

City of Rowlett
Economic Development Advisory Board

Tuesday, January 21, 2020

8:30 A.M.

Economic Development Office, 5702 Rowlett Rd, Rowlett, TX 75089

Meeting Minutes

1. CALL TO ORDER.

Chairman Drew Howard called the Rowlett Economic Development Advisory Board meeting to order at 8:30 A.M. on January 21, 2020 at the Economic Development Office, 5702 Rowlett Road, Rowlett, Texas. In attendance: Tammy Dana-Bashian, Drew Howard, Mick Donnelly, Michael Smith, Robert Lacroix, Sheila Hair, Barry Young, Chris Kizziar, Larry Glick, Brian Funderburk, Jim Grabenhorst, Lexie Woodward and Susan Nix.

2. PUBLIC INPUT ON ANY AGENDAY ITEM.

There were no speakers.

3. CONSIDER APPROVING THE MINUTES FROM THE NOVEMBER 19, 2019 MEETING.

A motion was made by Drew Howard and seconded by Mick Donnelly to approve the November 21, 2019 minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

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 8:32 A.M.

The Board reconvened from Executive Session at 8:59 A.M.

5. BOARD MEMBERS SHARE TOPICS AND IDEAS RELATED TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.

Tammy Dana-Bashian mentioned she would be attending the US Conference of Mayors over the next few days. She plans to speak with some of the attendees from the Mayors Business Council.

Mick Donnelly discussed potential restaurant prospects that may be coming to the Dallas area.

Larry Glick referred to international travel and the importance of water focused areas for development.

6. BUSINESS RETENTION AND EXPANSION (BRE) UPDATE.

Lexie Woodward presented a PowerPoint on business retention and expansion data from the most recent quarter (4th Quarter, fiscal year 2019).

7. CITY KNOWLEDGE AND LEARNING ITEMS.

a. Economic Development Department Update: Lexie Woodward briefly explained how to sign up for the City/Economic Development notifications. Jim and Lexie discussed the upcoming Economic Development Partnership Luncheon. Jim Grabenhorst gave updates on activities within North Shore, Village of Rowlett Downtown and Sapphire Bay.

b. Rowlett Chamber/Chamber Foundation Update: Chris Kizziar discussed the Chamber's recent Board retreat. He mentioned that Sheila Hair is the new Board Chair and that Michael Smith has joined the Board. He stated the Chamber has completed its preparation to apply for their Accreditation next year. He mentioned the Chamber had a 15.1% membership increase this year. There was no update for the Chamber Foundation.

c. GISD Update: Larry Glick mentioned the GISD Board was in the process of the annual Superintendent review. He also discussed that GISD continues to evaluate options and potential priorities for an upcoming bond election.

d. Knowledge Topic – Multifamily in Rowlett: Brian Funderburk discussed statistics regarding multifamily in Rowlett, specifically how Rowlett's numbers compare to other surrounding cities. He mentioned that this topic will be addressed by the Mayor in more detail at the upcoming Town Hall meeting.

8. ELECT CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR FOR 2020.

For the office of Chair, Tammy Dana-Bashian nominated Drew Howard, seconded by Mick Donnelly. The vote passed unanimously. For the office of Vice-Chair, Drew Howard nominated Mick Donnelly, seconded by Michael Smith. The vote passed unanimously.

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.

Chris Kizziar announced The Chamber Banquet will be this Saturday, January 25th the reception begins at 6:00PM at Hella Shrine Temple. Tammy Dana-Bashian mentioned the Town Hall Meeting is on Tuesday, January 28th at 6:30PM at the RCC; Jim Grabenhorst reminded the Board about the Economic Development Partnership Luncheon on Wednesday, January 29th at the RCC.

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.

Tammy Dana-Bashian requested to discuss the North Texas Municipal Water District at the next meeting.

11. ADJOURNMENT.

The meeting was adjourned by Chairman Drew Howard at approximately 10:58 A.M.



Drew Howard, Chairman



Jim Grabenhorst, Assigned City Staff

2/18/2020

Date Approved