

DDD Commission Meeting
November 9, 2010, 8:00 a.m.
Old Governor's Mansion, 502 North Blvd.

Attending: Cheri Ausberry, Norman Chenevert, Derrell Cohoon, Chris Nichols

Absent: Fran Gladden, Van Mayhall, Danny Montelaro

Others in Attendance: Copper Alvarez, James Andermann, Chris Andrews, Stephen Arceneaux, Paul Arrigo, Rita Baillie, Jeffrey Beck, Cory Belden, Carolyn Bennett, Charles Bennett, Frances Bennett, Denver Benton, Gary Black, Rebecca Bonnet, Mignon Bosse, Chip Boyles, Dave Briggs, Mary Kay Brown, Mike Bruce, Eddie Budd, Jimmy Burland, Erin Bush, Chad Calder, Patricia Calfee, Cpl. Kyle Callihan, Wanda Calkins, Gayle Carnahan, Sarah Casper, Renee Chatelain, Erin Cocharn, Tim Cockerham, Cpl. Don Coppola, Sandra Daire, Melissa Daly, Chad Danos, John Davies, Nedra Davis, Angela DeGravelles, Rachel DiResto, Maggie Drake, Mary Durusau, Scott Dyer, Barbara Anne Eaton, Kendrick Ebanks, Sarah Edel, Jon Elvert, Betsy Fazekas, Derek Fitch, Judy Foust, Marston Fowler, Sarah Friedmann, Steve Fuller, Joey Furr, Scott Gaskin, Bryan Gerace, Debbie Gill, Brian Goad, Jessica Golebiowski, Krista Goodin, Kathleen Gordon, Derek Gordon, Selena Grant, Ranah Gray, Francis Grayson, Jill Green, Ted Griggs, Becky Gustafson, Charyl B. Hearin, Hunt Hearin, III, John O. Hearin, Katherine Herald, Ryan Holcomb, Tom Holden, Jake Holinga, Eric Holley, Capt. Virginia Holmes, Mona Holthaus, Danielle Honeycutt, Krista Howard, Nick Huff, Nicole Huffstetier, Ed Jenkins, John Kaufman, Bridget Kerley, Ashley LaBorde, Debbie Lapeyrouse, Beverly LeBeau, Rose Marie Leleaux, Jin Lee, Justin Lemoine, Tom Livesay, Jason Lockhart, Diane Losavio, Chris Maggie, Stephanie Manson, Lauralyn Maranto, Chef Dondi McNulty Phyllis Meyer, Jeff Michie, BJ Militello, Travis Moore, Bryce Moreland, Robyn Morrison, Pauline Moss, Fr. Pat Muscarella, Rose Mustain, Mikeila Nagura, Richard Neal, Gordon Nelson, Brent Nettles, Mikela Nagura, Ross Nugent, Abigail Omojola, Rose Marie LeLeaux, Billy Overton, Johnny Palazzotto, Ron Pascual, Emily Patrick, Gary Perilloux, Lisa Perron, Beth Phillips, Ashley Pierce, Michael Platte, Robert Poole, Skipper Post, Stuart Poulton, Taylor Rainey, Tina Rance, Margaret Read, Davis Rhorer, Sage Robert, Emmett Robbins, Erin Rolfs, Darlene Rowland, Kerry Ruiz, Samuel Sanders, David Savario, Kathy Scherer, John Schneider, Joseph Scott, Larry Selders, Casey Sessums, Ann Shaneyfelt, Darlene Shingleur, John Sills, Lorraine Slade, Lisa Smith, John Smith, John Snow, Kelly Spell, Karen Stagg, Bill Stark, Dawn Starns, Mary Stein, Jennifer Stenhouse, Kelly Stutes, Jan Sumrall, Cherry Talbert, Ben Taylor, Genny Nadler Thomas, Michael Thomassie, Sally Thompson, Archie Tiner, Vertina Underwood, Jr., Clark Vega, Kiran Vemuri, Gabe Vicknair, Kathy Victorian, Jonathan Walker, Elizabeth Weinstein, Adam Werth, Derek White, Councilwoman Tara Wicker, Cannon Wiest, Allen Williams, Bubba Willis, Erin Wood, Kelly Zimmerman

1. Ms. Cheri Ausberry called the meeting to order.
2. Ms. Cheri Ausberry declared a quorum.
3. Mr. Cohoon moved to approve the agenda, Mr. Chenevert seconded and the agenda was approved.

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4. Mr. Norman Chenevert moved to approve the October 12, 2010 minutes, Ms. Chris Nichols seconded and the minutes were approved.

