

City of Rowlett
Economic Development Advisory Board

Tuesday, May 17, 2016

9:30 A.M.

Development Services Building, 3901 Main Street, Rowlett, Texas 75088

Meeting Minutes

1. CALL TO ORDER

Vice-Chairman Barry Young called the Rowlett Economic Development Advisory Board meeting to order at 9:30 am on May 17, 2016 in the Development Services Building at 3901 Main Street, Rowlett, Texas. In attendance: Rick Sheffield, Tammy Dana-Bashian, Diane Lemmons, Larry Glick, Bobby Montgomery, Eva Hummel, Brian Funderburk, Jim Grabenhorst, Nathan Weber, Lola Isom.

2. CONSIDER APPROVING THE MINUTES FROM THE MARCH 15, 2016 MEETING

A motion was made by Member Tammy Dana-Bashian to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Member Bobby Montgomery. The motion carried.

3. DISCUSSION ON DRAFT TARGET INDUSTRY STUDY AND RECRUITMENT STRATEGY FROM AVALANCHE CONSULTING

Director of Economic Development, Jim Grabenhorst, opened a conference call with John Rees and associated staff with Avalanche Consulting. Mr. Rees provided an introduction to the proposed target strategy, provided detailed Rowlett demographics, and explained the work/live imbalance. He stated that the target industry recommendations for the North Shore area for development are advanced manufacturing, business and professional services, educational services, and health care and life services.

There was discussion amongst the Board regarding the educational services strategy, tax revenue strengths, job density, rail access, the business and professional services strategy, the Bayside development, DART land ownership, talent production, a past attempt at a Texas Tech University development, the next steps towards building the strategy and recruitment industry, health care manufacturing and research facilities, land cost, zoning, potential educational partnerships, the definition of advanced manufacturing.

4. DISCUSSION ON FINAL DRAFT OF THE DOWNTOWN PITCH BOOK FROM CATALYST COMMERCIAL.

Mr. Grabenhorst presented the proposed Niche Restaurant Catalog prepared by Catalyst Commercial.

There was discussion amongst the Board regarding clarifying the downtown location definition, specifying tenant detail, correcting the restaurant map aerial, and an update was provided on the Bankhead Brewery development.

5. DISCUSSION ON ROUND TABLE BUSINESS EVENT

Nathan Weber, Economic Development Specialist, stated that the City of Rowlett Economic Development Department is working on a 12 at 12 event in coordination with the Rowlett Chamber of Commerce.

There was discussion amongst the Board regarding the size of the meeting and the importance of building relationships with the local businesses.

6. RECEIVE CHAMBER/CHAMBER FOUNDATION UPDATE

Member Diane Lemmons, President of the Rowlett Chamber of Commerce, provided the Chamber of Commerce update. She stated that they would be conducting a survey of the entire business community and expressed the need to coordinate this effort with the City of Rowlett staff.

Member Eva Hummel stated that the Chamber would soon be developing a dashboard.

Member Diane Lemmons announced that the Legislative Brown Bag Luncheon was being held next week.

Member Bobby Montgomery stated that the Long Term Recovery Committee (LTRC) is working on a needs assessment forum and provided an update on new members.

7. RECEIVE GISD UPDATE

Member Larry Glick had to leave the meeting early and was not present to provide the GISD update.

There was discussion amongst the Board regarding tax ratification and the current, high residential tax appraisals.

8. PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

Member Diane Lemmons stated that the Chamber Stampede would be held on May 20, 2016. She mentioned that the July 5K and Golf Tournament are coming up.

Mr. Grabenhorst announced that the Goody Goody ribbon cutting Ceremony would be held the morning of May 21, 2016.

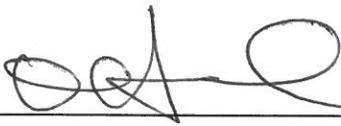
There was discussion amongst the Board regarding the success of recent developments.

9. TOPICS FOR FUTURE AGENDA MEETINGS

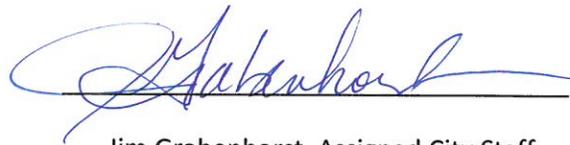
Mr. Grabenhorst reminded the Board that the upcoming joint meeting with City Council would be held on August 2, 2016. He mentioned that the EDAB could prepare for the joint meeting at the upcoming EDAB meeting.

10. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Member Eva Hummel. Member Bobby Montgomery seconded the motion. The motion carried. The meeting was adjourned by Vice-Chairman Barry Young at 10:58 A.M.



Drew Howard, Chairman



Jim Grabenhorst, Assigned City Staff



Date Approved