

Meeting Minutes
Bellville Economic Development Corporation

David Ottmer called the Regular Meeting of the Bellville Economic Development Corporation to order at 5:32 p.m., Tuesday, October 12, 2004, in the Council meeting room at City Hall, Bellville, Texas.

Present were Wayne Browning, Nancy Allen, David Ottmer and Allene Schmitt. Mike Mueller was absent. Warren Scott arrived late, but a quorum was present at all times.

Wayne Browning made a motion the Agenda be approved. His motion was seconded by Nancy Allen and carried.

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 14, 2004 were mailed to Directors in their packets. Nancy Allen made a motion the Minutes be approved as presented. Wayne Browning seconded the motion and it carried.

Nancy Allen provided to the Board members a Treasurer's Report with an opening balance of \$287,043.67 on August 31, 2004. The Sales Tax Allocation of \$12,218.47 was deposited during the reporting period, as was an interest payment of \$799.10 and a seminar registration checks totaling \$200.00. Debits of \$2,000.00 for one-half payment to Johnson & Associates and \$1,333.34 to the City of Bellville also were reported. The ending checkbook balance was \$298,927.90 as of September 30, 2004. Coupled with the \$100,000.00 CD, total assets are \$398,927.90. Nancy made a motion the Treasurer's Report be accepted as presented. The motion was seconded by Allene Schmitt and carried unanimously.

Agenda Item #7
Public Comment

No one asked to speak to the EDC Board.

Agenda Item # 8

Acceptance of Any Grant Applications Presented

No applications were presented.

Agenda Item #9

Consideration and Action to Approve Project to Repair and Repaint

Exterior of Turnverein Hall

David Ottmer reported a leaky roof has caused wood to rot and portions of the exterior need to be replaced and repainted. City Attorney Charley Smith has determined this would be an allowable project for the EDC. Because David has not received bids on the repair, no action can be taken tonight. David will report more information at a future meeting. Questions from Board member Warren Scott regarding installing air conditioning in the building were answered by Lynn Roberts, City Administrator, who stated the Historical Society had originally decided against such an addition because it would detract from the historical perspective of the building. Installing air conditioning would mean ceilings would have to be lowered and glass installed at all windows. Rates for renting the building would then go up and maintenance to replace windows broken by vandals would also increase. Rev. Scott then asked if it were possible to air condition at least the restrooms. Nancy Allen suggested John Sauer and Linda Feux of the Historical Society be questioned about this.

Nancy Allen brought up the related subject of how the EDC might influence bankers, mortgage brokers and real estate appraisers to increase the loan value of historical properties. Because this item was not on the agenda, David Ottmer asked that it be discussed at a future meeting.

Nancy Allen also questioned how rates are set for the hotel/motel tax in Texas. Other cities charge more than the current rate charged in Bellville. She stated we might be missing out on additional funds that could benefit economic development. Lynn Roberts indicated this might require action by the City Council. Scott Joslove of the Texas Hotel-Motel Association was suggested as a source for additional information. Because this item was not on the agenda, David Ottmer requested it be discussed at a future meeting.

Agenda Item #10

Update on Providing Financial Assistance to the Archeological Dig at

Historic San Felipe de Austin

Attorney Charley Smith is working on a draft of a preliminary contract of the agreement in principle. The wording is challenging because property owners cannot agree to allow items to be exhibited until such items have been discovered. Charley Smith and Michael Moore will continue to work on this item.

Agenda Item #11

Consideration and Possible Action to Approve Logo Design Submitted by Jerry Olson and Reviewed by Subcommittee Comprised of Nancy Allen, Allene Schmitt and Suzanne Edwards

Nancy Allen presented six additional designs from Jerry Olson which were submitted in response to input from the subcommittee. Following discussion of the designs, the revised catch phrase "*Hometown Attitude Makes The Difference*" received preference by a majority of the Board. Nancy Allen made a motion the logo design 8a-2 be accepted with the additional revision of the insertion of the star from design 8a-3. The catch phrase stated previously is to be inserted under the preferred logo design. Wayne Browning seconded this motion and the vote was unanimous in favor of the selected logo design. The design will be shown to City Council as a courtesy.

Agenda Item #12

Coordinator's Report and Update on Registration for Accelerated Board Training

Suzanne Edwards reported on an item of old business which has been pending for a while. A court date of November 9th has been set for resolution of the return of grant funds awarded to Andrew and Susan Leschper dba LSG Sheetmetal. Per Charley Smith this action will take place in Judge Beck's courtroom at 10:00 a.m.

Only a single resume has been submitted for one of the two positions on the Board that will be open as of December 31, 2004. A copy of the resume of Dr. James A. Freeman was provided to each Board member and was also given to Susan Rosinski, City Secretary, for inclusion in the City Council packets for next week's meeting.

Twelve paid registrations have been received for the Accelerated Board Training. EDC representatives from Hutto, Tomball, Sealy and Prairie View have registered. An additional \$400.00 in registration fees will be deposited tomorrow. Letters were sent to EDC's in several communities within commuting distance of Bellville and letters also were sent to 27 business leaders in Bellville.

Information on a 6-hour Texas Leadership Institute class entitled *Downtown & Big Boxes: Retail Strategies for a Balanced Approach* has been received. Unfortunately, the class will be held Monday, October 18, so lead-time is short for registration. Copies were provided to each Board member.

Agenda Item #13

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 6:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Suzanne C. Edwards

EDC Coordinator