

City of Rowlett
Economic Development Advisory Board

Tuesday, May 30, 2017

9:30 A.M.

Rowlett Chamber of Commerce, 4418 Main Street, Rowlett Texas 75088

Meeting Minutes

1. CALL TO ORDER.

Chairman Barry Young called the Rowlett Economic Development Advisory Board meeting to order at 9:34 A.M. on May 30, 2017 at the Rowlett Chamber of Commerce at 4418 Main Street, Rowlett, Texas. In attendance: Tammy Dana-Bashian, Barry Young, Drew Howard, Whitney Laning, Michael Gallops, Lawrence Glick, Eva Hummel, Brian Funderburk, Elaine Ritchie, Jim Grabenhorst, Joey Grisham, Katie Rose Hargreaves and Susan Nix.

2. CONSIDER APPROVING THE MINUTES FROM THE APRIL 18, 2017 MEETING.

A motion was made by Tammy Dana-Bashian and seconded by Michael Gallops to approve the April 18, 2017 minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

3. RECEIVE A PRESENTATION FROM THE COMMUNITY INVESTMENT ADVISORY BOARD.

Assistant City Manager Jim Proce introduced Kim Lott and Dan Walker, committee members of the Community Investment Advisory Board and Laura Hallmark, City Secretary. Dan Walker and Kim Lott gave a presentation discussing the background of the Community Investment Advisory Board. They outlined that the purpose of this Board was to provide recommendations to City Council on Bond Projects and Capital Improvements. They stated there is a link on the City Website that anyone can access if they would like to provide additional input.

4. THE BOARD SHALL CONVENE INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO THE TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE, §551.087 (ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT) TO DISCUSS COMMERCIAL OR FINANCIAL INFORMATION AND THE OFFER OF INCENTIVES TO BUSINESS PROSPECTS

THAT THE CITY MAY SEEK TO HAVE LOCATE, STAY OR EXPAND IN ROWLETT AND WITH WHICH THE CITY IS CONDUCTING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT NEGOTIATIONS.

The Board convened into Executive Session at 10:17 A.M.

The Board reconvened from Executive Session at 10:59 A.M.

5. TAKE ANY NECESSARY OR APPROPRIATE ACTION ON CLOSED/EXECUTIVE SESSION MATTERS.

There was no action taken as a result of the Executive Session.

6. RECEIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT UPDATE.

Director of Economic Development, Jim Grabenhorst, presented the Economic Development Department update. He introduced new staff member Katie Rose Hargreaves, Economic Development Specialist and explained what her responsibilities would be.

Asst. Director of Economic Development Joey Grisham showed the Board the new website, www.rowlettonthemove.com and discussed how it was important to have a navigable website for Economic Development and that it was also very mobile-friendly. He also stated that the new North Shore website would be up and running in 2 weeks and unveiled the new logo. Mr. Glick recommended that the map on the front page of the site include the proposed extension of the PGBT South.

Jim Grabenhorst then updated the Board on the legislation for the conference center—HB 2445. He stated that the House and Senate had approved the bill and that it was headed to the Governor's Desk for his signature. This legislation will allow the City to receive 100% of state rebates on hotel occupancy, sales, and beverage taxes for 10 years for qualified hotel projects. This revenue will be utilized to pay off any bonds used to finance the conference center and will be a major benefit to the city and allow for a larger hotel and conference center project at Bayside.

Joey Grisham discussed his trip to the Annual ICSC ReCON Show in Las Vegas and said he had great feedback on retail. Jim Grabenhorst then discussed his Team Texas Marketing Trip to Florida where he was able to visit with site selectors.

Jim Grabenhorst then discussed recent conversations with NTTA about additional frontage roads within North Shore and there are some right-of-way and easements swaps that would need to take place between NTTA and the City of Rowlett. He also discussed that there was additional interest in North Shore and that infrastructure improvements will be key to attract new developments.

7. RECEIVE CHAMBER/CHAMBER FOUNDATION UPDATE.

Eva Hummel and Michael Gallops provided the Chamber/Chamber Foundation update to the Board. It was mentioned that the Chamber Foundation had \$53,000 available to date, and had one grant approved this month to Delectable Designs by De.

Eva Hummel mentioned that Garland Independent School District approved a \$20,000 donation to the Chamber Foundation.

Michael Gallops discussed the Chamber personnel changes. He mentioned Diane's official last day was May 26th and he is now the President of the Chamber. With Michael taking this position, Whitney Laning became the Chair and Chris Kizziar the Chair-elect.

8. RECEIVE GISD UPDATE.

Lawrence Glick provided the GISD update. He stated that the Board is in the process of selecting a new Superintendent. They are about to select a search firm to assist with the process. The interim Superintendent has agreed to stay until the end of the calendar year. He mentioned the new Career Tech Center is scheduled to open by the next school year (August 2017) and he discussed some of the programs that will be offered there. He also mentioned that currently they have openings and need to fill the positions for three high school principals.

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT. MEMBERS OF THE BOARD AND/OR STAFF MAY MAKE ANNOUNCEMENTS OF LOCAL CIVIC EVENTS. NO MEMBER OF THE BOARD OR COMMISSION MAY DISCUSS NOR TAKE ANY ACTION WITH REGARD TO THE ANNOUNCEMENTS.

The July 4th concert will be the Bellamy Brothers followed by fireworks and that morning the Chamber is hosting their annual 5K.

9. MEMBERS OF THE BOARD MAY REQUEST TOPICS FOR FUTURE AGENDA MEETINGS. NO MEMBER OF THE BOARD OR COMMISSION MAY DISCUSS ANY OF THE REQUESTED SUBJECTS UNTIL SUCH MATTER HAS BEEN PROPERLY PLACED ON A POSTED AGENDA.

No suggestions were made for future topics of discussion for future agendas. It was noted that due to varying summer travel schedules, the Board would not meet in June and the next regularly scheduled meeting would occur on July 18, 2017.

10. ADJOURNMENT.

The meeting was adjourned by Chairman Barry Young at 11:45 A.M.



Barry Young, Chairman



Jim Grabenhorst, Assigned City Staff



Date Approved