Kelley, Dan Kennedy, Bridget Kerley, Patte Keogh, Eddie King, David Kors, Ashley Laborde, Leigh Lafarque, Dana LaFonta, Laurence Lambert, Mark Landry, Michael Lang, Lori Lasseigne, Debbie Lapeyrouse, Rashad Lave, Kevin Lawson, Beverly LeBeau, Justin Lemoine, Jin Lee, Stacey Levert, Derek Lewis, Tom Livesay, Chris Loan, Terrence Lockett, Jason Lockhart, Sarah Lomax, Khryстина London, Diane Losavio, Sam Losavio, David Madden, Katie Maloney, Todd Mance, Lauralyn Maranto, Nicole Marshall, Rachel Marionneaux, Katherine Mason, Dee Mather, Jeanne McCollister, Kelley McCormick, Al McDuff, John Melancon, Tommy Milazzo, Alice Miller, Jason Miller, BJ Militello, Donna Mitchell, Todd Mitchell, Kirt Monte, Travis Moore, Sonia Morales, Karen Moreau, Micah Morgan, Robyn Morrison, Penny Murray, Fr. Pat Muscarella, Rose Mustain, Richard Neal, Gordon Nelson, Lisa Nice, Steven Noel, Rod Nunez, Jennifer Ocken, , Chad Ortte, Billy Overton, Bill Palmer, Glenda Parks, Rose Marie LeLeaux, Melissa Parmelee, Tom Parsons,

Ron Pascual, Gary Perilloux, Lisa Perron, Beth Phillips, Ashley Pierce, Eric Poche, Mitch Poche, Sgt. Kenneth Pointer, Johnny Palazzotto, Regina Porter, Skipper Post, Stuart Poulton, Katie Prechter, Mike Prejean, DeDe Preno, Vincent Price, Tina Rance, Eric Relle, Daniel Rhodes, Davis Rhorer, Malcolm Richard, Tina Righteous, Chris Rinaudo, Bob Robe, Sage Roberts, Darryl Robertson, George Robins, Emmett Robbins, Erin Rolfs, Darlene Rowland, Kerry Ruiz, Thomas Ryan, Scott Saltmarsh, Allision Saunders, Shane Sandefer, Samuel Sanders, Kristen Sanders, James Schafer, Ben Schultz, Ann Shaneyfelt, Larry Selders, Lonnie Seals, Casey Sessums, Tim Seymour, Ann V. Shaneyfelt, Katrina Shaw, Darlene Shingleur, Pam Sills, Lorraine Slade, Ed Smith, John Smith, John Snow, Michael Songy, Kelly Spell, Kathleen Spencer, Lorelle St. Aime, Karen Stagg, Bill Stark, Mary Stein, Jennifer Stenhouse, John Stewart, George Strain, John Streva, Kelly Stutes, Jan Sumrall, Lauren Sylvest, Cherry Talbert, Claiborne Tanner, Suzie Thomas, Matthew Thomas, John Sykes, Michael Thomassie, Katie Thompson, Anna Thibodeaux, Archie Tiner, Jr., Christopher Toombs, Berry Trascher, Vertina Underwood, Clark Vega, Kiran Vemuri, Randy Verdier, Cindy Verdin, Gabe Vicknair, Barry Walls, John Walters, Elizabeth Weinstein, Adam Werth, Hampton West, Jay Westerfield, Emily Wharton, Councilwoman Tara Wicker, Lonnie Wilkinson, Bubba Willis, Seveti Wilson, Kate Wilson, Beau Wolfe, Erin Wood, Renee Woods, Melissa Woolridge

1. Mr. Van Mayhall called the meeting to order.
2. Mr. Van Mayhall declared a quorum.
3. Mr. Derrell Cohoon moved to approve the agenda, Mr. Norman Chenevert seconded and the agenda was approved.
4. Ms. Fran Gladden moved to approve the May 11, 2010 minutes, Mr. Norman Chenevert seconded and the minutes were approved.
5. **Board Action** – There was no board action.

