

DDD Commission Meeting
September 8, 2009, 8:00 a.m.
Kean Miller, One American Place

Attending: Cheri Morial Ausberry, Norman Chenevert,
Fran Gladden, Chris Nichols

Absent: Derrell Cohoon, Van Mayhall

Others in Attendance: Lt. Raymond Alexander, Raymond Allmon, Copper Alvarez, James Andermann, Chris Andrews, Joe Anthony, Stephen Arceneaux, Renee Areng, Paul Arrigo, Annabelle Armstrong, Jo Landry Bagwell, Susan Bailey, Ed Batson, Mary W. Baus, Kyle Beall, Michael Beck, Danny Belanger, Jeff Bell, Bill Benedetto, Charles Bennett, Frances Bennett, Debbie Bennett, Carla Bergeron, Jennifer Berniard, Ricky Besson, Susannah Bing, Gary Black, Brittanny Bland, Mary Boston, Jabari Boudreaux, Whitney Breaux, Dave Briggs, Carrie Broussard, Jeremy Broussard, Kevin Broussard, Christina Bourg, Steve Boutwell, Dana Brown, David Brown, Don Bruce, Mike Bruce, Jimmy Burland, Jason Burns, Lacy Burris, Chad Calder, Patricia Calfee, Cpl. Don Coppola, Gayle Carnahan, Nancy Carter, Ashley Casey, Trey Castleberry, Deven Cavalier, Jack Chapman, Nancy Chesson, Pete Clements, Chuck Cline, Tim Cockerham, Sonya Collins, Ronnie Comeaux, Todd Cooper, Whitney Cooper, Cpl. Don Coppola, Paul Counce, Sara Courtney, Ron Crum, Sandra Daire, Melissa Daly, Chad Danos, Pete Darling, Miriam Davey, Emmett David, Jim Davis, Nedra Davis, Andi DeJohn, Rachel DiResto, Lauren Dodds, Patrick Downs, Tom Dubos, Huey Dugas, Jeff Duhe, Patricia Duncan, Lacey Dupre, Mary Durusau, Scott Dyer, Paul Dykes, Kelli Eason, Kendrick Ebanks, John Eblen, Ronnie Edwards, Jim Ellis, Eric Engeman, Nikki Essix, Pauline Ewing, Bart Farmer, Natalie Fielding, Derek Fitch, Carley Fleming, Jessica Foleg, Janatha Forrest, Steve Fuller, Joey Furr, Mike Futrell, Gail Gaiennie, Ed Gaskin, Cpl. Mike Gauthier, Susan Gavrelis, Bryan Gerace, Josh Gettys, Lydia Gikas, Carol Gikas, Debbie Gill, Brian Goad, Brace Godfrey, Krista Goodin, Jason Goodson, Mark Goodson, Derek Gordon, Gary Graham, Selena Grant, Rannah Gray, Francis Grayson, Jill Green, Jamie Griffin, Blaine Grimes, Melissa Guilbeau, Lani Guilbeau, Becky Gustafson, Lauren Gutierrez, Rev. Howard Hall, Jennifer Hall, Jill Hancock, Tyelise Harrison, John Hart, John O. Hearin, Dawn Hebert, Michelle Hebert, Kristy Hebert, Caleb Heine, John Helm, Vida Henderson, Walker Higgins, Kim Hodgeson, Robert Hodges, Ryan Holcomb, Tom Holden, Jake Holinga, Helen Holland, Eric Holley, Capt. Virginia Holmes, Mona Holthaus, Lael Holton, John Hough, Kristi Howard, Alice Howe, Rose Hudson, Joe Hynes, Kelly Iwasko, David Jacobs, Lt. Stephenia M. Jackson, Staci Jamieson, Emma James, Ted James, Ingrid Payne Johnson, Tammy Johnston, Brian Jones, Ernest Junius, Jason Keller, Lanny Keller, Billy Kelley, Patte Keogh, Stafford Kendall, Bridget Kerley, Kevin Kimball, Eddie King, Chuck Kline, Andy Kopplin, David Kors, Joe Labbe, Ashley Laborde, Leigh Lafarque, Dana LaFonta, Mark Landry, Michael Lang, Ryan Lang, Lori Lasseigne, Debbie Lapeyrouse, Justin Lemoine, Stacey Levert, Eric Lewis, Tom Livesay, Terrence Lockett, Sam Losavio, Susan Ludwig, Steven Lumpkin, David Madden, Katie Maloney, Manuel, Lauralyn Maranto, Nicole Marshall, Rachel Marionneaux, Camm Martin, Patrick Mascarella, Katherine Mason, Kendall Matassa, Dee Mather, Al McDuff, Slater McKay, Tommy Milazzo, Cheryl Miller, Jason Miller, BJ Militello, Donna Mitchell, Todd Mitchell, Sonia Morales, Micah Morgan, Bryan Murphy, Penny Murray, Rose Mustain, Richard Neal, Dyke Nelson, Steven Noel, Rod Nunez, Shawn O'Brien, Jennifer Ocken, Mike Odom, Mary Olinde, Chad Ortte, Theresa Overby, Johnny Palazzotto, Greg Palmer, Glenda Parks, Melissa Parmelee, Tom Parsons, Gary Perilloux, Lisa Perron, Joel Phillips,

