
**COMPREHENSIVE PLAN CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CPCAC)
PUBLIC MEETING
ACTION SUMMARY**

Meeting Held Wednesday, May 23, 2012, Noon at the Rosa Parks Transportation Center

Members Present

- Bruce Conque
- Jerry Prejean
- Louis Perret
- Perry Wilson
- Dr. Joby John
- Margaret Trahan
- Alton Trahan
- Tad Sebastian
- Mark Mouton
- Carrie Templeton
- John Guilbeau
- Mary Jane Bauer

- Kevin Blanchard
- Mitzi Moss Duhon
- Tom Meyers
- Virginia Jones
- Karen Carson
- Jared Bellard
- Stephanie Cornay Dugan
- Andre Mitchell
- Joyce Linde
- Marilyn McDonald
- Susannah Malbreaux

Members Absent

- Faye Touchet
- Monty Warren
- Robert Daigle
- Pastor Deborah Young
- Mike Hefner
- Greg Manuel
- Gerd Wuestemann
- Mandi Mitchell
- Don Bertrand
- Flo Meadows
- Kam Movassaghi
- Troy Bergeron
- Hector LaSala

LCG

- Joey Durel
- Mike Hollier
- Eleanor Bouy
- Carlee Alm-LaBar
- Cathie Gilbert
- Cecilia Gayle
- Johnny Orgeron
- Sara Gary
- Jim Parker

Public

- Cathy Webre
- Brett Mellington
- Nick Persac – the Advertiser

1. Welcome – Chair, Kevin Blanchard

2. Action Summary

John Guilbeau made a motion to approve the action summary for the May 23, 2012 meeting. Tom Meyers seconded the motion.

MOTION: John Guilbeau

SECOND: Tom Meyers

VOTE: 22-0-0-14, Yes: 22, No: 0, Abstain: 0, Absent 14

3. Vision Statement

John Fernsler, of WRT, presented a summary of the top ten public comments for each strength, weaknesses, opportunities and threats and ended with the draft vision statement.

Some of the preliminary comments were as follows:

Margaret Trahan commented on the contrast between the successful turnout in Community Forum 1 and comments that the public is apathetic. She expressed concern regarding the divisions in the community and the nation and John responded that hopefully the plan has something for everyone and is a unifying force.

Stephanie Cornay Dugan expressed concern over the low participation in minority communities and from lower income groups.

Mitzi Moss Duhon suggested that the distinct flavor should read “distinct Acadiana flavor” describing the region.

Jared Bellard and Kevin Blanchard talked about leadership regarding parish and city issues. Jared emphasized it is a parish wide plan. Kevin pointed out that people expressed frustrations about the state making decision that affect local issues and that some comments were made that predominately parish council members are making decisions regarding city interests like LUS.

Margaret Trahan commented about the bullet point that talked about the power of the plan as an important part of our decision making. She felt it is a means to an end while the other bullets were the ends. She suggested that the community be out in front of the plan. John suggested moving that bullet into the preamble.

Stephanie Cornay Dugan commented on the use of the word wildcatter and how she had never used that term as a business person. She suggested using the words progressive or innovative instead. People for the most part liked it as an oil field term that has a can-do attitude.

Mitzi commented on vibrant spaces and suggested that Parc Internationale be added.

Joyce Linde agreed with Joey’s comments that if the community said Wildcatter it should be kept.

Karen commented on our homeless problem downtown. John described the action plan that will go with the comprehensive plan.

Dr. Joby John stressed the importance of the statement. He wondered if there was anything missing that should be there. John felt that the weaknesses covered any problems. Joby asked whether we can collapse bullet points. John commented that we need to make sure the details of the public’s comments are addressed.

Perry asked about implementation. John described the action plan to ensure steps of implementation.

Virginia suggested that the blight of this community should be reversed not we have acted to reverse.

Joey Durel commented that the Unified Development Code is a huge part of implementation.

Joyce Linde commented that private properties were mentioned a lot. John said it is in the statement also with fiscally sound development decisions.

John asked for feedback on the community forum. Joyce Linde voiced concern about the numbers at her table, the noise (particularly at the Library) and the need for more opportunity for free flowing discussion. John explained the time needed to complete the activity makes open mic discussion difficult.

Dr. Joby John liked the process and said we need to get those underrepresented groups involved. Mitzi suggested that new venues might get new people.

4. Community Forum Series 1: Highlights of the Exit Survey

John quickly went through the exit survey results. He suggested that some of the data be represented by bar graphs instead of pie charts. John said he would revise the presentation. Alton Trahan talked about how we

capture groups that are underrepresented and John stressed that that committee needs to really look at that for our next outreach.

5. New Business/Old Business – None

6. Public Comments – No public comment

7. Adjournment

John Guilbeau made a motion to adjourn. Tom Meyers seconded the motion.

MOTION: John Guilbeau

SECOND: Tom Meyers

VOTE: 22-0-0-14, Yes: 22, No: 0, Abstain: 0, Absent 14

To be approved by the CPCAC