

**ENNIS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION MINUTES  
REGULAR MEETING  
TUESDAY, JUNE 11, 2019  
4:00 P.M.**

**CALL TO ORDER**

President Montgomery called a regular meeting of the Ennis Economic Development Corporation to order on Tuesday, June 11, 2019 at 4:03 P.M. in the City Commission Chambers of Ennis City Hall, 115 W. Brown Street, Ennis Texas 75119.

**INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

President Montgomery led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Nelson offered the Invocation.

**ROLL CALL**

Economic Development Administrative Assistant Rhonda Winters called roll; a quorum was present to wit:

Directors Present: Mike Montgomery, Jess Haupt, Angie Juenemann, Russell Thomas, Betty Glaspy

Directors Absent: Tom Abram, Phil Newsom

Staff Present: Marty Nelson, Rhonda Winters, Scott Dixon, Angie Wade, Ben Nibarger

**ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION & CONSIDERATION**

1. Discuss and consider the minutes of the May 14, 2019 meeting.
  - a. Motion by Thomas, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Haupt approving the minutes of the May 14, 2019 meeting.
    - i. 5 Ayes
2. Citizens request to address the Board
  - a. No one spoke.
3. Finance Review
  - a. Current finance update
    - i. The current budget and finances were presented by Mr. Nelson.
  - b. Annual Budget (FY 19-20)
    - i. Final draft budget presented by Mr. Nelson.
4. Project Splash Pad
  - a. Presented layout of the pad.
  - b. Construction to begin in the Fall of 2019, open Spring of 2020.
5. Economic Development update
  - a. Communications and Marketing update

- i. Web site update
    - 1. Presented page layouts and graphics for new website.
  - ii. Movies in the park
    - 1. Movie series to be held on June 14<sup>th</sup>, June 28<sup>th</sup>, and July 12<sup>th</sup> in different parks across the city.
  - iii. ASLA Award (MESA – Dallas St.)
    - 1. MESA won the ASLA Design Unrealized Award for the Dallas St. project.
    - 2. Did a press release and shared on social media.
  - iv. Spirit Shop
    - 1. Presented website, bluebonnetspiritshop.com, where t-shirts, mugs, and caps can be purchased online.
  - v. Ennis Y'all update
    - 1. Bluebonnet Trails
      - a. Researching updates and new functionality for the app.
    - 2. Downtown Walking Tour
      - a. Doing research to see if this function can be added to the app or if a new app has to be created.
    - 3. Historic Driving Tour
      - a. Doing research to see if this function can be added to the app or if a new app has to be created.
- b. Tourism update
- i. Fall Nationals (Texas Event Grant)
    - 1. To be held October 17<sup>th</sup>
    - 2. Convention and Visitors Bureau (CVB) will continue to match the grant received by the state.
  - ii. Bluebonnet seeding
    - 1. Purchasing more seeds and adding 40-50 acres to seed for next bluebonnet season.
  - iii. Ellis County Quilt Show
    - 1. To be held July 19-20 at the SOKOL.
    - 2. CVB is sponsoring the event.
  - iv. Festival attendance study
    - 1. Wanting to get a more accurate count on attendance of the larger festivals.
    - 2. Researching who can do this type of study.
- c. Main Street update
- i. Pivo Pavillion recap
    - 1. Grossed over \$17,000 in beer sales.
    - 2. \$2,500 in profit.
  - ii. Blues On Main recap
    - 1. Well attended
  - iii. Freedom Fest
    - 1. To be held June 29<sup>th</sup> at Veterans Park.
    - 2. Free shuttles from high school to the event.
    - 3. Will have entertainment, free kids activities, and food trucks.
    - 4. Direct mailer going out the week of the event.
  - iv. Mornings at Minnie
    - 1. Held every Saturday, June – October, at Minnie McDowal Park.
- d. Downtown Development update

- i. Parking lots and signs update
    - 1. Paving and striping is complete.
    - 2. Signs being installed at North Plaza and 305 N Sherman parking lots.
  - ii. Garbage collection system
    - 1. Presented video of how the system will operate.
    - 2. 8 locations downtown, one installed on every block.
  - iii. Bulk grease disposal
    - 1. Businesses will enter into a 3 year agreement to pay for their grease disposal.
    - 2. If businesses close before the 3 years the city will pay the remaining balance on the agreement.
  - iv. Downtown Infrastructure update
    - 1. Knox and Brown Streets
      - a. No update given
  - v. Puppy Patch
    - 1. Construction to begin in July.
  - vi. Welcome Center update
    - 1. Something Awesome
      - a. 2 of the 3 finalists have been interviewed. Last finalist to be interviewed June 17<sup>th</sup>.
      - b. Next step is for the finalists to present a model of what they believe the something awesome should be.
- e. Industrial Development update
- i. Project Benoit update
    - 1. Working on land deal.
  - ii. Project Snoopy update
    - 1. Land recovery
      - a. Purchasing 74 acres in the industrial park which 54 acres of is developable.
    - 2. Land sale
      - a. Selling for the price discussed in executive session at May's EDC mtg.
- f. Commercial/Retail Development update
- i. Project JT Evans update
    - 1. Chick- fil- A closed on property on May 31<sup>st</sup>.
    - 2. Construction to begin June 17<sup>th</sup>, scheduled to open November 2019.
  - ii. Project Buc-ee's update
    - 1. Presented video of underground gas tanks being installed.
- g. Residential update
- i. Public Improvement District (PID) policy
    - 1. Going before city commission for approval.
    - 2. Would pay for public infrastructure or private amenities in a residential area.
    - 3. Will be an additional property tax assessment to the property owner living in that particular residential area.

## ACTIONS

1. Discuss and consider approving the EDC FY 19-20 Budget and appropriating the funds as presented.
  - a. Motion by Thómas, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Glaspy approving the EDC FY 19-20 Budget and appropriating the funds as presented.
    - i. 5 Ayes
2. Conduct a public hearing to consider taking action upon Project Splash Pad and amending the Ennis Economic Development Corporations budget to provide \$150,000 to fund the project.
  - a. Public hearing opened, no comment, public hearing closed.
3. Discuss and consider approving Project Splash Pad and amending the Ennis Economic Development Corporations budget in an amount not to exceed \$150,000 to fund the project.
  - a. Motion by Haupt, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Juenemann approving Project Splash Pad and amending the Ennis Economic Development Corporations budget in an amount not to exceed \$150,000 to fund the project.
    - i. 5 Ayes
4. Discuss and consider approving a land sale for Project Snoopy.
  - a. Motion by Glaspy, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Haupt approving a land sale for Project Snoopy.
    - i. 5 Ayes

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

With no other business before the Economic Development Corp. Board, President Montgomery declared the meeting adjourned at 4:45 P.M.



RUSSELL R. THOMAS  
Secretary