



Chatham County - Savannah Metropolitan Planning Commission

Arthur A. Mendonsa Hearing Room
July 11, 2017 ~ 1:00 PM
MINUTES

July 11, 2017 Planning Commission Meeting

Members Present: Tanya Milton, Chairwoman
Joseph T. Welch, Treasurer
Travis H. Coles
Ellis Cook
Karen Jarrett
Lacy Manigault
W. James Overton
Tom Woiwode

Members Not Present: W. Shedrick Coleman
Joseph Ervin
Roberto Hernandez
Timothy Mackey
W. Lee Smith
Linder Suthers

Staff Present: Melony West, Interim Executive Director
Bri Finau, Administrative Assistant
Julie Yawn, Systems Analyst
Mark Wilkes, Director of Transportation
Nick Helmholdt, Director of Natural Resources

Advisory Staff Present: Tiras Petrea, City Principal Zoning Inspector
Jonathan Hart, County Attorney

I. Call to Order and Welcome

II. Approval of Agenda

[1. Approval of Agenda](#)

III. Notices, Proclamations and Acknowledgements

[2. July 18, 2017 Regular MPC Meeting, 1:30 P.M., Arthur A. Mendonsa Hearing Room, 112 E. State Street](#)

The Consent Agenda consists of items for which the applicant is in agreement with the staff recommendation and for which no known objections have been identified nor anticipated by staff. Any objections raised at the meeting will result in the item being moved to the Regular Agenda.

IV. Consent Agenda

3. C1 - February 7, 2017 Planning Meeting Minutes

[📎 02.07.17 PLANNING MEETING MINUTES.pdf](#)

Motion

Approve February 7, 2017 Planning Meeting Minutes as submitted.

Vote Results (Approved)

Motion: Joseph Welch

Second: Lacy Manigault

Ellis Cook	- Aye
Joseph Ervin	- Not Present
W. Lee Smith	- Not Present
Roberto Hernandez	- Not Present
Linder Suthers	- Not Present
Tom Woiwode	- Aye
Travis Coles	- Aye
Joseph Welch	- Aye
Timothy Mackey	- Not Present
James Overton	- Not Present
Shedrick Coleman	- Not Present
Lacy Manigault	- Aye
Tanya Milton	- Aye
Karen Jarrett	- Aye

4. C2 - May 23, 2017 Planning Meeting Minutes

[📎 05.23.17 PLANNING MEEING MINUTES.pdf](#)

Motion

Approve May 23, 2017 Planning Meeting Minutes as submitted.

Vote Results (Approved)

Motion: Joseph Welch

Second: Lacy Manigault

Ellis Cook	- Aye
Joseph Ervin	- Not Present
W. Lee Smith	- Not Present
Roberto Hernandez	- Not Present
Linder Suthers	- Not Present
Tom Woiwode	- Aye
Travis Coles	- Aye
Joseph Welch	- Aye
Timothy Mackey	- Not Present

James Overton	- Not Present
Shedrick Coleman	- Not Present
Lacy Manigault	- Aye
Tanya Milton	- Aye
Karen Jarrett	- Aye

V. Regular Business

5. D1 - Commission Responsibilities - Jonathan Hart

Mr. Jonathan Hart, County Attorney, reviewed the legal aspect of the MPC Board's responsibilities, as well as the City and County zoning administrators. He commended the MPC staff for adherence to the State Zoning Procedures Acts; no challenges have been made. The local governing authority has the right to write the ordinance, but it must be adhered to by all.

Mr. Hart recommended following the agenda as close as possible; other questions or additional discussion should be held during the pre-meeting or scheduled conversation with the Chairman. It is appropriate to move items around for the benefit of time and audience; the Chairman should be requested to do so. Questions relating to an item should be addressed after staff and/or petitioner presentation, unless it is relative to understanding the presentation (such as streets, directions, etc.). Discussion guidelines and times should be understood during pre-meeting. Public forum should not be redundant and that should be noticed at the outset of the meeting. Allow the public to make their point, timely, but not rigidly. He recommends asking staff to comment after the petitioner's presentation, not to restate recommendation but to clarify needed issues. Whispering, texting, or other private conversations should not occur during a public hearing, as the public is entitled to hear what you're saying according to the Zoning Procedures Act. It removes the opportunity for a fair hearing.

There was a question session with the Board regarding noticing of text amendments.

6. D3 - Recertification Process - Mark Wilkes

Mark Wilkes, Director of Transportation, stated CORE MPO recently completed the quarterly recertification review with the Federal Highway Administration. Included are several audits over a span of a few months, with an in-town visit.

7. D4 - NewZo History - Charlotte Moore

Ms. Charlotte Moore, Director of Special Projects, provided an update on the new zoning ordinance. A brief history was provided as to how it has developed currently. There are still updates being done. There is a goal to have the City ordinance completed by the end of 2017. The County is not currently participating in the update.

8. D2 - Population Forecasting Exercise - Nick Helmholdt

Mr. Nick Helmholdt, Director of Natural Resources, gave an update on the development of the Long Range Transportation Plan for the MPO population forecast for 2015 - 2025. The input of other committees helps with this process. An interactive exercise was engaged to help understand the process.

VI. Other Business

VII. Adjournment

9. Adjourn

There being no further information to present before the Board, the July 11, 2017 Planning Meeting was adjourned at 2:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Melony S. West

Interim Executive Director
/bf

The Chatham County - Savannah Metropolitan Planning Commission provides meeting minutes which are adopted by the respective Board. Verbatim transcripts of minutes are the responsibility of the interested party.