

**Minutes
Planning and Economic
Development Committee
February 1, 2011
6:00 PM
1st committee meeting**

Members present were Chairman Gabe Hunter, Committee members Patricia Gettys and James Kennedy. Peter Nomikos, Building and Zoning Director, and City Administrator Trey Eubanks were also present.

1. Call to order- Chairman Hunter
2. Public comment
3. Reading and approval of minutes

Councilwoman Gettys made a motion to approve the minutes with Councilman Kennedy seconding. The vote was unanimous (3-0).

4. Reports or communications from city officers
 - a. Budget Review- The department has an 8% surplus right now.
5. Unfinished business
6. New business
 - a. Discussion on Façade Improvement Program

CDBG funds can be used to redo facades along major corridors. Trey Eubanks mentioned that this is something that has come through the economic development committee. This provides a grant in the amount of \$5000 to any business owner in the central business district to improve the façade of their building. This will increase utilization of the city center buildings and enhance property values. This fits with the new design standards council has previously passed. Eligible uses are exterior signs, awnings, painting, sun shades, replacement of tiles, repair of façade, outdoor lighting, security fences, repair of windows, etc. This is a reimbursement grant. The business owner would apply to GCRA for the reimbursement. This was first proposed last year, and \$50,000 was set aside. For this year, the amount is \$27,000 for Mauldin, which is five businesses. This will be at no cost to the city.

Councilwoman Gettys asked if any business took advantage of this program last year and was answered no. Trey said this year all the chamber members have been notified of this grant and some other information will be disseminated. Martin Livingstone from GCRA will be at the council meeting in February to present the budget.

Councilwoman Gettys made a motion to send this to full council. Councilman Kennedy seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous (3-0).

b. Discussion on amendment to Article 10 ZORD – Rezoning Time Limit

This is an amendment to allow an application to be reconsidered after withdrawal as long as the zoning is more restrictive. This is the property at West Butler and Pinecrest from which Chick- fil-A withdrew their application. Councilwoman Gettys made a motion to send this to full council with Councilman Kennedy seconding. The vote was unanimous (3-0).

7. Public comment

8. Committee concerns

Mayor Godbey asked Trey to talk about the meeting with Senator Graham that took place on Monday. A group of community leaders was there at the meeting. There was some good discussion and major Mauldin projects were presented to the Senator for his information. This meeting should help us secure federal funding for projects we are working on.

Councilman Reynolds reported that he had talked to John Gardner regarding thanking those businesses that have done things to improve their appearance and that of the city.

9. Adjournment- Chairman Hunter adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cindy Miller

Municipal Clerk

NOTICE: A majority or quorum of City Council may attend a committee meeting.