

MONTGOMERY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
MINUTES
MARCH 19, 2018

Present were: Kirk Jones, Cheryl Fox, Randy Moravec, Bill Hanover, Bob Kerr and John Champagne. Amy Brown was absent. Also present were, Shannan Reid, Chris Roznovsky, Katherine Vu, Mike Muckleroy and Jack Yates

Call to Order - President Jones called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m.

Open Public Comment – There was no public comment.

Approval of Minutes of February 19, 2018 – Motion by Moravec, seconded by Fox to approve the minutes as presented with the correction of the spelling of the name of Barbie Joerg. All in favor.

Monthly Financial Report (February, 2018) – Motion by Hanover, seconded by Fox to approve the report as presented. All in favor.

Request from China Chapel for Homecoming Event – Arnette Easley – Mr. Easley introduced the present Homecoming Committee who he said was committed to a productive and calm event. Mr. Hanover asked how much attendance was expected, Mr. Easley replied 300 to 1,000. Mrs. Fox asked about size of the parade, Mr. Easley replied that it varies depending on that day's participation. Mr. Jones asked about the reasons for the event, Mr. Easley said the event started in 1954 as a reunion gathering. Mr. Champagne asked who would receive the funds and the answer was the China Chapel.

Bob Kerr arrived at 6:31 PM

Mr. Jones asked about the future outlook for the event and Mr. Easley answered that he believed in the long-term it would become a community-wide event rather than only inviting the black churches. Mr. Moravec asked about the reason for the \$5000 and Mr. Easley replied that it was an estimate.

Motion by Champagne, seconded by Fox to grant \$3,000 and up to \$2,000 for actual expenses to be reimbursed based upon receipts provided to the city. All in favor.

Sidewalk placement along South Clepper Street – Mrs. Fox asked about the wisdom of sidewalk expense versus McCown Street improvements, asking about priorities. Mr. Jones and Mr. Champagne said that they felt that people would use the sidewalk for general use and for special events when the parking is in the area around the school. Mrs. Fox reiterated her statement that funds would be better spent on downtown centered projects first. Mike Muckleroy answered a Board question about how the drainage will be handled, stating that the sidewalk project will not help but also would not hurt the drainage situation in either manner.

Motion by Champagne, seconded by Hanover to fund the project with the funds to be determined at a later date, possibly with a budget amendment. Board members Champagne, Hanover, Jones, Moravec and Kerr voted yes. Fox voted no. Motion passed.

Economic Development Report –Shannan Reid, Jack Yates and Katherine Vu—

Shannon Reed you gave a brief review of the marketing plan for Phases 1,2 and 3, She stated Phase 1 includes enhancing the existing website, promoting the event's, history and Historic District as the top three cause of action and to connect the features of website to social media and Distrix app. Phase 2 includes the launch of the Distrix app, Phase 3 includes the ongoing maintenance of the social media platform and the website and to print local rack cards and tourism guides that connect the dots for all the online materials that have been implemented.

She briefly gave a synopsis of her monthly report, noting the Montgomery Summit event of March 23.

Katherine Vu gave a brief summary of her written report to the Board, including that the Houston Street project was complete, that eight projects were actively in progress, eight projects were in design/review, the Buffalo Springs Bridge repair is still scheduled for June completion and the Lone Star Bend Road is expected to be completed by the end of the month. It was briefly discussed about having the City Engineer attendance at every meeting and Jack was directed that a written report every time should continue but the attendance could be monitored and managed by him.

Adjournment – Motion by Moravec, seconded by Hanover to adjourn at 7:37 p.m. All in favor.



Jack Yates, Recording Secretary