Ashley Pierce, Eric Poche, Mitch Poche, Skipper Post, Stuart Poulton, Mike Prejean, DeDe Preno, Vincent Price, Mary Louise Prudhomme, Buddy Ragland, Tina Rance, Bill Reich, Eric Relle, Daniel Rhodes, Davis Rhorer, Malcolm Richard, Tina Righteous, Chris Rinaudo, Bob Robe, Sage Roberts, Darryl Robertson, George Robins, Emmett Robbins, Erin Rolfs, Kerry Ruiz, Scott Saltmarsh, Alison Saunders, Kristen Sanders, James Schafer, John Schneider, Ben Schultz, Joe Sciortino, Larry Selders, Lonnie Seals, Terry Serio, Casey Sessums, Tim Seymour, Katrina Shaw, Darlene Shingleur, Pam Sills, Lorraine Slade, Lisa Smith, John Smith, John Snow, Kathleen Spencer, Karen Stagg, Bill Stark, Dawn Starns, Mary Stein, Jennifer Steinhouse, John Stewart, George Strain, John Streva, Kelly Stutes, Jan Sumrall, John Sykes, Lauren Sylvest, Cherry Talbert, Claiborne Tanner, Matt Taylor, Todd Teepel, Ted Terrell, Anna Thibodeaux, Elizabeth Thomas, Michael Thomassie, Suzie Thomas, Christopher Toombs, Trey Trahan, Berry Trascher, Pat VanBurkleo, Clark Vega, Gabe Vicknair, Barry Walls, John Walters, Brad Way, Elizabeth Weinstein, Adam Werth, Hampton West, Jay Westerfield, Emily Wharton, Margaret Wilkinson, Matt Wilks, Bubba Willis, Rob Wilson, Seveti Wilson, Kate Wilson, Beau Wolfe, Erin Wood, Renee Woods, Melissa Woolridge

1. Ms. Cheri Ausberry called the meeting to order.
2. Ms. Cheri Ausberry declared a quorum.
3. Ms. Chris Nichols moved to approve the agenda, Mr. Norman Chenevert seconded and the agenda was approved as amended.
4. Mr. Norman Chenevert moved to approve the August 11, 2009 minutes, Ms. Fran Gladden seconded and the minutes were approved.

Mr. Rhorer recognized and thanked Mr. Steve Boutwell, Kean Miller, for hosting the board meeting.

5. **Board Action** – There was no board action.

6a. **Governmental Issues – Mayor's Bond Issue** – The Commission viewed, via Power Point, slides regarding proposed projects to implement. Each Commissioner received a copy of the newspaper articles. Mr. Rhorer informed the Commission that the Metropolitan Council voted to include the bond issue on the November 14 ballot. Mr. Rhorer reviewed the list of projects proposed to be included in the 2009 Capitol Improvements Program. All projects are proposed to be completed in seven years.

6b. **Development Initiatives – River Center Library Feasibility Presentation** – The Commission viewed, via Power Point, photographs of the proposed renderings of the River Center Library. Each Commissioner received a copy of the newspaper articles. Mr. Rhorer introduced Mr. Trey Trahan, Trahan Architects, Mr. Trahan presented the presentation for the results of the feasibility study regarding improvements to the River Center Library. Following are the three different proposals for the River Center Library:

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Renovating the library – expand from 26,500 to 32,000 sq. ft
Renovation and expansion – expand to 56,000 sq. ft.
Construction of new facility on same site – 56,000 sq. ft.

The library board of control is in the feed back stage and Mr. Trahan encouraged everyone to log on to the web site at www.ebr.lib.la.us and provide comments. Mr. Rhorer also mentioned you can access the link through the DDD web page at www.downtownbatonrouge.org

River Park Update – The Commission viewed, via Power Point, a photograph of the current site work. Mr. Clements updated the Commission on the under pass construction. The project should be complete between June and November 2010.

LSU Transit Update – The Commission viewed, via Power Point, a photograph of the shuttle bus and route. Each Commissioner received a copy of the newspaper articles. Mr. Jacob Holinga informed the Commission that the Tiger Trails Transit System has begun operations and offers free service between LSU and downtown. The service runs Monday through Friday every 20 to 30 minutes from 7:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. The bus locations can be confirmed by logging on to www.lsu.transloc.com.

