

City Planning Commission Operational Meeting

The City Planning Commission Operational Meeting, which included the City Planning Commissioners and CPC Staff, was held on the 12th of November in Conference Room A on the 7th floor of City Hall.

Attendance:

Present:	Absent:
Lorey Flick	Kelly Brown
Jon Johnson	Katie Witry
Nomita Joshi-Gupta	
Dasjon Jordan	
Kathleen Lunn	
Robert Steeg	
Jonathan Stewart	

At 12:49PM Commission Chair Jordan called the meeting to order. Approval of October minutes were deferred.

REPORT FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

MASTERPLAN

Executive Director Rivers opened by discussing the afternoon meeting by suggesting rearranging the order of the agenda as it is related to the Master Plan. He shared he anticipated a large crowd at the afternoon meeting for the Lower Coast Algiers Impact Study and Zoning Docket.

Commission Chair Jordan inquired about the rest of the docket.

Executive Director Rivers responded that the Commission may not get to all items on the agenda for the meeting. He suggested limiting time for the FLUM responses.

Commissioner Steeg arrived at 12:54.

Executive Director Rivers continued the discussion by suggesting the Commission address the rest Non-Master Plan related items at the beginning of the meeting. If no one is present for those dockets, then defer to the next meeting.

Executive Director Rivers then commented that the City Council is requesting that the Commission reconsider certain FLUM item that CPC previously acted on.

Commissioner Johnson asked what happens for Reconsideration to occur.

Planning Administrator Berg responded that the Commission has 45 days to make a Reconsideration.

Commissioner Johnson then asked if the deadline could be extended.

Executive Director Rivers answered that the deadline for reconsideration is set by the Charter and cannot be extended.

Commissioner Johnson commented that in the future the City Council should not jam CPC. Executive Director responded that the City Council might say the same thing about the City Planning Commission.

Commissioner Johnson reflected in the past there had been hearings for such discussions. Different Council Members had different ways of processing information.

Executive Director Rivers brought up “Rules and Procedures” as there are currently no rules for the Master Plan review process.

Executive Director Rivers followed up that the Zoning Dockets and FLUM Amendments were on a deadline and that all dockets not addressed can be deferred to the December meeting.

Commissioner Flick asked if there should be a limitation of time on the FLUM Amendments.

Commissioner Johnson suggested letting people talk.

Commissioner Flick followed up by suggesting seeing who is in attendance for the regular docket.

It was suggested that the remainder of the Master Plan reconsiderations be heard at the Special Session early in January as the December docket was full. Commissioner Chair was concerned about having a quorum. The Executive Director will send out a survey to commissioners and assess.

OPERATIONAL UPDATES

Executive Director Rivers shared that it appears the 8th Floor Conference Room is going away and that Conference Room A is expanding into the current Executive Director’s office. This is happening to accommodate the City Council’s Utilities Regulatory office on the 8th floor.

On the hiring front, the Executive Director reported the hiring of a Sr. City Planner position. The new hire currently resides in Alabama and is in the process of moving to New Orleans. The office is also looking at a candidate from Arlington, Texas for a Planner position.

The Executive Director continued with if the budget stays as planned, then in January they plan to hire 3 additional positions: 1 Principal Planner and 2 Senior Planners.

Executive Director Rivers followed with the Paint Project for the Department will start November 18th and will last 3 weeks.

Executive Director Rivers reported that Deputy Director Massey started a new Internship Program and as a result 2 new interns from UNO will start in January to assist Kari with the Brownfields Program Inventory.

Commissioner Johnson inquired about the Naval Station Project. Executive Director Rivers reported that the Ground Floor will be retail and that there will be affordable housing on the Upper Floors. Two of the buildings are in the first part of remediation. \$2 million from EPA will be used for Asbestos remediation and the developer will come up with the remaining cost to complete the remediation.

The Executive Director reported a Total Count of Personnel to be 26 positions, a net gain of two. The department will continue to work with IT to handle GIS needs. A full time GIS position is not needed.

Commissioner Flick made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Johnson.

Ayes:	Nays:
Lorey Flick	
Jon Johnson	
Nomita Joshi-Gupta	
Dasjon Jordan	
Kathleen Lunn	
Robert Steeg	
Jonathan Stewart	

The Meeting adjourned at 1:24pm.