

Meeting Minutes
Bellville Economic Development Corporation

The regular meeting of the Bellville Economic Development Corporation was called to order by David Ottmer at 5:30 P.M., Tuesday, November 26, 2002, in the Council meeting room at City Hall, Bellville, Texas.

Present were Wayne Browning, Jerome Peters, Warren Scott, David Ottmer, Kenneth Stein, Nancy Allen and Bob Simpson. All members were present. Chairman Ottmer welcomed new appointees Nancy Allen, Warren Scott and Bob Simpson.

Wayne Browning made a motion the Agenda be approved as posted. The motion was seconded by Kenneth Stein and carried unanimously.

Jerome Peters made a motion the Minutes of the October 8, 2002 meeting be approved. Bob Simpson provided the second to the motion and it carried unanimously.

Suzanne Edwards reported an ending statement balance of \$229,738.62 on October 8, 2002 and an ending statement balance of \$206,814.00 on October 31, 2002. Both the Austin County Convention Center project and the Lion's Club-Concordia project have been fully funded. Jerome Peters stated he had receipts of approximately \$100 to be presented for reimbursement. Warren Scott questioned the lack of a prepared report for review. Chairman Ottmer requested Jerome present his receipts to the newly-elected Treasurer and responded to Warren that a prepared Treasurer's Report is customary and was not available only because of the resignation of the former Treasurer Susan Jones. Kenneth Stein made a motion the Treasurer's Report be accepted as reported. Nancy Allen seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously.

Agenda Item # 6

Public Comment

Doug Todd, President of the Bellville Swimming Pool, and David Neumann, Project Contact, were present to present an application for \$27,427.62 for revitalization of the pool facilities. Mr. Todd reported the existing pool was built in 1952 and is used by 60-70 member families who pay an annual fee of \$150.00. Nancy Allen questioned if the pool was on city property and received a negative response. Original shareholders are assumed to be the

current owners of the property. The swimming pool is operated for profit and taxes are paid on every membership. The request for funding would provide 100% of the expense of revitalizing the pool facilities.

Second to present an application was Kathryn King, Director of the Bellville Public Library, who was accompanied by David Lydic, a member of the Library Board. \$75,000 is requested to relocate the main library entrance, renovate and update the existing building and pave the proposed expanded parking area. Wayne Browning questioned if a Houston-Galveston Area Council grant had been sought for the funds. Mrs. King responded in the negative because such funding cannot be used for construction.

Last to speak was Tom Bennett, a Board Member of the Bellville Chamber of Commerce. He was accompanied by Ellen Remmert, Chamber Administrator, and several members of the Chamber Board. An application for funding in the amount of \$65,000 was presented for the promotion and marketing of the businesses within the membership of the Bellville Chamber by the formation of a "Country Livin'-A Day in the Country" festival to be held on May 3, 2003, and the creation of a Visitors' Tourism Center located within the Bellville Chamber of Commerce.

Agenda Item # 7 Election of Officers

In response to Chairman Ottmer's query regarding volunteers to fill the current open positions of Secretary and Treasurer, Nancy Allen volunteered to serve as Secretary. Bob Simpson agreed to serve as Treasurer. Their proposed terms of office would expire in December 2003. Warren Scott made a motion these volunteers be accepted by acclamation. Jerome Peters seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Nancy Allen proposed a position of Vice Chairman be created and filled by election. This will be added to the agenda for the meeting to be held in December.

Agenda Item #8 Recess

Executive Session to Consider Potential Litigation

Agenda Items #9 and #10 Regular Session Reconvenes

Members of the BEDC returned from Executive Session at 6:47 p.m. The regular session was reconvened and it was reported no action was to be taken at this time regarding potential litigation. An Executive Session with Charley Smith will be scheduled for 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, December 3, prior to the joint meeting/workshop with the City Council. Discussion of potential litigation will be continued at this meeting.

Agenda Item #11
Discussion of Citizens' Input Committee

Jerome Peters reported on the formation of a Citizens' Input Committee to study Vision 2010. Six prominent members of the community have agreed to serve, but wish to remain unnamed at this time. Each has been given a notebook containing relevant information such as the regulations governing the use of 4B tax funds, articles of incorporation, by-laws, University of North Texas Study, Vision 2010, Austin County Economic Development Corporation plan, history of the Bellville Economic Development Corporation, current budget, a history of expenditures, and a grant application form. Within a six-month time frame, the committee will examine the needs of the community and the direction of community involvement as well as the ground structure for the provision of an economic development specialist.

Agenda Item #12
Consideration of any Action Necessary and Related to the Organization and Operation of a Corporation formed under Chapter 4B of the Economic Development Act of 1979, as Amended

Nancy Allen requested a discussion of the Texas Historical Commission Visionaries in Preservation Program be added to the agenda for the next meeting. She will bring a copy of the 5-page application form to the meeting.

Jerome Peters requested Nancy also provide goals and program discussion material. He is interested in how the BEDC's membership could affect the possible refacing of the Austin County Courthouse. He is willing to talk with Judge Bilski to determine her interest in such a project. It was suggested Nancy make her presentation first before any such contact is made. Then, Judge Bilski and the County Commissioners could be involved in the discussion stage before moving ahead.

Kenneth Stein suggested a system be set up to inspect projects, receive reports from grant recipients and follow up on grants.

Nancy also suggested a Legislative Day for the City of Bellville.

There being no further business to come before the BEDC, the meeting was adjourned at 7:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Suzanne C. Edwards

Recording Secretary