Advance Innovative Education – The Commission viewed, via Power Point, a slide presentation for Advance Innovative Education. Ms. Kristy Hebert, Advance Innovative Education, informed the Commission that the organization is proposing that two new charter schools be located in the Shaw Center. The Department of Education and the BESE board will approve or deny the proposal by the end of October. If schools are approved they will open for the fall of 2010. Enrollment will be between 100 – 150 freshmen in each school and partner with LSU, BP America and Apple.

Rail Service between Baton Rouge and New Orleans – The Commission viewed, via Power Point, a photograph of proposed route. Each Commissioner received a copy of the newspaper articles. Ms. Elizabeth Thomas, CPEX, thanked the DDD for their sponsorship of the Smart Growth Summit. Ms. Thomas expressed that it is critical for Louisiana to have a rail system between New Orleans and Baton Rouge and would be the economic driven for the future. The state would not commit to the \$18 million a year for operation therefore the \$300 million in federal money was turned down. Ms. Thomas urged everyone to write the governor or secretary and express the importance of this connection.

North Blvd. Town Square – The Commission viewed, via Power Point, photographs of the renderings of the proposed development. Mr. James Andermann informed the Commission that a coordination meeting was held with DPW, DDD, Post Architects and joint venture team to discuss the implementation of NBTS, River Center expansion, 19th Judicial Courthouse and the two-waying of St. Ferdinand and St. Louis Streets. NBTS designers will follow up with Post Architects to discuss paving and lighting details adjacent to the courthouse. The joint venture will deliver 30% construction drawings Friday, September 11, 2009. This will conclude 4.3 of the contract. The courthouse is scheduled to open late summer 2010.

Third Street Historic District update – The Commission viewed, via Power Point, a photograph of the boundary map. Mr. Holinga informed the Commission that the State Review Committee has accepted the boundary nomination and is recommending it to the National Register Historic District. The final decision will be made by December 2009.

Downtown Clean Up – The Commission viewed, via Power Point, a photograph of the Galvez Plaza. Mr. James Andermann informed the Commission that a group of volunteers will clean up the Galvez Plaza Thursday, Sept. 10 at 4:00 p.m. Department of Public Works will provide sidewalk sweepers and employees to assist with the clean up efforts. This clean up ties in with the Mayor's litter initiative and Councilwoman Tara Wicker will kick off the event.

International Downtown Association – The Commission viewed, via Power Point, a photograph of the submission cover. Mr. Davis Rhorer informed the Commission that he will be making a presentation regarding the Wayfinding Program at the IDA conference later this month. Mr. Rhorer also announced that the DDD has been nominated for the Award of Distinction in Downtown Leadership and Management.

DDD Marketing Packet – The Commission viewed, via Power Point, a photograph of the marketing materials. Mr. Gabe Vicknair informed the Commission that the Downtown Development District is in the process of updating the marketing materials as well as compiling an additional piece on the facts of downtown.

Welcome New Business – Fleur du Jour – The Commission viewed, via Power Point, a photograph of the logo. Mrs. Lani Guilbeau informed the Commission that she has relocated her florist shop, Fleur du Jour, to 640 Main Street. The grand opening is scheduled for October 29 from 12noon – 5:00 p.m. with cocktails from 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

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

Live After Five – Sept. 11th – Oct. 30th

Shaw Center's Second Saturday – Sept. 12th

"History of LSU Campus Architecture" – Sept. 17th

Recovery Day – Sept. 26th

Sunday in the Park – Oct. 4th – Nov. 8th

3rd Annual Baton Rouge Italian Festa – Oct. 11th

Book Festival – Oct. 17th

Manship Theatre Events

River Center Events

7. Ongoing –Center for Planning Excellence – Mrs. Rachel DiResto informed the Commission that the PBR II document is in draft form and is waiting for approval from Mayor’s office.

BREADA – The Commission viewed, via power point, the BREADA logo. Ms. Copper Alvarez informed the Commission that the Red Stick Farmer’s Market was named one of the top 15 farmer’s market in the country and they are the only one in Louisiana. The Main Street Market has space available for lease.

- October 18th, 4pm – 7pm – Benefit for the Main Street Market & Red Stick Farmer’s Market. The event will feature live music and a silent auction.

EBRRA – The Commission viewed, via power point, the EBRRA logo Mr. Mark Goodson informed the Commission that the EBRRA will be relocating their offices to the Louisiana Companies building at 801 North Blvd., Suite 200. Mr. Goodson thanked the Baton Rouge Area Foundation for housing them and encouraged everyone to visit their web site at www.ebrra.org

8. Correspondence – No information to report.

9. Public Comment

Announcement

Meeting adjourned.