

**Vision 2020 Infrastructure Meeting Notes
June 17, 2008**

The Infrastructure Committee of Vision 2020 met on June 17, 2008, at 8:00 a.m. in the Lufkin/Angelina Chamber of Commerce Community Room. Present were Ellen Temple, Jim Watkins, Tony Moline, Don Hannabas, Barbara Thompson, James Flournoy, Kenneth Williams, David Collmorgen, Keith Wright, and Susie Cardwell with Paul Parker presiding.

Paul Parker announced to the committee that he would be introducing Bob Brown as the new Infrastructure Foundation Chairman at this meeting, but Bob had been unexpectedly detained out of town and would be attending the next Infrastructure meeting in his new capacity.

Transportation and Utilities (*David Collmorgen and Keith Wright*)

59 & Whitehouse Project: David Collmorgen reported that the bridge has been raised and it is being widened on both sides. This should be complete in August. Keith Wright reported that all utilities are done in preparation for the 59 project and work is being done on the Hurricane Creek Bridge in preparation for the Whitehouse project.

Tulane Project: David Collmorgen reported that Tulane will be closed at the end of July. They are currently working on all frontage roads.

David Collmorgen recommended that a left turn lane would be needed at 819. Keith Wright will work on this and coordinate with TxDot.

Beautification (*Tony Moline*)

Tony Moline announced that Angelina Beautiful Clean has a donation of 1100 native trees from the Campbell Group to re-forest and landscape the ramps and two retention ponds at the 59 South/Whitehouse intersection. Kathy White of TxDot has walked through the plan with Tony and the Texas Forest Service has offered their help with the project. The City will maintain the trees. It was recommended that no pines be used inside the frontage roads and that safety precautions be a priority such as making sure that there is clear visibility of traffic flow and signage and avoiding as many maintenance problems as possible. Tony will meet with Tom Johnson, Chuck Walker and Don Hannabas to coordinate the types of trees and placement of them.

Green Infrastructure (*Ellen Temple*)

Ellen Temple announced that funds have been provided from Diboll, Huntington, Lufkin and Angelina County in support of the Green Infrastructure plan for Angelina County.

Ellen also wanted to remind and invite everyone to the Green Infrastructure meeting on June 25th at Crown Colony from 8:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. This meeting will be a last review before the plan goes to its final draft.

Communication (*Jim Watkins*)

Jim Watkins reported that the retirement initiative is moving, but at a slow pace. He also reported that the theft of copper wire has slowed down in the local area, but accelerated in the Conroe area, especially in the area of IH-45.

Parks & Recreation (*Don Hannabas*)

- Don Hannabas announced that a new fence was put up at Kit McConnico Park and the hiking/biking trail at this location is getting more use.
- There is a beautiful area in the Morris Frank Park Wetland Education Pavilion that will be great for weddings and other activities, but is difficult to access. This will be addressed soon by possibly adding some parking near the area.
- Angelina Beautiful/Clean planted 125 trees in February/March of this year and Tony inquired as to their status. Don Hannabas will check on this.

Downtown Redevelopment (*Barbara Thompson*)

Barbara Thompson reported on the projects and activity downtown:

- The renovation of the old Masonic Lodge at Shepherd and First Street has been completed and is booked continuously, according to Mark Hicks.
- Angelina Hotel – still needs help
- The old Lewis Furniture Building is being renovated by Mark Hicks as a location for parties and will also house a coffee shop.
- There is a new store downtown called Time Withheld.
- Sponsors are being requested for the downtown planters. The sponsor's name will be put on the planter.
- Pines Theater – Due to the high estimate for renovations, another estimate is under way by Don Langston. This would involve a new roof and the marquis.

Jim Watkins told Barbara Thompson that Consolidated Communications' Denman Building (at Frank & First Street) is available for potential use for downtown functions for a nominal fee.

Diboll

Kenneth reported on the following activities going on in Diboll (*Kenneth Williams*):

- Home Rule passed! This will give Diboll the ability to annex.
- Diboll is officially working with Green Infrastructure.
- Bidding is underway for the amphitheater.

- Park expansion is underway with reworking baseball fields, trails, pavilions, and soccer fields
- At the golf course, they now have funds for a new parking lot and cart paths
- There will be a new truck stop at the location of the old Stuckey's.
- Deer Trace subdivision has expanded and there are now lots for sale.
- Library expansion is moving along with an October completion date.
- 1818 Bridge – David Collmorgen said is it planned for next year around February or March, but construction will not begin until school is out for the summer.

Other Projects (*James Flourney*)

James reported they are working on a sewer project that will connect to Diboll sewer and a sidewalk project for Huntington.

Census: (*Keith Wright*)

Keith Wright reported that all of the addresses and structures have been reviewed on the census list that was provided to them. An additional 100 were added to the list. The Census Bureau was complimentary of the work done by the team to update the list.

Next Meeting: August 19th at 8:00 a.m. at the Chamber Community Room

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 a.m.