

**MONTGOMERY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION**  
**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF MARCH 3, 2014**

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, March 3, 2014 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:**

Bill Hanover

**ALSO PRESENT:**

Bill Kotlan, John Fox, Shannan Reid and Erik Smith

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

No Public Comment.

**REVIEW OF MEDC MISSION STATEMENT AND GOALS**

Mr. Jones reviewed the mission statement of MEDC which was found in the packet.

*Goal 1: Preserve and promote the small town atmosphere and quality of life* was reviewed and discussed: Current projects related to Goal 1 include electrical upgrades in downtown area, Blazer Building project, historic Montgomery park and walk, blight removal program.

*Goal 2: Use incentives to encourage investments that create wealth in Montgomery area while maintaining quality of life.* Projects such as the new website, demographic study, retail leakage study, and recruiting efforts have been completed and are in process which promote Objectives 2a and 2b. Mr. McCorquodale stated a desire to

make more headway in developing criteria for the MEDC business grant program and asked for a report regarding progress at board meetings (Objective 2c). Based on that effort, further development of existing business support program may be considered.

*Goal 3: Continue to encourage the maintenance and enhancement of Montgomery area infrastructure.* New investments in infrastructure include water and sewer improvements in process and completed to serve developing business areas. Further efforts are needed to include information about these resources to prospective businesses.

*Goal 4: Engage in persistent marketing campaign for the Montgomery area.* The efforts over the last year with cooperation of Historic Montgomery Business Association were reviewed. Coordination with Montgomery School District was encouraged particularly the idea of a joint job fair for high school students was proposed to assist local service businesses in recruiting employees.

No Action was taken.

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR FEBRUARY 3, 2014**

Mr. Smith pointed out that the “Also Present” paragraph from the minutes was wrong and should be deleted. Mr. McCorquodale moved approval of the minutes with that amendment. Mr. Kerr seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.

#### **MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT**

Mr. Kotlan reviewed the financial report and pointed out that the sales tax figures for October and November were estimates since the audit was done on an accrual basis. The estimates will be replaced with actual figures from 2014 after the budget year. Mr. Kerr moved approval of the financial report as presented. Mr. McCorquodale seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.

## **REPORT ON THE LOCAL ECONOMY AND LOCAL CONSTRUCTION**

Mr. Kotlan reviewed economic and demographic information for the Houston area, Montgomery ISD and the City of Montgomery. He also gave information on the permits in the City. These figures show dramatic growth economically and demographically. Mr. Kotlan concluded that Montgomery has been and will continue to experience dramatic growth.

No action was taken.

## **CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON PROPOSAL TO JOIN GREATER HOUSTON PARTNERSHIP**

Shannan Reid reviewed the mission of the Greater Houston Partnership and the content of her discussion with their staff. They are an organization that promotes economic development in the 10-county region that includes Montgomery. They form relationships with local economic developers like MEDC and link business prospects that are considering the area to the local representatives. There is no cost to the alliance. Ms. Fox moved that Montgomery Economic Development Corporation pursue further cooperation with the Greater Houston Partnership in its business recruitment efforts. Mr. McCorquodale seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

## **CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE GRANT TO HISTORIC MONTGOMERY BUSINESS ASSOCIATION FOR 2014 ANTIQUE SHOW**

Ms. Reid requested approval of a grant for \$9,500 to Historic Montgomery Business Association for expenses related to the Antique Show which brings tourist dollars to downtown businesses in Montgomery. The budgeted amount for this grant is \$9,500 which is the same as has been given in previous years. Mr. Kerr moved approval of the grant as requested. Mr. Skinner seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

**CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON GATEWAY SIGNAGE AT CORNER OF FM 149 AND SH 105.**

There was discussion regarding several options of signs that have been proposed for the property. Concerns about repetitive signs were addressed that this sign would be for the business district and would include some kind of message board. Staff was asked to get a price for an electronic message sign that would blend with the historic downtown area.

No action was taken.

**ADJOURN**

Dave McCorquodale made a motion to adjourn at 9:10 pm. Bob Kerr seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.