

MINUTES
HOUMA-TERREBONNE REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION (HTRPC)
MEETING OF OCTOBER 11, 2012

- A. The Chairman, Dr. L. A. “Budd” Cloutier, Jr., called to order the regular meeting of October 11, 2012 of the Houma-Terrebonne Regional Planning Commission (HTRPC) at 6:00 p.m. in the Terrebonne Parish Council Meeting Room with the Invocation led by him and the Pledge of Allegiance led by Mr. Alex Ostheimer.
- B. Upon Roll Call, present were: Dr. L.A. “Budd” Cloutier, Jr., Chairman; Mr. Richard Elfert; Mr. Keith Kurtz; Mr. Alex Ostheimer, Vice Chairman; Mr. Gerald Schouest; Mr. Wayne Thibodeaux; and Mrs. Marsha Williams, Secretary/Treasurer. Absent at the time of Roll Call were: Mr. James Erny and Mr. Jeremy Kelley. Also present were Mr. Patrick Gordon, Director and Mr. Christopher Pulaski, Senior Planner, Department of Planning & Zoning and Laddie Freeman, Legal Advisor.
- C. COMMITTEE REPORTS:
1. Master Thoroughfare Plan Committee Update:
 - a) Mr. Clay Braud, GSE Associates, LLC, presented the Master Thoroughfare Plan for Valhi Boulevard Extension from Savanne Road to LA Highway 90.
 - b) Mr. Gordon stated money is saved when we can build a road before subdivisions, buildings, etc. come into play. He stated property owners were notified for the first time and believed it was a good idea.
 - c) The Chairman recognized Mr. Edmund McCollam, 2720 Highway 311, who stated his family is the owner of Ellendale Plantation and use their land to farm. He expressed concerns of farming with the road that will act as a levee and how it will affect drainage as well as the road allowing access to their property.
 - d) The Chairman recognized Mr. Jake Walker, 1505 Highway 311 , who expressed concerns with the road cutting across his grazing land and would like to see the road pushed further back.
 - e) The Chairman recognized Mr. Ronnie Shaw, 155 Autumn Drive, who thanked the Commission for tackling this matter and that it wasn’t even a vision when he was on the Commission years back.
 - f) Mr. Gordon stated any landowners who did not speak could get with Mr. Braud to further discuss the layout.
 - g) Discussion was held with regard to not closing the public hearing, how many owner letters were sent out, moving the road away from the wetlands/wooded area, and the timeline for Waterworks being three (3) years.
 - h) It was determined the Public Hearing would remain open.
 2. Comprehensive Master Plan Update:
 - a) Discussion was held with regard to reviewing Chapters 1-6 versus the originally determined Chapters 1-4 and offering the public a chance for input.
 - b) The Chairman recognized Mr. Ronnie Shaw, 155 Autumn Drive, who stated he didn’t review Chapters 5 & 6 and was not prepared for the same.
 - c) Mr. Ostheimer moved, seconded by Mrs. Williams: “THAT the public comment period be closed.”

The Chairman called for a vote on the motion offered by Mr. Ostheimer. THERE WAS RECORDED: YEAS: Mr. Elfert, Mr. Kurtz, Mr. Ostheimer, Mr. Schouest, Mr. Thibodeaux, and Mrs. Williams; NAYS: None; ABSTAINING: Dr. Cloutier; ABSENT: Mr. Erny and Mr. Kelley. THE CHAIRMAN DECLARED THE MOTION ADOPTED.
 - d) The Chairman stated they would just review Chapters 1-4.
 - e) There was no one present from the public to speak.

- f) Mr. Ostheimer moved, seconded by Mr. Schouest: “THAT the Public Hearing be closed.”

The Chairman called for a vote on the motion offered by Mr. Ostheimer. THERE WAS RECORDED: YEAS: Mr. Elfert, Mr. Kurtz, Mr. Ostheimer, Mr. Schouest, Mr. Thibodeaux, and Mrs. Williams; NAYS: None; ABSTAINING: Dr. Cloutier; ABSENT: Mr. Erny and Mr. Kelley. THE CHAIRMAN DECLARED THE PUBLIC HEARING CLOSED.

- g) Chapter 1 brought about discussion with regard to providing resiliency and sustainability to our community.
- h) Mr. Ostheimer mentioned the cost of the Plan and phases that were paid by both the Planning Commission and the Parish with no recognition to the Commission. He also mentioned the acknowledgement of the Planning Commission on page 1-7 where it states “those citizen planners” with no mention of any figures.
- i) Chapter 2 brought about discussion of public participation and not much of it and the possibility of having booths set up where there are already lots of crowds.
- j) Chapter 3 brought about discussion of population and land use trends which utilized the 2010 census data. Further discussion ensued with regard to slowing rate of growth, need for green space, and reservoir banking.
- k) The Chairman recognized Mart Black, Providence, who discussed making reasonable assumptions and reiterated the reason why these plans need to be updated every 5 years.
- l) Chapter 4 brought about discussion of transportation. Further discussion ensued with regard to projects currently committed for the Parish, widening of Country Drive, truck routes, and the area bridges.

James Erny arrived to the meeting at this time – 7:19 pm.

- m) Further discussion ensued with regard to the Good Earth Transit and more marketing to increase ridership.
- n) It was stated that a Review of Chapters 5-12 with regard to the Comprehensive Master Plan Update to be held at a Special Meeting on Thursday, November 29, 2012 at 6:00 p, in the Council Meeting Room.

D. COMMISSION COMMENTS:

1. Planning Commissioners’ Comments: None.
2. Chairman’s Comments: None.

E. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

1. The Chairman recognized Mr. Ronnie Shaw, 155 Autumn Drive, who thanked everyone for their work toward the plan update.

- F. Mrs. Williams moved, seconded Mr. Kelley: “THAT there being no further business to come before the Houma-Terrebonne Regional Planning Commission, the meeting be adjourned at 7:44 p.m.”

The Chairman called for a vote on the motion offered by Mrs. Williams. THERE WAS RECORDED: YEAS: Mr. Elfert, Mr. Erny, Mr. Kurtz, Mr. Ostheimer, Mr. Schouest, Mr. Thibodeaux, and Mrs. Williams; NAYS: None; ABSTAINING: Dr. Cloutier; ABSENT: Mr. Kelley. THE CHAIRMAN DECLARED THE MOTION ADOPTED.

*Becky M. Becnel, Minute Clerk
Houma-Terrebonne Regional Planning Commission*