

MINUTES
THE COLONY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
REGULAR SESSION
NOVEMBER 11TH 2011

PRESENT: TeRon Lawrence - President
Lisa Leary - Secretary
Kathy Braby - Treasurer
Stephen Sohn – Vice President
Don Beckel – Member
Dan Mahle - Member
Rolando Reyes - Member

STAFF: Pam Nelson
Keith Helms - Absent
Kathy Neal

COUNCIL LIAISON: Allen Harris

- 1. EXECUTIVE SESSION – THE CDC SHALL CONVENE INTO A CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO SECTION 551.087 OF THE TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE TO DELIBERATE COMMERCIAL OR FINANCIAL INFORMATION THE CITY HAS RECEIVED FROM A BUSINESS PROSPECT, AND TO DELIBERATE THE OFFER OF A FINANCIAL OR OTHER INCENTIVE TO A BUSINESS PROSPECT, AND RECEIVE LEGAL ADVICE FROM CITY ATTORNEY PURSUANT TO SECTION 551.071 OF THE TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE REGARDING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT LAWS AND POSSIBLE INCENTIVES –**

*The board convened to Executive Session at 7:01; the Executive Session was over at 8:40p.m.
The regular board meeting reconvened at 8:45 p.m.*

- 2. ACTION TO BE TAKEN AS A RESULT OF THE EXECUTIVE SESSION –**

No action was taken.

- 3. CITIZEN'S INPUT –**

None.

- 4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF OCTOBER 13TH 2011 –**

Motion to approve the minutes – Reyes; second – Beckel; motion passes with all ayes.

- 5. RECEIVE UPDATE FROM FIRE CHIEF THOMPSON AND DISCUSS THE WTC – 9/11 MEMORIAL PROJECT –**

Chief Thompson told the board that pieces from the World Trade Center were made available to fire departments; Fireman Shannon Stephens did the paperwork that enabled The Colony to get a piece. The Fire Department did receive the piece and they presented it to the city, now Chief Thompson is trying to figure out the best way to display the piece and make it available for everyone to see. He gave the board copies of plans for a monument; the monument should reflect the events of 9/11 and recognize the military. The Chief has no money in his budget to fund this project, so he is here tonight to ask the board if they would be interested in funding the project; a local citizen has offered his services to the project. The Chief said they want to sell bricks not only to raise money, but to personalize the monument; bricks would be restricted to fire companies, police officers, firefighters, someone who was on one of the airliners, and military members who are active or were injured or killed on 9/11. The monument will be located at Fire Station #1 on Blair Oaks. Chief Thompson would like to have a lot of community involvement and wants to establish a committee to work on the project and he would like to have someone from the CDC Board on the committee too; Kathy Braby volunteered to be the CDC liaison for the planning committee on this project. His goal is to break ground at the beginning of the year and have the project completed by 9/11/2012. The consensus of the board is that they support this project and want to participate, but they would like to see more plans

6. DISCUSS AND CONSIDER ALLOCATING \$115,000 ADDITIONAL FUNDS FROM THE PARK IMPROVEMENT FUND (825) FOR THE EROSION REPAIR PROJECT AT BILL ALLEN MEMORIAL PARK –

Pam reminded the board that they have already allocated \$95,000 to replace the bridge at the park. The city is not incurring any more debt for capital projects and is asking the board to pay for the erosion repair; the erosion problems are affecting the infrastructure of the park. There are funds left over from various projects in the park improvement fund that can be used for this project. Pam has gotten a legal opinion which confirmed that CDC funds can be used for this project.

Don made a motion to approve allocating an additional \$115,000 from the park improvement fund for erosion repair at Bill Allen Memorial Park; second – Braby; motion carries with all ayes.

7. RECEIVE A COST ESTIMATE AND DISCUSS FUNDING THE EXTENSION OF THE N. COLONY BIKE TRAIL WEST OF FM 423 –

Pam has received requests from some CDC Board members to move forward with getting the cut-throughs for the slip roads on North Colony to extend the bike trail west of 423. This would be done at Keys & North Colony and Newton & North Colony and would require the removal of vegetation, removal of the sidewalk, and cutting the curbs, then new pavement and markings would be installed. The Engineering Dept. thinks this can be done for less than \$20,000. There are funds available in the park improvement fund to do this. A public hearing will have to be held at the next meeting.

8. RECEIVE UPDATE FROM STAFF AND DISCUSS THE FOLLOWING ITEMS – FINANCIAL STATEMENTS –

Sales tax continues to be up. The new Finance Director, David Cranford, has revised the sales tax graph to reflect the rebates for William Sonoma and the numbers on the graph will be the actual sales tax for that month rather than the 2 month delay that was previously reflected in the graph.

PLAYFUL CITY USA TASK FORCE –

The task force met on October 26th and assigned people to the following positions – Dan Mahle is the fundraising coordinator, Steve Sohn is the volunteer coordinator, Kathy Braby is food and hospitality coordinator, and Lisa Leary is the promotions coordinator. On Nov. 16th there is a task force meeting to discuss plans for the dismantling of the remaining, original play structures; the goal is to do this in January or February 2012. On Nov. 28th there is a meeting with the task force to discuss fundraising.

CULTURAL ARTS MASTER PLAN –

There have been some issues getting meetings scheduled with some of the groups. The consultants will be back January 3rd – 5th. They would like to get more surveys filled out. The survey is available online; there was discussion about adding a deadline date to it as that may inspire people to complete it.

PARK IMPROVEMENTS UPDATE –

Dunkin, Sims & Stoffels have completed the RFP and it has been sent to 6 major playground manufacturers. Meetings will begin in January.

EAGLE SCOUT PROJECTS –

We have been working with some Eagle Scouts over the past month. One of the scouts put in new landscaping at the entrance at the Senior Center, one replaced some broken boards at the horseshoe pits at Stewart Creek Park, and one removed some fallen trees at Bridges Cemetery.

PERRYMAN PARK GRASS PAVE PROJECT –

There is \$20,000 in the budget for this project; it will start at the beginning of the year. This will help accommodate the overflow of vehicles watching the Christmas Spectacular Light Show.

SALUTE TO AMERICAN HEROES –

This event is on Saturday, Nov. 12th at Five Star. This year the Moving Wall will be at Five Star for the event. The American Legion is hosting a 5K & 10K run in the morning and there is a ceremony at the Veteran’s Memorial in the morning. In the afternoon, there is a car show, vendor expo, silent auction, carnival, the bands “The Hit” and “Jake Mai” will perform, and the Grammy nominated band “Bowling for Soup” is the headline band that will perform, and the day ends with fireworks.

HOLIDAY IN THE PARK AND THE COLONY CHRISTMAS SPECTACULAR –

The event is on Saturday, Dec. 3rd at Perryman Park. The Christmas Parade starts at 5:45p.m. at Peters Colony Elementary School and will end at the high school. There will be activities for the family at Perryman Park - some performances by local groups, a baking contest, and the Christmas Spectacular light show will begin.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 10:06 p.m.

Kathy Neal, Recording Secretary

TeRon Lawrence, President