NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL
FULL COUNCIL
MINUTES

Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites
Lake City, Florida

October 25, 2007
7:30 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Stephen Bailey, Columbia County
Ed Braddy, City of Gainesville
Gib Coerper, City of Alachua
Louie Davis, City of Waldo
David Dodge, Bradford County
Roy Ellis, Madison County
Sandra Haas, Suwannee County
Donnie Hamlin, Lafayette County
Randy Hatch, Suwannee County
Buddy Lamb, Dixie County
Eddie Martín, Alachua County
James Painter, Alachua County
Rudolph Parker, Taylor County
Lee Pinkoson, Alachua County
Eleanor Randall, City of Hawthorne
Carolyn Spooner, City of Starke
Lorene Thomas, Dixie County
Myra Valentine, City of Madison

MEMBERS ABSENT

Rick Bryant, City of Gainesville
Mike Byerly, Alachua County
Cynthia Chestnut, Alachua County
Melaine Clyatt, Union County
Paula DeLaney, Alachua County
Dixie Donovan, Columbia County
Jack Donovan, City of Gainesville
Kirk Eppenstein, City of High Springs
John Glanzer, City of Newberry
John Hersey, Bradford County
Matthew Hawkins, City of Jasper
Scherwin Henry, City of Gainesville
Emily Weed Ketting, City of Perry
Jeanna Mastrodicasa, City of Gainesville
Heather Neill, Lafayette County
Garth Nobles, Jr., City of Live Oak
Tracy Reeves, Madison County
Andrew Smith, Union County
Lewis Vaughn, Hamilton County
Ronald Williams, Columbia County
Stephen Witt, City of Lake City

STAFF PRESENT

Steve Dopp
Scott Koons
Carol Laine
Marlie Sanderson

Board Members names are bolded

I. INVOCATION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Ellis called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. with an invocation given by Mayor Davis, 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.
Chair Ellis introduced and welcomed Patricia Bouie, City Commissioner from the City of Hawthorne, Diana Davis, wife of Mayor Louie Davis from the City of Waldo and Doreen Lamb, wife of Dixie County Commissioner Buddy Lamb.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - September 27, 2007

Chair Ellis asked that the minutes of the September 27, 2007 meeting be approved as written.

ACTION: Mr. Martin made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Hatch, to approve the minutes of the September 27, 2007 meeting as written. The motion carried unanimously.

III. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Agreement for Community Development Block Grant Administrative Services
   1. City of Lake City
   2. City of Perry

B. Transportation Disadvantaged Board Membership Certifications - Columbia, Hamilton and Suwannee 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 Mayor Davis, to approve the items listed on the Consent Agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

IV. CHAIRMAN’S REPORT

A. Introduction of New Members - None

B. Resolution of Appreciation - John Martin

Chair Ellis asked that a Resolution of Appreciation for past services to the Council be approved for Commissioner John Martin, who served the Council as a representative for the City of Hawthorne.

ACTION: Commissioner Parker made the motion, with a second by Mayor Davis, to approve the Resolution of Appreciation for Commissioner Martin. The motion carried unanimously.
C. 2007-08 Committee Appointments

Chair Ellis asked that the appointments to the Finance Committee, Clearinghouse Committee, Nominating Committee, Program Committee, Regional Planning Committee and Representatives to FRCA be approved as recommended by the Chair.

**ACTION:** Commissioner Hamlin made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Pinkoson, to approve the appointments to the Finance Committee, Clearinghouse Committee, Nominating Committee, Program Committee, Regional Planning Committee and Representatives to FRCA as recommended by the Chair. The motion carried unanimously.

VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Executive Committee - None

B. Clearinghouse Committee

Chair Sandra Haas reported that the Clearinghouse Committee met earlier in the evening without a quorum and reviewed the following three items.

1. #130, Alachua County Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (DCA No. 07-2);

2. #1, Bradford County Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment (DCA No. 07-1b); and

3. #2, City of Lake City Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment (DCA No. 07-2).

Chair Haas reported that the Committee members present found that the Alachua County Comprehensive Plan, if amended as proposed, as well as the Bradford County and Lake City Comprehensive Plans as amended, remained consistent with the regional plan. Chair Haas further reported that the Committee members present 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 Mr. Painter to approve the Clearinghouse Committee members recommendation concerning Item #130, Alachua County Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment, #1, Bradford County Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment and #2, City of Lake City Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment. The motion carried unanimously.

VI. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT

A. Legislative Report

Mr. Koons reported that a special session of the Legislature was held on October 12, 2007 to address the $1.1 billion of budget cuts. During that session, no cuts were made to regional planning councils and the funding level for the Council remains at $264,850. He added that it is anticipated that in the Spring of 2008 an additional $1.0 billion of cuts will be made by the Legislature.

Mr. Koons stated that another special legislative session was called for this month to address property tax reform proposals to be voted on during the presidential primary election to be held January 29, 2008.

Mr. Koons reported that at the request of Secretary Tom Pelham of the Florida Department of Community Affairs, the Florida Regional Councils Association Executive Directors Advisory Committee has begun drafting legislative changes to Chapter 186, Florida Statutes, to implement the Florida Regional Councils Association Framework for Florida’s Planning Reform: Connecting Planning to Visioning.

B. I-75 Highway Beautification Concept Plan Project

Mr. Koons reported that the Florida Department of Transportation is planning to undertake a series of beautification projects along I-75 from the Georgia state line to the intersection with Florida’s Turnpike at Wildwood. The goal of these projects is to create a more attractive entryway into the State by developing areas where the driver’s view is enhanced by reducing the number of nonconforming outdoor advertising billboards which obstruct the view, by planting native vegetation which will blend with the surroundings, and by removing exotic vegetation or other objects which would interfere with the view. He stated that, pursuant to Council action at its April 26, 2007 meeting, staff invited representatives from the Florida Department of Transportation to discuss this project and advise the Council how local governments will be able to participate in the development of the concept plan. He stated that Department representatives are scheduled to make a presentation at the December 6, 2007 Council meeting.
C. 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.

D. 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. He reported that Council Attorney Jon Wershow had informed him that a tentative hearing date of January 28, 2008 has been scheduled to consider the Motion to Abate, Dismiss, Strike and for More Definite Statement filed by the County and Council.

Chair Ellis announced that the next meeting of the Council will be held at the Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites in Lake City on December 6, 2007. The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Roy Ellis, Chair

Date 12/6/07