



STATE OF TEXAS

COUNTY OF FORT BEND

CITY OF RICHMOND

The Development Corporation of Richmond convened in a regular meeting open to the public and pursuant to notice thereof duly given in accordance with Section 501.072, Local Government Code, Vernon's Texas Codes, in Richmond City Hall Annex within said City on October 8, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. Directors in attendance included the following:

President, Evalyn W. Moore	Vice President, Joe Bonham
Secretary, Verge Greenwood- Absent	Treasurer, Carl Drozd
Robert Haas	William B. Morefield, III
Nancie Rain - Absent	Terri Vela – City Manager
City Attorney – Gary Smith	Cameron Goodman, Executive Director
City Secretary – Laura Scarlato	

President Moore opened the meeting at 6:00 p.m.

The Webelos from Cub Scout Pack 1680, Arrowhead District in Richmond were present to Post the Colors and recite the Pledge of Allegiance. Since the colors were already posted, they only led the pledge. The young men received a merit badge for performing the flag ceremony.

Agenda item A3 was introduced for public comments. Zach Lambert, 1401 Georgina Street, Rosenberg, Texas, owner of Mercy Goods was present to update the Board and to thank them for all of the support that has been provided. The building was painted on 25th which was a tremendous transformation. He shared two stories of students whose lives have been positively changed because of Mercy Goods. There will be an upcoming event on October 22nd at 6:00 p.m. for pregnant and teen moms to provide them with an environment for them to just be teen girls. Volunteers will be available for their babies while they do crafts and make jewelry. There have been good conversations in the community and truly life changing moments on Morton Street are happening.

Agenda item 4 to review and consider taking action on the minutes of the regular meeting held on September 10, 2019. President Moore inquired as to if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes, there were no changes. Director Haas made the motion to approve the minutes for the September 10th, 2019 meeting. Director Bonham seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous to approve.

President Moore asked for a review of the Financial Reports through September 30, 2019. Director Carl Drozd, Treasurer stated the fiscal year of 2018-19 had ended on September 30, 2019 and the City is now in fiscal year 2019-2020. Sales tax revenue was below expectation for the month of September but the DCR sales tax sales tax for the year exceeded its target by 1.54%. The expenditures for the year were below the budgeted amount largely due to the wayside horn project. Those expenditures are anticipated to be funded in FY 2020. All of the common line items of the budget for the year 2020 are on target. No action was required for this agenda item, therefore it was closed.

President Moore introduced agenda item 6, Staff presentation and discussion of TxDot logo signage program. The program provides information to motorists about traveler services. Businesses lease the space on the signs and there is certain criteria to be eligible to participate. It is operated by Lone Star Logos and TxDot contracts with this private company to operate the program. City Pride Signs was developed to give cities the opportunity to display the names and logos of their civic organizations along state highways. The City is allowed one sign per highway entering the City, they maintain the costs and installation. The sign is limited to 80 square feet. Recreational and Cultural Interest Signs are to attract or generate traffic for the general public for the purpose of play, amusement or relaxation. The signs are white on brown but when paired with a city or street destination sign, the signs are white on green. Director Haas stated he wanted the item to be on the agenda to use the DCR resources to contact businesses to participate in the signage program if they are not aware of it. Director Haas stated it might encourage traffic to exit off Richmond Parkway instead of in Rosenberg. Director Drozd inquired about the signs and the rules of the state right of way, also when they are located in Rosenberg or Sugar Land's ETJ. City Pride Signs must be inside the city limits. City Manager Vela stated the City has discussed the logo signage with TxDot in the past and the concern was the road being cluttered up but that the City would be willing to revisit the issue again. A few years ago, TxDot was not allowing any additional signage. With no further discussion, the item was closed.

Agenda item 7, to review and consider taking action on Signage Improvement Grant Program. Executive Director Goodman provided the background of the program stating it was established to provide financial assistance to local business owners seeking to replace or modify existing signage to meet current requirements outlined in the City of Richmond's Unified Development Code (UDC). The eligible expenses include the design of the sign, installation, and modifications to an existing sign, costs to remove a non-conforming sign, and permitting costs. The maximum grant award is \$7,500 with a total of \$25,000 budgeted for the program and the business must be in the city limits of Richmond. The grant applicant must comply with all of the guidelines set forth in the program. Director Drozd stated it is imperative that there is a process to make the grant application equal and consistent. City Manager Vela stated possibly blocking visibility is a criteria for ranking. City Manager Vela stated the City has a sign inventory and maybe it be used as a starting point. Executive Director Goodman maybe a rating system with points given would be used to create some sort of process. More research will be done for the program and signs will be evaluated. The agenda item was closed.

Agenda item 8 to consider and take action on recommendations for future agenda items. There were no suggestions for future agenda items, therefore the item was closed.


President Moore announced the board would adjourn to Executive Session at 6:21 p.m., as authorized by Texas Government Code, Sections 551.087 Economic Development Negotiations.

The Board reconvened at 6:53 p.m.

There was no action taken during Executive Session.

There being no further business to come before the Development Corporation of Richmond, the meeting was adjourned at 6:53 p.m.

APPROVED:


Evalyn W. Moore, President

ATTEST:



Laura Scarlato, City Secretary