

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL
FULL COUNCIL
MINUTES

Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites
Lake City, Florida

December 6, 2007
7:30 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Ed Braddy, City of Gainesville
Louie Davis, City of Waldo
Jack Donovan, City of Gainesville
Roy Ellis, Madison County
John Glanzer, City of Newberry
Sandra Haas, Suwannee County
Donnie Hamlin, Lafayette County
D. Ray Harrison, Jr., Gilchrist County
Randy Hatch, Suwannee County
John Hersey, Bradford County
Emily Weed Ketring, City of Perry
Buddy Lamb, Dixie County
Eddie Martin, Alachua County
Garth Nobles, Jr., City of Live Oak
James Painter, Alachua County
Rudolph Parker, Taylor County
Lee Pinkoson, Alachua County
Tracy Reeves, Madison County
Carolyn Spooner, City of Starke
Lorene Thomas, Dixie County
Stephen Witt, City of Lake City

GUESTS PRESENT

Barney Bennette, FL Dept. of Transportation
Jeff Caster, FL Dept. of Transportation
Diana Davis
Mary Everett, Keith & Schnars
Charles Maulsby, Taylor County
Chris Miller, Keith & Schnars

COUNCIL ATTORNEY PRESENT

Jon Wershow

MEMBERS ABSENT

Stephen Bailey, Columbia County
Rick Bryant, City of Gainesville
Mike Byerly, Alachua County
Cynthia Chestnut, Alachua County
Melaine Clyatt, Union County
Gib Coerper, City of Alachua
Paula DeLaney, Alachua County
David Dodge, Bradford County
Dixie Donovan, Columbia County
Kirk Eppenstein, City of High Springs
Matthew Hawkins, City of Jasper
Scherwin Henry, City of Gainesville
Jeanna Mastrodicasa, City of Gainesville
Heather Neill, Lafayette County
Eleanor Randall, City of Hawthorne
Andrew Smith, Union County
Myra Valentine, City of Madison
Lewis Vaughn, Hamilton County
Ronald Williams, Columbia County

STAFF PRESENT

Steve Dopp
Lynn Franson-Godfrey
Scott Koons
Carol Laine
Marlie Sanderson
Jean Strong

Board Members names are bolded

I. INVOCATION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Ellis called the meeting to order at 7:34 p.m. with an invocation given by Mr. Martin, and a pledge of allegiance to the flag. Chair Ellis stated that there was a quorum of the Board of Directors and all Council members were able to vote. (Note: During the meeting, a quorum of the Full Council was achieved.)

Chair Ellis asked that Item VI.B.16 - Clearinghouse Item #24 - City of Newberry Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendments (DCA No. 08-1) be added to the agenda.

ACTION: Commissioner Parker made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Hatch, to add Item VI.B.16 - Clearinghouse Item #24 - City of Newberry Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendments (DCA No. 08-1) to the agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - October 25, 2007

Chair Ellis asked that the minutes of the October 25, 2007 meeting be approved with corrections to bold the name of Mr. Dodge identifying him as a Board member and to unbold the name of Commissioner Pinkoson identifying him as a Council member.

ACTION: Mr. Martin made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Hatch, to approve the minutes of the October 25, 2007 meeting as corrected. The motion carried unanimously.

III. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Purchase Orders with Northeast Florida Regional Council for Homeland Security Exercise Projects
- B. Transportation Disadvantaged Program Community Transportation Coordinator Selection - Bradford and Union Counties

Chair Ellis asked if there were questions regarding the items on the Consent Agenda and requested that these items be approved.

ACTION: Mr. Martin made the motion, with a second by Ms. Thomas, to approve the items listed on the Consent Agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

IV. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

- A. Introduction of New Members - None

B. Employee Certificates of Service

1. Lynn Franson-Godfrey - 15 Years

Scott Koons, Executive Director, introduced Lynn Franson-Godfrey, who joined the Council staff on August 20, 1990. Ms. Franson-Godfrey currently serves as a Senior Planner in the Council's Transportation Planning Division. Chair Ellis presented a 15-year Certificate of Service and a 15-year service pin to Ms. Franson-Godfrey. Mr. Koons and Chair Ellis thanked her for her many years of dedicated service to the Council.

2. Marlie Sanderson - 30 Years

Mr. Koons introduced Marlie Sanderson, who joined the Council staff on August 8, 1977. Mr. Sanderson currently serves as the Director of Transportation Planning and also as the Assistant Executive Director. Chair Ellis presented a 30-year Certificate of Service and a 30-year service pin to Mr. Sanderson. Mr. Koons and Chair Ellis thanked him for his many years of dedicated service to the Council.

