

City of Rowlett

Economic Development Advisory Board

Thursday, April 8, 2010

8:45 A.M.

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

Meeting Minutes

I. Call to order

Robin Tomberlin called to order the Rowlett Economic Development Advisory Board at 8:45 A.M. on April 8, 2010 at the City Hall Conference Room, 4000 Main Street, Rowlett, Texas. In attendance: Mayor John Harper, Drew Howard, Larry Glick, Deputy Mayor Pro-Tem Todd Gottel, John Spor, Robin Tomberlin Dr. James Fowler, Ben White and Diane Lemmons.

II. Welcome and Introduction. Item 2 on Agenda

Robin Tomberlin welcomed everyone to the meeting.

III. Consider approval of minutes from November 19, 2009 meeting. Item 3. on Agenda

Motion made by Mayor John Harper to approve the minutes from January 28, 2010 meeting as is. The motion was second by Deputy Mayor Pro-Tem Todd Gottel with all in favor. Motion carried.

IV. GISD Update. Item 4 on Agenda

Mr. Larry Glick gave the update for the GISD. Mr. Glick spoke of the event held at the Special Events Center showcasing livestock and horticulture and was mindful of the fact that the newspaper did not cover the career and technical aspect of the event. Naaman Forest High School is building 2 houses for building trades. There are also cosmetology, teaching, welding, automotive, health science and cabinet/wood working programs. There was a general discussion regarding the Coyle House as a potential project for the students.

V. City Update. Item 5 on Agenda

Mayor Harper gave the update. General discussion on completion dates for the transportation projects. Mayor Harper wants to focus on "what are the next steps" for the City of Rowlett. We are going to update our Comprehensive Plan first. Then we will be updating our zoning ordinances. This will assist developers/brokers when considering investing in Rowlett. They will have their zoning questions answered up front. Mr. Glick spoke of the undertaking these steps are and the late night hours spent in the past working on these documents during his tenure on the Planning and Zoning Commission.

VI. Chamber Update. Item 6 on Agenda

Dr. James Fowler gave the Chamber update. Mr. Larry Glick was elected to be on the board of directors for the Chamber. Mayor Harper complimented the Chamber on the progress they have made. The annual awards banquet will be held on May 14th at the Hilton Bella Harbor and Leadership XIX will graduate.

VII. Director's Update. Item 7 on Agenda

Ben White gave the update. A director's report was included in the advisory board packet prior to the meeting. Mr. White gave a general update on the Primo Plaza project. The project is moving forward but the owner has changed project managers. There was general discussion regarding the Director's report. Mr. White demonstrated the new Economic Development Website. The Advisory Board is very pleased with the Economic Development Website.

VIII. Economic Development Advisory Board Forums Discussion. Item 8 on Agenda

Ben White updated the board. The Forum we hosted in February was very successful. We have the video of the event on the website for those that could not make it due to the weather conditions. We emailed the video to guest that did not make the Forum due to the snow. Mayor Harper suggested that we have a booth at the International Transportation Forum held in Irving every year. The date of the event is August.

IX. Discuss Joint Economic Development Advisory Board and City Council meeting on May 4, 2010. Item 9 on Agenda

The joint Economic Development Advisory Board and Council meeting is scheduled for May 4, 2010. Staff will prepare the power point presentation for the Chair of the board to present.

X. Discus S.C.O.R.E.. Item 10 on Agenda

Ben White spoke of the SCORE Program. This is a partnership with the Chamber and the City of Rowlett. These retired executives will be at the Chamber of Commerce every Friday to council small businesses from 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM.

XI. Discuss Entertainment Venue. Item 11 on Agenda

Robin Tomberlin asked how the City feels about entertainment projects. Ms. Tomberlin expressed concern from past experiences that we market for these venues and then change our minds when a developer comes forward. Ms. Tomberlin asked the board for clarity. Mr. Glick asked if we are talking about the waterfront districts. The board agreed that we have one shot at acquiring the right destination venues for entertainment. The board agreed that we do desire entertainment in Rowlett. There was a general discussion about including this aspect of zoning into the comprehensive plan. The board agreed that these types of venues will not necessarily be revenue generators by themselves but they will generate a lot of spin off revenue from the visitation of people from all over the metroplex visiting Rowlett. Mr. Glick spoke of certain tracts of land being specifically zoned for entertainment. There was general discussion regarding the types of venues we would like to attract.

XII. 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 13 on Agenda

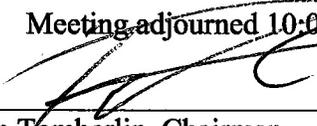
The next meeting agenda will include: Rowlett Allies Day

XIII. Public Announcements. Members of the Board and/or staff may make announcements of local civic events. No member of the commission may discuss or take any action with regard to the announcements.

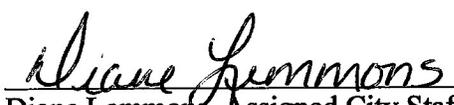
No new announcements.

XIV. Adjournment.

Meeting adjourned 10:00 A.M.



Robin Tomberlin, Chairman



Diane Lemmons, Assigned City Staff

July 8, 2010

Date Approved: