

DDD Commission Meeting
June 10, 2014, 8:00 a.m.
Capitol Park Welcome Center, 702 N River Rd.

Attending: Norman Chenevert, Derrell Cohoon, Chris Nichols
Scott N. Hensgens

Absent: Fran Gladden, Ric Kearny

Others in Attendance: Laura Acord, Tom Adamek, Mike Airhart, Rachel Alexander, Gary Anderson, Alicia Baron, Charles Bennett, Frances Bennett, Tom Bergman, Gary Black, Virginia Black, Shannon Blakeman, Ben Blackwell, Chuck Booksh, Timothy Boone, Jessica Boone, Benjamin Bradford, Jim Brandt, Kelli Branigan, Chelsea Brasted, Emile Breaux, Staci Brimer, Kevin Broussard, Nancy Broussard, Zach Broussard, Gary Burkett, Scott Byrd, Amy Canik, Steve Carleton, Gayle Carnahan, Christy Chachere, Margaret Chappuis, Cordia Clark, Penny Clemeat, Cosimo Clements, Oren Conner, Whitney Cooper, James Corry, Sara Courtney, Suzette Crocker, Ron Crum, Lynn Daigle, Tom Dawson, Angela deGravelles, Genny Denton, Rachel DiResto, Heather Fatzinger, Randy Faucheux, Peyton Feigley, Cassie Felder, Judy Foust, Rob Gann, Mike Gauthier, Brian Goad, Leah Gray, Gaye Hamilton, Jason Haynes, John O. Hearin, Robert Hebert, Marcus Hennison, Ben Herrington, Ryan Holcomb, Arne Hook, Mark Hudson, Courtney Hunt, David Jacobs, Melody Joachim, Alex Juan, Douglas Kennedy, Nicole Kennelly, Julia Kennerly, Stuart Keyes, Tara Kistler, Jane Koske, Irene Kotval, Noah Kozinko, Joe Labbe, Ashley LaBorde, Laurence Lambert, Morgan Landry, Andee Lanier, Lori Lasseigne, Debbie Lapeyrouse, Jeremy Lapeyrouse, Chelsea Layne, Beverly LeBeau, Gordon LeBlanc, Peggy Lee, Cindy Littlefield, Sam Losavio, Mario Lozanov, Lauralyn Maranto, Mary Jane Marcanetel, Fr. Pat Mascarella, Michael Mashburn, Dee Mather, Jeanne McNeil, Michael Mayer, Eunice McCarney, Murray McCullough, John Melancon, Chris Meyers, Patrick Michaels, BJ Milatello, Tommy Milazzo, Alice Miller, Jason Miller, Mikeila Nagura, Steven Neal, Dyke Nelson, Otha Nelson, Shawn Nolan, Amy Norval, Lucio Nunez, Mary Olinde, Ashley Ortego, Billy Overton, Vertina Overton, Melissa Parmelee, Renee Payton, Stormi Persick, Lluvia Peveto, Andy Pine, Eric Poche, Zoran Pranjic, Margaret Read, Dan Reed, Bill Reich, Eric Relle, Leif Remo, Davis Rhorer, Darlene Rowland, Jay Ruffin, Stephen Rust, Sam Sanders, Larry Selders, Casey Sessums, Jamie Setze, Shay Schillilng, Audrey Schmolke, Darlene Shingleur, Karen Stagg, Karla Swacker, Cherry Talbert, Velma Tarver, Casey Tate, Collis Temple, Jeremy Theriot, Patrick Terito, Boo Thomas, Ann Trappey, Michael Trufant, Veach Tucker, Caroline Tyler, Briana Vaughn, Clark Vega, Alex Velasquez, Gabe Vicknair

1. Mr. Norman Chenevert called the meeting to order.
2. Mr. Norman Chenevert declared a quorum.
3. Ms. Chris Nichols moved to approve the agenda, Mr. Scott Hensgens seconded and the agenda was approved.
4. Ms. Chris Nichols moved to approve the May 14, 2014 minutes, Mr. Scott Hensgens seconded and the minutes were approved.

Ms. Nichols shared a few words of wisdom.

5. Board Action – There was no board action.

6a. Governmental Issues – Old LNB Building Redevelopment District – The Commission viewed, via PowerPoint, a photograph of the exterior of the building. Each Commission received a copy of newspaper article and Senate Bill. Mr. Davis Rhorer informed the Commission that the legislation cleared the chambers without amendments. The TIF bill will create a TIF district for the LNB Building to be developed into a hotel.

6b. Development Initiatives – 440 on Third – The Commission viewed, via PowerPoint, a photograph of the exterior of the building and floor plans for the apartments. Mr. Dyke Nelson briefed the Commission on the floor plans for the apartments and informed the Commission that the renovations are 50% complete with a completion date of December 31, 2014. The grocery store is expected to be complete by September 2014.

Rotary Overlook – The Commission viewed, via PowerPoint, the presentation of the proposed project. Each Commission received a copy of the project summary and proposed rendering. Mr. Rhorer reviewed the presentation and informed the Commission that Rotary was looking for a way to commemorate their 100th anniversary in 2018. The DDD presented Rotary with a proposal to construct an overlook and sculpture on the riverfront at Florida and River Road. Rotary selected the proposal and will partner with the DDD to build the overlook and sculpture. There will be a design competition to determine the design and Rotary is in the process of raising funds. Mr. Rhorer thanked Rotary for selecting the project.

