

MONTGOMERY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF NOVEMBER 4, 2013

The meeting of the Montgomery Economic Development Corporation Board of Directors was called to order with a quorum present by Mr. Kirk Jones at 7:00 p.m., Monday, November 4, 2013 at the Montgomery City Hall, 101 Old Plantersville Road, Montgomery, Texas.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Kirk Jones, Russell Skinner, Cheryl Fox, Dave McCorquodale, Julia Wall, and Bob Kerr

ABSENT:

Ryan Ruhge

ALSO PRESENT:

Bill Kotlan, Shannan Reid, Erik Smith, Bea Rouse and John Fox

PUBLIC COMMENT:

No Public Comment.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Mr. McCorquodale moved approval of the October 7, 2013 Meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Ms. Fox and the minutes were approved.

MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT:

Mr. Kotlan presented the September Financial Report. Motion was made to approve the Financial Report as presented by McCorquodale and seconded by Mr. Skinner. The motion passed unanimously.

REPORT ON DOWNTOWN RESTROOMS

Mr. Kotlan reported that he did not have prices on the downtown restroom and discussed other options for the restroom that had been brought to his attention.

REPORT ON TEXIAN HERITAGE FESTIVAL

Bea Rouse reported that the Texian Heritage Festival had been very successful, was well attended, and raised over \$9,000 for charitable causes and brought hundreds of visitors into the city. She thanked MEDC for its assistance in the project and stated that the team hoped to become a non-profit corporation and continue with the festival on an annual basis.

CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON APPROVAL OF GRANT TO PATRONS OF CEDAR BRAKE PARK FOR EXPENSES RELATED TO THE 175TH FLAG CELEBRATION.

Ms. Sonya Clover and Ms. Shannan Reid addressed the board and discussed how the Patrons of Cedar Brake Park along with the City and the MEDC, if approved, were to celebrate the 175th anniversary of the adoption of the Texas Flag which was signed by Mirabeau Lamar the president of the Republic of Texas on January 25, 1839. The flag was designed by Montgomery resident Charles Stewart. The event would include recognition of the birthday and the Boy Scout volunteers who have worked in the park to build a base for the Pioneers of Montgomery statue. The first figure of the statue, a life size bronze of Dr. Stewart, is to be unveiled that morning. A road rally will be held that afternoon by the Montgomery County Historical Society in conjunction with the event. A grant to cover rental of stage and chairs, invitations, refreshments, and promotion of the event was requested. After some discussion, Cheryl Fox moved that a grant of \$5,000 be approved for the expenses related to the event. Mr. Kerr seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.

CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON APPROVAL OF EXPENDITURE RELATED TO THE HISTORIC PARK AND WALK TOUR.

Ms. Reid requested approval to expend \$10,000 budgeted for the Historic Park and Walk Tour. The tour would utilize Qr codes to direct smart phones or tablets to short videos that would provide a self-guided tour around the city's historic residential and central business districts. Funds would be used to pay for production of the video and guide signs. Ms. Wall moved approval of the funds as budgeted which was seconded by Mr. McCorquodale. The motion passed unanimously.

CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON RECOMMENDATION TO CITY COUNCIL TO REGARDING CITY LOGO

Ms. Reid showed several variation of a city logo designed by the consultant. There was discussion that the logo reflects the historic significance of the city and also looks to the future. It was decided that action was not necessary to recommend the logo to council.

CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON A GRANT TO REMOVE BLIGHT.

Mr. Fox discussed his efforts to enlist cooperation from residents to remove trash from yards and repair dilapidated houses. There is money budgeted to remove blight. Mr. Fox recommends a contest where residents can clean up their property and the resident showing the most improvement gets awarded money that can be used to do further improvement to the property. There was discussion regarding accountability and management of the program. Mr. Kotlan said he would review the legal ramifications of the program with the city attorney. No action was taken.

Mr. McCorquodale made a motion to adjourn at 8:35 pm. It was seconded by Mr. Skinner and passed unanimously.