

Minutes
17 July 2008

GPAC Chairman **Colleen o' Sullivan** called the General Plan Advisory Committee meeting to order at 6:09 p.m.

Minutes

The minutes of 19 June 2008 were not available.

Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

Report from the Director of Natural Resources and Long-Range Planning

Director **Susan Price** reported on grant awards which have a bearing on the Open Space and Conservation Elements; on an Economic Development Element and for the Housing Element. She noted that additional proposals for the Airport Comprehensive Use Plans were due 16 July 2008.

She announced approval of the Junction City and Hyampom Community Plans by the Board of Supervisors as well as approval of the GPAC Bylaws.

As **Susan Price** was unable to attend the Hayfork GPAC, **Sandy Bechtold** gave a brief update on the Hayfork GPAC meeting, mentioning that improved lighting was defined as a community goal, to improve neighborhood and public security. There is no firm date yet on the release of the tentative FEMA maps discussed by the Hayfork GPAC at their last meeting.

Susan Price announced that the county was successful in winning the Blueprint Planning Grant and this will provide information for incorporation into the General Plan revision.

Susie mentioned the appearance of the Vision Statement box ad in the *Trinity Journal* and reported that she received only one phone call in response, an invitation to attend a community meeting and provide an update on the work of the General Plan revision.

Work on the website is ongoing, with **Colleen**, **Susan** and **Travis** forming the subcommittee. **Colleen** said that for the moment the website will have agendas, minutes and announcements, not drafts of elements until they have

reached the public comment period. The Hayfork Community Plan will be providing website content as well.

There was discussion amongst **Ken McCoy**, **Ross Burgess** and **Susan** as to how the Blueprint Grant would assist in defining budget impacts on mail delivery, snowplowing and other circulation items in the county. **Kelli Gant** wanted to know if the grants had expiration dates (deadlines) and **Susan** said they all did; some, calendar years and some, fiscal years. **Joan Carr** suggested that grant expiration dates be included on our work schedule so that committee members could assess their progress, and further, that GPAC revisit that schedule.

Public Comment

Cedric Twilight lobbied for "picking up the pace" of GPAC meetings.

Next Meeting/Agenda Items

There was discussion of postponing or canceling the August meeting as **Susan Price** will be out of town prior to the agenda deadline; the county is dealing with budget crises and so forth. **Joan Carr** and **Ken McCoy** were disinclined to cancel the meeting without a review this evening of our progress to date, so it was decided to choose the meeting date later in this meeting.

Policies/Procedures (volunteer assignments, subcommittees)

Colleen o' Sullivan noted that while members signed up for assignments, many tasks remain incomplete and that in future, staff will have to step in and finish those parts, thereby degrading the schedule further. **Kelli Gant** said a schedule would assist in knowing when the contributions are due. **Ross Burgess** advocated for less authorship and more editorship from members of GPAC, that most GPAC members do not have the statutory expertise to write much material. He pointed out that there are numerous organizations and agencies in the county which could provide required data. **Dennis Corp** asked for clarification of the role of Planning Staff; **Susan** brought him up to date on its greatly reduced state.

Sandy Bechtold asked that **Susan** indicate (in the General Plan) what must be prepared by a licensed professional and what material may be contributed by an unpaid volunteer and that committee members only volunteer if they had sufficient time to fulfill their assignments. **Susan Price** offered a summation of department effort to date, including changes in her job description and responsibilities. **Sandy** stated that with the information that other jurisdictions had substantially different formats for their general plans, that GPAC should be informed as to what is statutorily required and what is

not, so that perhaps our work product can be streamlined and greatly simplified, along the lines of **Kelli Gant's** earlier suggestions.

Cedric Twilight thought the accumulation of contributed information could easily be massaged later, by qualified individuals, and could provide a valuable resource for consultants.

Kelli Gant described the general plans of other jurisdictions, noting that they had different target markets (as in, for planners and developers, not just county residents) and that many had no *existing conditions* narrative at all. **Ken McCoy** concurred in the fact that GPAC had used the philosophies of other vision statements but that our approach to the Safety Element had been dogged revision of existing material which most of us thought was not germane. He noted that in business, the goal is to weed out all the chaff, select a deadline and get it done.

Ross Burgess took great objection to the proposition that the General Plan is primarily intended for professional planners, rather that it should be considered the sole guide for planning by individual residents and business developers of Trinity County, but his point went to streamlining the plan, deleting obsolete material and perhaps producing a document unique to Trinity County.

Joan Carr was of the opinion that GPAC was under no obligation to reinvent the document, that we had agreed earlier, in the interest of time, staffing and budget, that the committee was *to revise* the existing plan, with the only new material being issues such as global warming or climate change.

Sandy Bechtold thought a combination of both positions was possible; to discard what is not required and refine those that are necessary. **Colleen** said much material in a general plan provides background for interpretations of zoning and land use issues. **Susan** is apprehensive that those agencies which comment on the General Plan will take issue with such a progressive approach. **Kelli Gant** asked for clarification regarding goals, policies and implementation: which becomes an ordinance? **Susan** replied that some never emerge from the document if the Board of Supervisors fails to enable the ordinance. **Cedric Twilight** made the point that a goal and policy is sufficient to thwart a project's permission.

Ken McCoy thought perhaps not every ordinance had to be written in the instant but that amendments, variances and later ordinances might suffice. **Cedric** cautioned that lack of detail might favor policies that become

restrictive in the future, that documented detail is of paramount importance.

Susan Price noted that the discussion had drifted off the agenda.

Colleen wanted to know if GPAC had to discuss global warming or simply mention it. **Susan** said the discussion was mandated but there are no guidelines as to the content. **Kelli** asked to delete all of Section 1 of the Safety Element and concentrate on goals, policies and implementation. **Kelli** and **Sandy** thought the policies and goals discussion concerned the Safety Element but the agenda item specified the *work assignments* of the GPAC.

Joan Carr summarized that we need a schedule of work, a table of contents with subtasks; work assigned to each of the specific subtasks; with published deadlines and elements prioritized according to grant expiration dates. **Kelli** asked for definitions regarding size of subcommittees, how to establish their deadlines, and avoid *Brown Act* conflicts. **Susan** said email and no cross conversations with other GPAC members should suffice. **Dero Forslund** said to use the *ad hoc* designation: create the committee by resolution in the minutes of the GPAC meeting, be fewer members than a quorum, be assigned a specific task, for a specific length of time; expire when the task is complete, and there are no meeting notice requirements if not subject to the *Brown Act*.

Susan agreed to produce a calendar showing work assignments and agenda deadlines assigned to specific dates for the rest of the General Plan. **Ken McCoy** said that the chairman of each ad hoc committee should be responsible for agendaizing their work product and conveying it to **Susan Price** for inclusion at the next regularly scheduled GPAC meeting. **Susan Price** established that the deadline for submission of drafts would be 5 days before the agenda deadline (the Monday before the Friday agenda deadline).

End of the DVD.

Respectfully submitted,

SANDY BECHTOLD
Secretary to the GPAC

Members present:

Sandy Bechtold; Ross Burgess; Joan Carr; Dennis Corp;
Travis Finch; Kelli Gant; Ken McCoy; Lyn Scott; Greg
Simmons; Colleen o' Sullivan.

Members absent: Bill Chambers; Dave Cox; Carol Rogan;
Bryan Taylor

Staff present: Susan Price, Dero Forslund

Guests: Cedric Twilight