

***City of Rowlett***  
**Economic Development Advisory Board**

**Tuesday, August 21, 2018**

**9:30 A.M.**

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

***Meeting Minutes***

**1. CALL TO ORDER.**

Chairman Drew Howard called the Rowlett Economic Development Advisory Board meeting to order at 9:37 A.M. on August 21, 2018 at the Rowlett Chamber of Commerce, 4418 Main Street, Rowlett, Texas. In attendance: Tammy Dana-Bashian, Drew Howard, Jerry Johnson, Whitney Laning, Michael Gallops, Eva Hummel, Lawrence Glick, Brian Funderburk, Jim Grabenhorst and Joey Grisham.

**2. CONSIDER APPROVING THE MINUTES FROM THE JULY 17, 2018 AND AUGUST 7, 2018 MEETINGS.**

A motion was made by Tammy Dana-Bashian and seconded by Jerry Johnson to approve the July 17 and the August 7, 2018 minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

**3. DISCUSS THE IMPACT AND ROLE OF THE ARTS IN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.**

Tammy Dana-Bashian began the conversation by talking about the importance of the arts and the city's lack of a revenue stream for arts projects. Jim Grabenhorst stated that arts is a quality of life issue and is broader than just economic development. Several ideas were brought up related to funding streams including hotel occupancy tax revenue, using 1% of bond proceeds for arts projects like Wylie, and designating a portion of permit fees. Drew Howard recommended an ad hoc committee or task force comprised of council members and board members from the city's various boards and commissions to address the arts and develop a plan of action. Other Board members agreed and Tammy Dana-Bashian recommended having a work session item at a future City Council meeting to address the issue.

**4. RECEIVE UPDATE ON THE DEVELOPMENT SERVICES BUILDING (3901 MAIN ST.)**

Jim Grabenhorst gave an update on the 3901 Main Street building which currently houses Community Development and Economic Development. With the Library vacating the 5702 Rowlett Rd. facility, it presented an opportunity to relocate the staff at 3901 Main as they have outgrown the 5,600 square foot space. The 5702 Rowlett Rd. facility is 10,000 square feet and has 90 parking spaces. Jim pointed out that the Downtown Plan associated with the Realize Rowlett 2020 Plan envisioned redeveloping city-owned buildings in Downtown as commercial projects, especially retail and restaurants.

Jim stated that staff had received four proposals to redevelop the property and are in negotiations with one of the four. He said that a project manager was selected for the renovation work for 5702 Rowlett Rd. building and that bids are forthcoming soon.

**5. DISCUSS NORTH CENTRAL TEXAS COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS MOBILITY 2045 TRANSPORTATION PLAN.**

Larry Glick requested an update on the North Central Texas Council of Governments Mobility 2045 Transportation plan which represents the official mobility plan for North Texas. Joey Grisham also sent out some detailed information related to the plan last week. Jim Grabenhorst began the conversation by talking about DFW Growth—currently, there are just over 7 million people in the Metroplex and the estimate for 2045 is over 11 million people. Next, he went over some highlights from a PowerPoint presentation developed by the NCTCOG. He focused mostly on projects affecting Rowlett including the PGBT East Branch extension; PGBT frontage roads in the North Shore area; and the planned Dalrock expansion project. Lastly, he and Joey Grisham showed a map of the planned Collin County Transportation Plan that includes projects affecting the North Shore area.

**6. RECEIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT UPDATE.**

Jim Grabenhorst provided an update on the Bayside project. Bayside Land Partners requested a presentation to the entire City Council which took place on July 26. They presented an updated plan that differs significantly from the original plan and the Council expressed that they are not in favor of the new updated plan. Jim stated that conversations are continuing with Bayside Land Partners and that the council will be touring the first crystal lagoon project in Texas on Friday, August 24. EDAB members requested some talking points if they are asked about the project and Jim said that staff would send those out this week.

Joey Grisham said that the NTCAR Annual Expo is Wednesday, August 29 and that he would send out parking information. He also stated that the City and Chamber are co-sponsoring a State of the Market presentation on Thursday, September 13 at the RCC from 11:30 AM-1 PM. David Kahn with CoStar will be doing the presentation.

**7. RECEIVE CHAMBER/CHAMBER FOUNDATION UPDATE.**

Eva Hummel reported that the Chamber Foundation balance is \$69,000 and that they received one new sign grant request from Nutri-Zone.

Whitney Laning previewed the Chamber's upcoming presentation to the City Council scheduled for September 5. It highlighted information on finance, membership growth, and upcoming events. He also reminded the Board about the Chamber Golf Tournament on Thursday, September 27.

**8. RECEIVE GISD UPDATE.**

Larry Glick stated that the City of Garland approved the natatorium at the intersection of Pleasant Valley Rd. and Firewheel Pkwy and will go out to bid soon. He also said that school started yesterday and that a second early college was created to offer dual credit courses. Lastly, he informed the Board that Garland ISD was given a B rating and that their goal is to get an A rating in the next few years. To reach that goal, he reported that the Garland ISD hired a new curriculum expert and Associate Superintendent.

**9. 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.**

There were no public announcements.

**10. 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.**

Jim Grabenhorst said that staff would set up a tour of the new Rockwall ISD Dr. Gene Burton Career & College Academy in the near future.

**11. ADJOURNMENT.**

The meeting was adjourned by Chairman Drew Howard at 11:36 A.M.



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Drew Howard, Chairman



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Jim Grabenhorst, Assigned City Staff

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3/19/09

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Date Approved