Rev. Chris Andrews announced that the downtown community will host a Thanksgiving service at Wesley United Methodist at 10am on Thursday, November 25.

Mr. Rhorer thanked Ms. Carolyn Bennett for hosting the November DDD Commission meeting at the Old Governor's Mansion.

5. Board Action – DDD 2011 Budget / Strategic Plan – The Commission viewed, via Power Point, an image of the DDD logo, strategic plan chart and proposed renderings of current projects. Each Commissioner received a copy of the proposed 2011 budget, Goals and Objectives and Strategic Plan. Mr. Davis Rhorer informed the Commission that the proposed budget for 2011 is \$617,770 and requested that the DDD Commission adopt the 2011 budget as presented. **Mr. Norman Chenevert moved to adopt the 2011 Operating Budget, Ms. Chris Nichols seconded and the 2011 Operating Budget were unanimously adopted.**

Mr. Rhorer reviewed the administration and organizational components of the proposed Strategic Plan for the DDD and requested that the DDD Commission adopt the plan. Mr. Jacob Holinga briefed the Commission on the financial components of the plan. **Ms. Cheri Ausberry moved to adopt the Strategic Plan as presented, Ms. Chris Nichols seconded and the 2011 Strategic Plan was unanimously adopted.**

Mr. Rhorer commended Mr. Van Mayhall on his leadership with this plan.

6a. Governmental Issues – Two-waying St. Louis and St. Ferdinand Streets – The Commission viewed, via Power Point, existing and proposed vehicular circulation maps. Each Commissioner received a copy of the newspaper articles. The Metropolitan Council will consider the project on Wednesday, November 10, 2010. Mr. Mike Bruce, ABMB, has been hired by the City Parish to create the circulation plan. Mr. Bruce informed the Commission that the project will make for an easier circulation access into the downtown area from the south. The cost of the project is \$900,000 and 1/3 to 1/2 of the budget is dedicated to upgrading of traffic signals whether or not the two-way is implemented. The two-waying is also important to the North Blvd. Town Square, River Center improvements and Beauregard Town. Mr. Bruce encouraged everyone to contact their council member and express their support of the proposed project.

CVB Appointment – The Commission viewed, via Power Point, a image of CVB logo. Each Commissioner received a copy of the correspondence. Mr. Rhorer informed the Commission that the DDD's appointment on the Convention and Visitors' Bureau (CVB) board will expire and requested that the board approve the re-appointment of Mr. Claude Reynaud. **Ms. Chris Nichols moved to approve the re-appointment of Mr. Claude Reynaud to the CVB as the representative of the DDD, Mr. Derrell Cohoon seconded and motion was unanimously adopted.**

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6b. Development Initiatives – DDD Projects Update – The Commission viewed, via PowerPoint, a photograph of the proposed North Blvd. Town Square (NBTS) and Repentance Park. Mr. James Andermann briefed the Commission on the following projects:

NBTS

Oct. 29 – Advertisement for the construction of NBTS
Nov. 16 – Pre-proposal meeting with joint venture and bidders
Nov. 30 – Open bids
Dec. 1 – Introduce bids to Capitol Improvement committee
Dec. 8 – Metropolitan Council will execute contract

Repentance Park

Nov. 9 – Conference with Reed Hildebrand to discuss scope of services.
Nov. 10 – Conference call with DPW and Reed Hilderbrand
Nov. 18 – File item on to Metropolitan Council agenda item
Nov. 23 – Introduce to Metropolitan Council
Dec.1 – Introduce bids to Finance and Executive Committee
Dec. 8 – Metropolitan Council will execute contract

19th Judicial District Courthouse – The Commission viewed, via Power Point, photographs of the new 19th Judicial District Courthouse design, as well as construction progress. Mr. Skipper Post briefed the Commission on the site selection, planning and construction of the courthouse. Ms. Chris Nichols questioned the safety of the Beauregard Town residents in regards to the transporting of prisoners to the courthouse and requested that Mr. Post convey the concerns to the 19th JDC personnel. Mr. Rhorer commended Mr. Post for his work on the project.