Mr. Van Mayhall thanked Secretary of State Jay Dardenne, Ms. Nancy Chesson and the Old State Capitol for hosting the meeting.

6a. **Governmental Issues – Legislative Issues** – The Commission viewed, via PowerPoint, a photograph of the State Capitol and images pertaining to each bill. Each Commissioner received a copy of the newspaper articles, as well as copies of Senate Bill 611, House Bill 1410 and House Bill 1137. Mr. Rhorer informed the Commission that Senate Bill 611 is proceeding through the legislative process and has to pass a House vote. The bill will create an economic development district which would capture revenue and allow tax increment financing for the development of a 10 acre park on the riverfront. Mr. Rhorer briefed the Commission on the following bills:

- House Bill 1137 – Relative to bicycles – Construction of roads has to account for bicyclists and incorporate the design of the road.

- House Bill 1410 – Creates the Louisiana Intrastate Rail Compact in DOTD, relative to powers duties, responsibilities, and functions of the compact – Allow the study of the passenger rail between Baton Rouge and New Orleans to continue.
- House Bill 929 – Allows for a funding mechanism for mass transit in East Baton Rouge Parish.

6b. Development Initiatives – Louisiana Old State Capitol – The Commission viewed, via Power Point, a photograph of the Old State Capitol. The Commission viewed a video of the Sarah Morgan Exhibit. Secretary of State Jay Dardenne informed the Commission that the Sarah Morgan exhibit will open on July 22, 2010, which completes the last phase of the exhibit re-design. Mr. Dardenne briefed the Commission on the new exhibits at the Old State Capitol and encouraged anyone interested in being a docent to contact the museum.

River Center Library Update – The Commission viewed, via Power Point, proposed renderings for the library. Each Commissioner received a copy of the email correspondence. Mr. Rhorer informed the Commission that the library board has called a special meeting on Thursday, June 10 at 4p.m. to review the following options for the downtown library:

- Renovate existing library
- Renovate and expansion of existing library
- Demolish existing building and build new facility at existing site

Housing Initiatives – The Commission viewed, via Power Point, renderings of the proposed development. Mr. Norman Chenevert informed the Commission that he is proposing a redevelopment at 439 Main Street. The development will be part of a \$50 million HUD grant. The project is contingent upon the award of the grant. Chenevert Architects proposes to demolish the existing building and construct a 4 story apartment building with mixed income housing. There will be a total of 22 units with six 2-bedroom units and 16 one-bedroom units. The results of the grant selection should be received by the end of June 2010.

Gulf Coast Housing Partnership – The Commission viewed, via Power Point, renderings of the proposed development. Mr. Rhorer informed the Commission that this project dovetails with Plan Baton Rouge II's recommendations of increasing housing in downtown. The project is located near downtown at the foot of the Nicholson drive exit. The current unit count is approximately 50 units with an anticipated unit mix of one and two bedrooms floor plans. They are currently in the design development phase and will have a final design in 6 - 8 weeks.

Louisiana Housing Finance Agency – The Commission viewed, via Power Point, renderings of the proposed development. Ms. Lisa Nice, Post Architects, informed the Commission that the development is located on the east side of the North Boulevard overpass. The existing building will be demolished and some of the material will be recycled to achieve LEED certification. Ms. Nice briefed the Commission on the proposed design of the mixed-use project. The mixed-income development will have 68 residential units consisting of 1, 2 & 3 bedrooms. The complex will also include a 14,000 square foot community center, fitness center, café, green roof, green space. Groundbreaking scheduled for fall 2010.

North Blvd. Town Square/ Louisiana Art & Science Museum Capital Outlay– The Commission viewed, via Power Point, photographs of the intersection at North Boulevard and River Road. Mr. Rhorer informed the Commission that LASM received approximately \$200,000 in State capital outlay funds for improvements to the pavilion area vacated by the steam locomotive once the steam locomotive is relocated. The DDD will be working with LASM to enhance the North Boulevard/River Road intersection making it more pedestrian friendly and connecting this intersection to the Florida Street/River Road intersection. We are currently waiting on technical approval from the Railroad for intersection improvements for the intersection of Florida and River Rd.