V. PRESENTATION ON THE I-75 HIGHWAY BEAUTIFICATION CONCEPT PLAN PROJECT - FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Mr. Koons introduced and welcomed Mr. Jeff Caster, Landscape Architect from the Florida Department of Transportation and also Ms. Mary Everett and Chris Miller from Keith & Schnars, the consulting firm under contract to the Department to prepare the concept plan. Mr. Caster stated that the current project is a follow-up to the work completed by the I-75 Highway Beautification and Tourism Promotion Pilot Project Corridor Council in partnership with the Florida Department of Transportation pursuant to legislation in 1996, which established the I-75 Pilot Project.

Ms. Everett and Mr. Miller then described the objectives and focus of the project. They reported that at the present time they are in the process of mapping and photographing the entire 150-mile corridor from the start of the Florida Turnpike at Wildwood to the Florida/Georgia border to determine the visual impacts of the highway. Upon completion of this phase of the project, the maps will be used by the Florida Department of Transportation as a tool to enhance the scenic and natural beauty of the corridor by reducing the number of nonconforming billboards. The program is intended to give visitors to the State a memorable impression of Florida and thereby encourage return visits. Ms. Everett added that a public involvement meeting is tentatively being scheduled for the month of January 2008 in Gainesville and everyone is encouraged to attend.

Chair Ellis thanked Mr. Caster, Ms. Everett and Mr. Miller for their presentation.

VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Executive Committee - Proclamation Concerning Hazardous Materials Awareness Week

Chair Ellis reported that the Local Emergency Planning Committee has the job of increasing the safety of our communities from chemical releases and that public outreach and education are important to increasing chemical safety in our communities. He stated that the Local Emergency Planning Committee will be asking municipalities, counties and school boards to proclaim the week of January 20-26, 2008, as Hazardous Materials Awareness Week. Chair Ellis stated that the Executive Committee recommended that the Council proclaim the week of January 20-26, 2008, as Hazardous Materials Awareness Week by adopting the proclamation, which is attached hereto and made a part of these minutes.

ACTION: Mayor Davis made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Pinkoson, to proclaim the week of January 20-26, 2008, as Hazardous Materials Awareness Week by adopting the proclamation, which is attached hereto and made a part of these minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

B. Clearinghouse Committee

Chair Sandra Haas reported that the Clearinghouse Committee met earlier in the evening with a quorum and reviewed 15 agenda items and Item #24 - City of Newberry Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendments (DCA No. 08-1) which was added to the agenda. She stated that these items will be grouped for purposes of presentation.

#7 - Alachua County Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendments (DCA No. 07-1)

#8 - City of Gainesville Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment (DCA No. 07-1)

Ms. Haas stated that the Committee found that the Alachua County and City of Gainesville Comprehensive Plans, as amended, remained consistent with the regional plan and recommended forwarding the findings and recommendations contained in the staff reports to the respective local governments and the Florida Department of Community Affairs as regional comment.

ACTION: Chair Haas made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Hatch to approve the Clearinghouse Committee recommendation concerning Item #7, Alachua County Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendments and Item #8, City of Gainesville Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment. The motion carried unanimously.

- #9 - Town of Fort White Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendments (DCA No. 08-1)
- #24 - City of Newberry Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendments (DCA No. 08-1) (added to agenda)

Ms. Haas stated that the Committee found that the Town of Fort White and City of Newberry Comprehensive Plans, if amended as proposed, would remain consistent with the regional plan. Nevertheless, she stated that the Committee recommended forwarding one Objection on both of these items regarding potential adverse impacts to the regional road network. She added that the Committee also recommended the preparation of an Objections, Recommendations and Comments report to address the Objections. Ms. Haas stated that the Committee recommended forwarding the findings and recommendations contained in the staff reports for these items to the respective local governments and the Florida Department of Community Affairs as regional comment.

ACTION: Chair Haas made the motion, with a second by Mayor Ketring to approve the Clearinghouse Committee recommendation concerning Item #9, Town of Fort White Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendments and Item #24, City of Newberry Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendments. The motion carried unanimously.

- #10 - Gilchrist County Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (DCA No. 08-1)
- #11 - Town of Bell Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendments (DCA No. 08-1)
- #12 - City of Fanning Springs Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (DCA No. 08-1)
- #13 - City of Trenton Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (DCA No. 08-1)
- #14 - Bradford County Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (DCA No. 08-1)
- #15 - City of Starke Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (DCA No. 08-1)
- #16 - City of Lawtey Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (DCA No. 08-1)
- #17 - City of Hampton Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (DCA No. 08-1)
- #18 - Union County Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (DCA No. 08-1)
- #19 - City of Lake Butler Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (DCA No. 08-1)
- #20 - City of Worthington Springs Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (DCA No. 08-1)
- #21 - Town of Raiford Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (DCA No. 08-1)

Ms. Haas stated that the Committee also found the local government comprehensive plans of Gilchrist County, Town of Bell, City of Fanning Springs, City of Trenton, Bradford County, City of Starke, City of Lawtey, City of Hampton, Union County, City of Lake Butler, City of Worthington Springs, and Town of Raiford, if amended as proposed, will remain consistent with the regional plan and that the Committee recommended forwarding the findings and recommendations contained in the staff reports for these items to the respective local governments and the Florida Department of Community Affairs as regional comment.

