

City of Rowlett
Economic Development Advisory Board

Tuesday, October 18, 2016

9:30 A.M.

Rowlett Chamber Building 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 9:30 am on October 18, 2016 in the Rowlett Chamber Building at 4418 Main Street, Rowlett, Texas. In attendance: Barry Young, Rick Sheffield, Elaine Ritchie, Eva Hummel, Bobby Montgomery, Drew Howard, Larry Glick, Diane Lemmons, Brian Funderburk, Jim Grabenhorst, Nathan Weber, Lola Isom, and Mark Enoch, representative of DART.

The Economic Development Advisory Board (EDAB) and staff members introduced themselves to Mark Enoch, DART representative.

2. CONSIDER APPROVING THE MINUTES FROM THE SEPTEMBER 20, 2016 MEETING.

Larry Glick proposed that a correction be made in regards to the GISD update from the previous meeting to clarify that GISD will house future SAT testing sites within the schools themselves.

A motion was made by Member Barry Young to approve the minutes with the proposed correction. The motion was seconded by Member Eva Hummel. The motion carried.

3. PRESENTATION AND UPDATE ON DART FROM MARK ENOCH.

Jim Grabenhorst, Director of Economic Development, explained that the purpose of this item was to provide information to EDAB members as a general update and open discussion with Rowlett's DART Board representative.

Mark Enoch, DART Board member, provided an update on DART regarding the member cities, current policies, types of rail services, 4A/4B arrangements, financial plans, discussion with City of Dallas regarding the Downtown Dallas tunnel and Cotton Belt Line, federal government funding matches, and potential DART extensions.

There was discussion amongst the members in regards to the Downtown Dallas tunnel and potential impacts on development, legislative agenda adoption, no "buy-in" for non-member cities, Rowlett being the last stop, potential for Bayside DART extension, housing industry changes, and the future I-30 expansion.

4. DISCUSSION ON BUSINESS ROUNDTABLE EVENT.

Nathan Weber, Economic Development Specialist, spoke regarding the Business Roundtable event set for November 3, 2016. He said that the event is being organized by himself and Diane Lemmons, Chamber of Commerce President. He reiterated that the intent is to build or improve upon relationships with area businesses.

There was discussion amongst the members regarding the attendance of State Representatives, preparation for the meeting, and attendees.

5. RECEIVE CHAMBER/CHAMBER FOUNDATION UPDATE.

Member Eva Hummel provided the Chamber of Commerce update. She announced that the Taste and Trade event would be held on October 20, 2016. She mentioned that the Bayside Regatta was a success.

Member Bobby Montgomery stated the Long Term Recovery Committee is continuing to raise funds. He said that Rebuild Rowlett has collected approximately \$220,000 as of August 31, 2016. He mentioned that \$179,000 in grants have been awarded.

Brian Funderburk, City Manager, spoke in regards to another resource for tornado victims set aside by the Salvation Army in the amount of \$2,500 per impacted family.

There was discussion amongst the members regarding electrical service concerns with rebuilding after the tornado, the lifespan of the Long Term Recovery Committee, and the fact that the donation center would close at the end of December 2016.

Member Eva Hummel said the Chamber Golf Tournament was a success and mentioned the \$1,800 donation received for the Rowlett Animal Shelter.

Diane Lemmons, Chamber President, arrived at 10:37 a.m.

Ms. Hummel reminded the members that Mrs. Lemmons and Mr. Weber were working on a business climate survey to send out to local businesses within the community and anticipate the survey to launch over the next few weeks.

6. RECEIVE GISD UPDATE.

Member Larry Glick provided an update on the National Math and Science Initiative (NMSI) Grant Program; specifically mentioning that all seven high schools are now participating in the program. He provided a handout to the EDAB members regarding the scheduled NMSI rallies and receptions.

There was discussion amongst the members in regards to arranging a tour for the EDAB members at South Garland High School, the success of the welding program, and an update on the GISD foreign exchange student program.

Mr. Glick also mentioned that he will be entertaining the Leadership Rowlett group at the next GISD Board meeting.

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.

Mr. Funderburk announced that there would be a 2015 Tornado Memorial Service on December 26, 2016 that will be held at Schrade Bluebonnet Park.

Mr. Grabenhorst announced that there is a new member on the EDAB, Jerry Johnson.

Ms. Hummel announced that Keep Rowlett Beautiful (KRB) and partners are arranging to plant 400 trees to areas affected by the tornado on December 10, 2016.

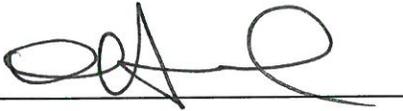
Mr. Funderburk announced that Martha Brown, City Council Member, recently resigned from the LTRC.

8. TOPICS FOR FUTURE AGENDA MEETINGS.

Mr. Grabenhorst stated that he would entertain the idea of arranging a future tour of the South Garland High School for the EDAB.

9. ADJOURNMENT.

The meeting was adjourned by Chairman Drew Howard at 10:51 A.M.



Drew Howard, Chairman



Jim Grabenhorst, Assigned City Staff

11/15/16

Date Approved