

City of Rowlett
Economic Development Advisory Board

Tuesday, January 16, 2018

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 January 16, 2018 at the Rowlett Chamber of Commerce 4418 Main Street, Rowlett, Texas. In attendance: Tammy Dana-Bashian, Drew Howard, Barry Young, Justin Blackburn, Whitney Laning, Michael Gallops, Lawrence Glick, Eva Hummel, Elaine Ritchie, Brian Funderburk, Jerry Johnson, Jim Grabenhorst, Katie Rose Hargreaves and Susan Nix.

2. CONSIDER APPROVING THE MINUTES FROM THE NOVEMBER 14, 2017 MEETING.

A motion was made by Tammy Dana-Bashian and seconded by Drew Howard to approve the November 14, 2017 minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

3. ELECT CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMAN FOR 2018.

A motion was made by Tammy Dana-Bashian and seconded by Jerry Johnson to elect Drew Howard as the Chairman. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Tammy Dana-Bashian and seconded by Whitney Laning to elect Barry Young as the Vice-Chair. The motion carried unanimously.

4. RECEIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT UPDATE.

Jim Grabenhorst, Director of Economic Development, presented a new Community Profile hand out that will be used for Business Retention Expansion visits and prospects, and will be available on the website and by printed copy. He also presented a Downtown

Parking Map and discussed the current construction and street repairs on Main Street and mentioned there will be some lane closures during this time. This project will be done in four phases to try and reduce the hardship on retail vendors. Next, he provided an update on the Village of Rowlett and said that the Library was moving forward and should move into its new space in May, and that one of the end cap spaces had been leased by a restaurant. Katie Rose Hargreaves mentioned plans for another Main Street Event in May, and there was discussion for future plans for downtown events. City Manager Brian Funderburk mentioned that the City would be undertaking a Summer Campaign that would include music and other events to attract people to the Downtown area.

Mr. Grabenhorst updated the Board on the Asst. Director of Economic Development position and said that Joey Grisham had resigned for family reasons. Mr. Grabenhorst said that he had extended an offer to a candidate and that she has accepted and would start in Mid-February. He provided an update on Bayside and said that Western Rim is going vertical soon on its multifamily project on the North Side and that single family homes would likely start in the next 45 days. He also stated that Bayside had a new Project Manager named Tom D'alessandro. Lastly, Mr. Grabenhorst discussed the upcoming Downtown Wayfinding Master Plan (pedestrian and vehicle signage) that will be presented to the Board in February or March by RSM Design.

5. RECEIVE CHAMBER/CHAMBER FOUNDATION UPDATE.

Whitney Laning provided the Chamber update. He stated that the Chamber finished the year in a strong position with a healthy account and that their Board Retreat would be held this weekend. He also reminded everyone the award banquet is being held on January 27th at the Hyatt Place. Michael Gallops also mentioned that the Chamber would be hiring a new part-time employee in the near future.

Eva Hummel provided the Chamber Foundation update to the Board. She stated there is one application for Main Street Events but the work has not yet been completed. She also mentioned that they have two outstanding checks for Rebuild Rowlett.

6. RECEIVE GISD UPDATE.

Lawrence Glick provided the GISD update. Mr Glick announced Dr. Lopez officially started on January 2nd, and they held a retreat last Friday and Saturday with a consultant to discuss academic improvement and Board goals for the year. He mentioned the Planetarium will re-open tomorrow morning at Lakeview High School. He stated there will be a meet and greet for Dr. Lopez on January 24th from 5:30 P.M. to 7:30 P.M.

7. 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 Chamber will be closed this Friday, January 19, for a Retreat.

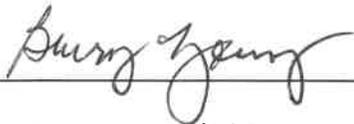
Tammy Dana-Bashian mentioned that the Annual State of the City address at the Council meeting was tonight, and they will also be recognizing a 98 year old WWII Guadalcanal survivor that is a resident of Rowlett. The Council meeting is being held at 7:30 P.M.

8. 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.

There were requests to receive updates at the next meeting on the progress of President George Bush Turnpike going South and updates on Interstate 30.

9. ADJOURNMENT.

The meeting was adjourned by Chairman Drew Howard at 10:43 A.M.



Barry Young, Chairman



Jim Grabenhorst, Assigned City Staff



Date Approved