FUTURE BR Transportation Workshop – The Commission viewed, via Power Point, an image of the flyer. Each Commissioner received a copy of the flyer. Mr. Bruce briefed the Commission on the following meetings:

- Tuesday, Nov. 9, River Center from 5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. – Update from planner John Fregonese regarding the Comprehensive Master plan for EBR Parish
- Tuesday, Nov. 9, River Center from 6:30p.m. -8:30 p.m. – Transportation Workshop

Arts & Entertainment Beautifications – The Commission viewed, via Power Point, photographs of the event and examples of parking lot screening. Mr. Gabe Vicknair informed the Commission that **30 on the 30th** -Oversized Flower Pot Plantings in the downtown area was a great success. Mr. Vicknair thanked everyone that was involved with the project. The DDD will continue the development (graphic design, materials, and location) of the off-street back drops. The back drops could be used to screen surface parking lots. A demonstration block will be created to test the viability of the project and to gather public input and comments.

New Downtown Businesses – The Commission viewed, via Power Point, a photograph of the exterior and interior of the businesses. Each Commissioner received a copy of the newspaper article.

Little Village – Mr. John Schneider informed the Commission and commended Derek Fitch and Tipton architects for their work on the Little Village – Chef Dondi McNulty informed the Commission that they outgrew the previous space and moved to the Kress building to provide a larger seating area. Chef McNulty encouraged everyone to come by and visit the restaurant.

Lake Quick Care – Mr. Rhorer announced that Lake Quick Care has opened their doors at 307 Third Street and the operating hours are Monday – Friday 8am – 6pm.

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.

- Music at Mid-Day – Wednesday’s through May 2011
- Little Pink House: A True Story of Defiance and Courage – Nov. 9
- Red Stick International Animation Festival – Nov. 10 – 13
- Veterans Day Program – Nov. 11
- Mistletoe Market – Nov. 13 – 14
- Sunday in the Park – Nov. 14
- Turkey Trot – Nov. 25
- 2010 Festival of Lights – Dec. 3
- Reindeer Run – Dec. 3
- LSU Museum of Art
- Manship Theatre Events
- River Center Events

7. Ongoing – **Center for Planning Excellence (CPEX)** – Mrs. Rachel DiResto encouraged everyone to visit their new web site at www.cplex.org that includes an interactive google map to view planning across the state. Mrs. DiResto expressed the importance of supporting the two-way St. Louis and St. Ferdinand Streets and shared with the Commission a list of other cities that converted their one way downtown streets in recent years. Mrs. DiResto

BREADA – The Commission viewed, via PowerPoint, a photograph of BREADA’s logo. Ms. Darlene Rowland thanked everyone for their support of the markets as they celebrated their anniversaries and informed the Commission of the following:

- Saturday, Dec 4th – In partnership with LPB, Curious George will be visiting the market
- Reminder that tokens are available to use debit, credit, gift certificates and Louisiana Purchase cards at the Red Stick Farmers Markets.

PBR II – The DDD continues to implement initiatives of PBR II.

8. Correspondence – There was no correspondence.

9. Public Comment

- Nov. 14 –Renee Bourgeois, Manship Theatre, briefed the Commission on the following events to be held at the Manship Theatre:
 - Nov. 14 – Casa Blanca, 3:00 p.m. – proceeds go to USS Kidd foundation.
 - Nov. 21 – 4 Troops, 2:00 p.m. & 7:00 p.m. 4 Troops
The music of the former military men-and woman-has supported our military near the battle lines and their families back home.
 - Dec. 4, Arts Council Listening Room series presents Baptiste Trotignon Trio 7:00 p.m. & 9:00 p.m.

- Ms. Francis Bennett announced that the “Sunshine for Kids” Gala is scheduled for November 16 at the Old Governor’s Mansion.
- Councilwoman Tara Wicker thanked everyone for supporting the Take Back 10 Community Action meeting. Mrs. Wicker also encouraged everyone to attend the District 10 leadership meeting tonight at 4:00 p.m. in the Metropolitan Council chambers.
- Fr. Pat Muscarella thanked the DDD for their support of the White Cane Safety Day. Fr. Muscarella encouraged the Manship Theatre to look at film equipment for visually impaired also encouraged Post Architect to research the implementation of audible signs at 19th Judicial District Courthouse.
- Mr. Davis Rhorer briefed the Commission that the library board voted to appropriate \$19million to construct a new 57,000 sq. ft. technology based downtown library. The Mayor has included this item into the 2011 budget and it will be considered by the Metropolitan Council on Wednesday, December 8 at 4:00 p.m. Mr. David Farrar, library director, will submit the budget to the Metropolitan Council, Wednesday, November 10th at 1:30 p.m. Mr. Davis Rhorer and Councilwoman Tara Wicker encouraged everyone to express their support of the downtown library.
- Mr. Gabe Vicknair encouraged everyone to participate in the storefront Christmas decoration contest.

Meeting adjourned.