

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL SESSION
OF THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
JANUARY 10TH 2019

The Special Session of The Community Development Corporation of the City of The Colony, Texas, was called to order at 5:45 p.m. on the 10TH day of January 2019, at City Hall, 6800 Main Street, The Colony, Texas, with the following roll call:

Kathy Braby, President	Present	Pam Nelson	Staff
Dan Mahle, Vice President	Present	Eve Morgan	Staff
Allen Harris, Secretary	Absent	Kathy Neal	Staff
Don Beckel, Treasurer	Present	Jackie Kopsa	Staff
Steve Sohn, Board Member	Present	Brant Shallenberger	Staff
Donna Cole, Board Member	Present	Perry Schrag	Council Liaison
Jerry Farmer, Board Member	Present		

City Council Members Present -
Mayor McCourry
David Terre
Perry Schrag
Brian Wade

Economic Development Corporation -
Kevin Braby - Present

Troy Powell, City Manager - Present

And with 6 board members present a quorum was established and the following item was addressed:

Discussion on updating the Community Development and Parks Master Plan –

The current Master Plan was completed in 2009; a lot of the projects in the plan have been completed, but there have also been a lot of changes since that plan was completed. Pam introduced Hunter and Ryan from MHS Planning & Design, the firm hired to update the Master Plan. They have attended meetings with city staff, a meeting with the athletic groups, and earlier today there was a meeting with community leaders that included representatives from each school in the city, HOA presidents, city staff, some CDC Board members, and some City Council members. Hunter said their goal is to make a plan that will be purposeful and useful.

Hunter began the discussion –

Should The Colony be a destination city or the best community for the residents?

- Serve the residents first is always a priority*
- Create a marketplace for anyone to come and experience The Colony and spend their money here*
- Keep a core part of the town a wonderful place for citizens where they can have a great quality of life*
- The entertainment corridor provides a good mix*
- The quality of our facilities and how they are maintained should attract people from other cities*
- The city's identity has improved over the past 5-10years, so continue to grow the city's identity in the North Texas area;*

- *Highway 121 is viewed as a revenue corridor, tie the Master Plan in with that to provide more value to residents*
- *From an economic development view, we have an asset that other cities around us don't have, the lake; this is a huge value when we're competing with other local cities or cities in other states. Five Star has become a different kind of asset now because of all the hotels in the city.*
- *Parks are a huge part of the quality of life for the city. The focus should be on what we can do to make this part of the community better and take it to the next level.*

What are the strengths of the park system?

- *Variety*
- *Position on the lake*
- *Located in residential areas throughout the city*
- *Good, usable amenities and they are well maintained*
- *Stewart Creek Park is a great asset*
- *Not a strength, but southern part of the lake is not used for anything*

Is more signage needed?

- *Very few people read signs*
- *Sometimes signs have too much information on them and you don't have time to read them*

How is the communication between the city and CDC to the public?

- *The city does it's best to communicate through any outlet - social media, flyers, newsletters*

Are there any challenges with maintenance, staffing, trail systems?--

- *Splash Pads – cities won't be able to afford them when the state starts regulating water*

Many parks are replicas, is there anything else that could be added?--

- *There shouldn't be more in one park than another; if there is, people will start asking why*
- *Put in more native plants*
- *Squires Park – put in a mini mountain bike trail for tweens*
- *West side of city – put in a recreation center on Augusta; there isn't anything on the west side*

Should an upgrade be made to the current recreation center or should a new one be built?

- *The current facility is not adequate; future plans are to build a new facility at a different location*
- *A feasibility study is in progress to help determine what can be done with the current facility*

Hunter told everyone that a citizen survey will be available soon. They will review all the data from the survey and the meetings they attended and determine the direction they want to take and discuss that with Pam and staff; following those discussions, an outline of the plan will be developed and presented to the board.

ADJOURNMENT

With there being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 6:55p.m.


 Kathy Neal, Recording Secretary


 Kathy Braby, President