Downtown “Scott Rogers” – To be re-schedule for July board meeting.

Wayfinding Signage Update – The Commission viewed, via Power Point, a photograph of a damaged sign. Mr. Rhorer informed the Commission that the signage that was damaged by the mixture of rains and freezing temperatures in January has been repaired by AGI.

Beauregard Town – The Commission viewed, via Power Point, a map indicating the existing land use of Beauregard Town. Each Commissioner received a copy of the land use map. Mr. Rhorer informed the Commission that the Louisiana Avenue ISPUD uncovered a conflict between the land use and the zoning.

The DDD is working with Planning Commission to come up with a solution to resolve the issue. Mr. Brian Goad, Beauregard Town Civic Association (BTCA), was awarded a grant from the Arts Council which will be used to for the Association’s plans to implement a walking history tour of the neighborhood. Mr. Goad also commented that the community garden has twenty four plots and makes for a great gathering place. Mr. Rhorer thanked everyone involved with the project.

Lucy’s – The Commission viewed, via Power Point, a photograph of the restaurant. Each Commissioner received a copy of the newspaper article. Mr. Rhorer informed the Commission that the local ABC Board requires that a 60/40 ratio of food to liquor sales is needed to operate on Sunday’s. Mr. Cohoon expressed the need for everyone to support the restaurants downtown.

2010 Preservation Leadership Training – The Commission viewed, via Power Point, a photograph of the Commerce building and the Huey P. Long pool. Each Commissioner received a copy of the program schedule. Ms. Carolyn Bennett informed the Commission that the Foundation for Historical Louisiana has partnered with the National Trust for Historic Preservation to host the 2010 Preservation Leadership Training. The participants will present their recommendations for the Commerce Building and the Huey P. Long Pool on LSU’s campus on Friday, June 11 from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

New Downtown Businesses –

- **Holden Associates Architects** – Mr. Holden informed the Commission that his firm has re-located their offices to the Fuqua Building at the corner of Third and Laurel.

Events – The Commission viewed, via PowerPoint, the logos for the following events. Each Commissioner received flyers on the events. Mr. Rhorer briefed the Commission on the following events.

- Baton Rouge Bicentennial / Sounds of Summer / Discover Baton – Mr. Gordon briefed the Commission on the upcoming events. Mr. Rhorer informed the Commission that as part of the bicentennial celebration ice skating will be available at the River Center.
- 2010 Preservation Leadership Training
- Mayflower Artists
- Juneteenth
- July 5th Celebrations
- Manship Theatre
- River Center Events

7. Ongoing – **Center for Planning Excellence (CPEX)** – Ms. Rachel DiResto informed the Commission that CPEX has moved their offices into the Shaw Center for the Arts. Mrs. DiResto briefed the Commission on the following:

- Louisiana Land Use tool kit – free web based - for small rural parishes to use.
- 5th Annual Smart Growth Summit – August 19 -20 – kick off Aug. 18

BREADA – The Commission viewed, via PowerPoint, a photograph of BREADA’s logo. Ms. Darlene Rowland briefed the Commission on upcoming events:

- Fresh Fest / Summer long celebration
- Farms Table Top Program – Sponsorships available

Mr. Rowland introduced Maggie Drake, a local artist who will be working on the Farms Table Top Program.

Plan Baton Rouge II – Reported above under Housing Initiatives.

8. Correspondence – Mr. Rhorer informed the Commission that Baton Rouge is featured in an article on the front page of the Wichita Eagle Newspaper in Wichita, Kansas.

9. Public Comment – Mr. John Smith introduced Mr. John Chaszar as the new general manager.

Meeting adjourned.