ACTION: Chair Haas made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Pinkoson to approve the Clearinghouse Committee recommendation concerning Item #10, Gilchrist County Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment, Item #11, Town of Bell Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendments, Item #12, City of Fanning Springs Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment, Item #13, City of Trenton Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment, Item #14, Bradford County Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment, Item #15, City of Starke Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment, Item #16, City of Lawtey Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment, Item #17, City of Hampton Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment, Item #18, Union County Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment, Item #19, City of Lake Butler Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment, Item #20, City of Worthington Springs Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment and Item #21, Town of Raiford Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment. The motion carried unanimously.

VII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

A. Legislative Report

Mr. Koons reviewed the draft amendments to Chapter 163 and Chapter 186, Florida Statutes, that the Florida Department of Community Affairs has proposed concerning urban growth policy, alternative state review, affordable housing, Everglades protection and regional visioning. He added that at the request of Secretary Tom Pelham of the Florida Department of Community Affairs, the Florida Regional Councils Association Executive Directors Advisory Committee is continuing to draft legislative changes to Chapter 186 to implement the Florida Regional Councils Association Framework for Florida's Planning Reform: Connecting Planning to Visioning.

He further summarized the legislation that the Legislature passed and Governor Crist signed in November concerning property tax reform. The proposal contained in the legislation will be on the January 29, 2008 Presidential Primary ballot which includes doubling the homestead exemption, allowing the transfer of Save Our Homes benefits to a new homestead anywhere in Florida within 2 years of leaving former homestead, provides an assessment growth limitation of 10 percent for all non-homestead properties, creates a tangible personal property exemption of \$25,000 and requires an annual appropriation to fiscally constrained counties to offset revenue reductions that result from the constitutional amendment.

B. 1000 Friends of Florida 2060 Report

Mr. Koons stated that Mr. Charles Pattison, President of 1000 Friends of Florida, will attend the January 24, 2008 Council meeting to make a presentation concerning the "Florida 2060" project.

C. SpringHills Comprehensive Plan Amendments for the Development of Regional Impact Lawsuit Status Report

Mr. Koons stated that the developers of the SpringHills development of regional impact filed a lawsuit and named Alachua County and the Council as co-defendants due to the denial of comprehensive plan amendments concerning the Substantial Deviation to a Previously Approved Development of Regional Impact by the Alachua County Board of County Commissioners on May 3, 2007.

Mr. Jon Wershow, Council Attorney, stated that a tentative hearing date of January 28, 2008 had been scheduled to consider the Motion to Abate, Dismiss, Strike and for More Definite Statement filed by the County and Council, however Circuit Court Judge Roundtree rescheduled the hearing date to earlier today. At that hearing Judge Roundtree dismissed the case filed by the plaintiff against the County and the Council and gave the plaintiff an opportunity to refile their motion.

Mr. Koons introduced and welcomed Ms. Jean Strong, who joined the Council secretarial staff in November.

Chair Ellis announced that the next meeting of the Council will be held at the Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites in Lake City on January 24, 2008. The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.



Roy Ellis, Chair

1/24/08

Date

P R O C L A M A T I O N

***DECLARING JANUARY 20-26, 2008 AS
HAZARDOUS MATERIALS AWARENESS WEEK***

WHEREAS, the safe use of hazardous materials is essential to citizens, business, industry and local governments to maintain economic stability and the public health; and

WHEREAS, the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council recognizes the importance of protecting our communities from both accidental and deliberate releases of hazardous materials and joins the North Central Florida Local Emergency Planning Committee, and numerous municipalities, counties and school boards, in publicly promoting community hazardous materials safety; and

WHEREAS, it is essential for local governments, regional planning councils and local emergency planning committees to work together to increase community safety by encouraging emergency responders to attend free training on how to safely respond to releases of hazardous materials; and

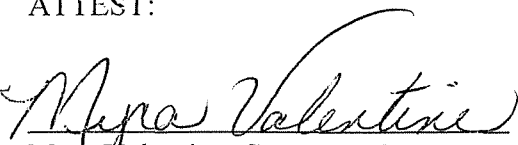
WHEREAS, citizens need to know that local governments, businesses, emergency responders and emergency planners are working together to ensure that our communities are as prepared as possible for both accidental and deliberate releases of hazardous materials.

NOW, THEREFORE, the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council hereby declares the week of January 20-26, 2008 as Hazardous Materials Awareness Week throughout the north central Florida region.

DULY ADOPTED AND PROCLAIMED this 6th day of December 2007.

ATTEST:

SEAL


Myra Valentine, Secretary-Treasurer


Roy Ellis, Chairman