Riverfront Gateways – The Commission viewed, via PowerPoint, an aerial indicating the riverfront gateways. Mr. Rhorer briefed the Commission on the improvements that have been made to the riverfront gateways and proposed improvements.

UDC Levels – The Commission viewed, via PowerPoint, a photograph of the Each Commission received a copy of the introduction and design level requirements. Mr. Ryan Holcomb briefed the Commission on the UDC levels. Design levels are intended to provide a range of guidelines for development by promoting and encouraging consistency in the quality of design and ensure that high quality development is maintained throughout the Parish. The intent of the design levels is to require additional standards in areas desiring to increase the walkability and strengthen the physical and economic character of identified areas.

326 Third Street – The Commission viewed, via PowerPoint, a photograph of the exterior of the building. Mr. Dyke Nelson informed the Commission that Edible Events will locate upstairs and a restaurant/ lounge will locate downstairs. The project has received tax credits and is expected to be complete by the end of 2014.

Town Square WiFi – The Commission viewed, via PowerPoint, a map indicating the areas of WiFi downtown. Each Commission received a copy of the map indicating the areas of WiFi. Mr. Gabe Vicknair informed the Commission that the DDD has partnered with the River Center's contract with Verma Systems to upgrade its wireless internet to include the installation of Wi-Fi for NBTS, Repentance Park, Riverfront Plaza and LASM. The WiFi will send users to a landing page that will provide information regarding downtown.

Web Cam – The Commission viewed, via PowerPoint, a photograph from the web cam. Mr. Gabe Vicknair informed the Commission that the web cams are now in operation in North Blvd. Town Square through the DDD web page at www.downtownbatonrouge.org.

Downtown Greenway Update – The Commission viewed, via PowerPoint, an image of the proposed renderings. Mr. Gabe Vicknair informed the Commission that they have broken ground on the portion of the greenway that will go through Expressway Park with a 12' wide bicycle pathway. The Recreational Center has also received improvements. Mr. Rhorer thanked BREC for their partnership in the project and recognized Mr. Mike Airhart, EBR Mortgage Finance Authority, for their assistance with the funding. Phase II has been awarded and will coincide with Phase I construction for a total of approximately 6 months.

Fireworks on the Mississippi – The Commission viewed, via PowerPoint, an image of the logo. Mr. Noah Kozinko, WBRZ, informed the Commission that WBRZ has committed to fund the fireworks for the July 4th celebration on the levee. Mr. Rhorer commended WBRZ for their commitment to the community and downtown. Ms. Alex Juan, USS Kidd, informed the Commission that the USS Kidd Freedom Festival is scheduled for July 4th from 11am – 4pm. There are several other events

New Business – Fresh Junkie – The Commission viewed, via PowerPoint, a photograph of the interior of the restaurant. Mr. Rhorer informed the Commission that Fresh Junkie is scheduled to open later this week. **Jolie Pearl** – The Commission viewed, via PowerPoint, a photograph of the interior of the restaurant. Mr. Rhorer informed the Commission that the build out of the space is progressing.

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

- Juneteenth – June 14
- Escape from Baton Rouge – June 28
- Fourth of July Events
- Foundation for Historical Louisiana/Old Governor's Mansion
- Manship Theatre Events / LSU MOA
- Old State Capitol
- River Center Events
- LASM
- USS Kidd

7. Strategic Plan – Plan Baton Rouge II – The Commission viewed, via Power Point, a photograph of the PBR II cover. The DDD continues to implement the plan.

8. Ongoing Projects – CPEX – The Commission viewed, via Power Point, an image of the logo. There was no information to report.

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BREADA – The Commission viewed, via PowerPoint, an image of the BREADA logo. Ms. Darlene Rowland informed the Commission that the Market is open for breakfast and lunch Monday – Saturday. The upcoming market, Saturday, June 14 will feature, strawberries, blueberries, peaches and face painting.

Downtown Business Association (DBA) – Mrs. Alicia Baron, DBA, briefed everyone on the following events:

- July 10, 2014 – Member Meeting – The ARC
- August 7, 2014 – Lunch & Learn – "Building a Better Business: It's the Peoplework-Not the Paperwork," by Bruce S. Wilkinson, CSP – Kean Miller, 11:30 a.m.

For more information on Downtown Business Association visit downtownbr.org

8. **Correspondence** – There was no correspondence.

9. **Public Comment** – Mr. Steve Carleton informed the Commission that the Downtown Kiwanis Club is the longest service organization in Baton Rouge and encouraged everyone to join the club. The club provides service projects for under privileged children in Baton Rouge. Meetings are held every Thursday, 12noon at the Woman's Club.

Pastor Oren Conner, First Baptist Church, informed the Commission that in conjunction with USS Kidd's July 4th activities the church will be sponsoring a patriotic concert at 6:00 p.m. and encouraged everyone to attend.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00am.