

City of Rowlett

Economic Development Advisory Board

Thursday, June 4, 2009

8:30 A.M.

City Hall Conference Room, 4000 Main Street Rowlett, TX 75088

Meeting Minutes

I. Call to order

Mayor John Harper called to order the **Rowlett Economic Development Advisory Board** at **8:30 A.M. on June 4, 2009** at the **City Hall Conference Room, 4000 Main Street, Rowlett, Texas**. In attendance: Mayor Pro Tem Todd Gottel, Mayor John Harper, Greg Sims, Drew Howard, Dr. James Fowler, Larry Glick, Robin Tomberlin, Ben White and Diane Hayes.

II. Welcome and Introduction. Item 2 on Agenda

Mayor Harper welcomed everyone to the meeting.

III. Consider approval of minutes from April 23, 2009 meeting. Item 3. on Agenda

There were no changes to the minutes. Approved as is.

IV. GISD Update. Item 4 on Agenda

Mayor Harper congratulated Larry Glick for being named Vice President of the School Board. Mr. Glick gave an update regarding dual credits. Mr. Glick stated there is a possibility that the School District will have a roll back election in November. The School Board will discuss this at the next meeting the third week in June. Mayor Harper asked for the number of students that go on to college within the district and specifically Rowlett High School. Class rank and GPA are now on the report cards and the website. Parents are able to see how a child is doing in school.

V. City Update. Item 5 on Agenda

Mayor Harper gave an update regarding the City's budget. The city is doing a better job of collecting fines and fees. Property taxes are down modestly. Mayor Harper gave an update regarding the bond committee. Mayor Harper gave an overview of the progress being made on the PGBT.

VI. Chamber Update. Item 6 on Agenda

Dr. James Fowler spoke about the Chambers efforts to help with the stimulus package. The Chamber is revamping the Economic Development Committee in the Chamber and will be available to assist the EDAB with the Economic Development goals. The Chamber is sponsoring a person to attend the All America City competition thru the foundation.

VII. Director's Update. Item 7 on Agenda

Ben White spoke of the ED department supplying some of the give a ways for the All America City competition. The city will use the ED Trade Show booth at the event. The City of Rowlett exhibited for the first time at CoreNet (Commercial Real Estate Network) held in Dallas this year. We are following up with the leads made at this show. We also exhibited at the International Council of Shopping

Center ReCon show. There were around 40,000 attendees at this show. We targeted developers at this show and are currently following up with the leads made at this show. In the past at this show Rowlett was a needle in the hay stack. We were visible for the first time this year and brokers/developers sought us out and were able to find Rowlett. There have been 5 existing businesses in Rowlett to relocate to new suites. The number of jobs created for May is 21 from new business including Stop and Shop, Monarch Dental and a few others. We are excited about the new office building under construction on Lakeview Parkway. There is an article on the front page of the Dallas Business Journal featuring Mayor Harper and the developers involved in the Pecan Grove Waterfront district development. The EDAB had a joint meeting with City Council on Tuesday night. Greg Sims presented for the board and Drew Howard was also in attendance representing the EDAB.

VIII. Rowlett Allies (Golf Event) Update. Item 8 on Agenda

Ben White gave the update. We met with the General Manager of the golf course and he is outstanding. He helped us with how many volunteers will be needed and what role his staff will take for the event. We will be receiving a finalized contract very soon from the golf course. We need to obtain a VIP speaker. We will use the name of the VIP on the marketing material that will be mailed on the invitations. The date for the event is September 24, 2009.

IX. Stimulus Plan Discussion. Item 9 on Agenda

Ben White gave the update to the board on the stimulus program and demonstrated how it works on the internet. A letter was sent to local business announcing the stimulus plan. The program is Shop Rowlett, Play Rowlett and Do Business in Rowlett. There is a link to available jobs. There is a link to coupons from local business on the website.

X. Economic Development Advisory Board Forums Discussion. Item 10 on Agenda

Ben White asked the board for volunteers to work on sub-committees to help with forums. The sub-committee can bring in people from the community to assist. The idea is to host different groups from the development community and bring them to Rowlett semi annually or quarterly. Social events throughout the year to keep bringing these groups back to Rowlett.

XI. Mentoring Discussion. Item 11 on Agenda

Drew Howard passed out information on the SCORE (senior core of retired executives) program. It is an organized group of retired executives that help business owners get started or with problems they may be facing. The chamber is going to try to meet with the current senior groups to start a roster on individuals that may be interested in the mentoring program. The program is in its infancy stage. We will join SCORE and become the "Rowlett" members to start out. This program will grow very valuable over time. A list of who volunteered for what will be emailed to the board.

XII. Economic Development Tourism Discussion. Item 12 on Agenda

This item was dropped from the agenda with no discussion.

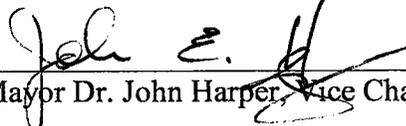
XIII. Members of the board may request topics for future agenda meetings. No member of the board or commission may discuss any of the requested subjects

until such matter has been properly placed on a posted agenda. Item 12 on Agenda

Items for the next meeting are Stimulus Plan, Forums, Rowlett Allies Day, and the Mentoring Program. Greg Sims announced to the board that he has accepted a position with the McKinney Economic Development Corporation and will be stepping down from the board.

XIV. Adjournment.

Meeting adjourned 10:00 A.M.



Mayor Dr. John Harper, Vice Chairman



B. Diane Hayes, Assigned City Staff

9-10-09

Date Approved: