

Economic Development Corporation – 4B

**Meeting Minutes
September 11, 2018**

Quorum

The regular meeting of the Economic Development Corporation – 4B was called to order at 6:00 p.m. on September 11, 2018 in City of Bronte Council Chambers at 114 South Washington Street, Bronte, Texas, by Susan Williams, President.

Present: Susan Williams, Marlene Vaughn, Katie Cooper-Ramirez, Brenda Scott. Absent – Reese Braswell, Melinda McCutchen. Also present, Teresa Ballard, City Secretary and Andra Arrott, Clerical. Visitors present – Robin, Denise Gallaway, Steve Hines and later, Stormy Vaughn.

Susan mentioned that Reese and Melinda have missed two consecutive meetings, and according to bylaws, need to be present for the next meeting.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Susan.

Prayer by Brenda Scott.

Approval of Minutes

July 17, 2018 minutes reviewed and approved.

Motion – Brenda Second – Marlene Ayes – All

Financial Reports

Reviewed financials and questions answered by Andra Arrott. Motion to approve financial report as presented

Motion – Katie Second – Brenda Ayes – All

Marketing and Promotion Prison Property

Susan had spoken to Robert Calk, realtor with SENTAR who has the listing for the prison property. Apparently property is looked at often, but seems to be about 100 miles from ideal location. Discussed purchase of big banners, visible from both directions. Katie made a motion to get prices for signs to put on the prison property. Seconded by Marlene. Ayes – All. Susan will check prices.

Website and Social Media Promotions

Discussion regarding websites from other like towns that some of board members have looked at. Susan talked to Crane – West, who was creator of Stamford's website. He noted that 60% of website hits are from phones, so needs to be phone-friendly. He quoted around \$1500.00 to do our website. After lengthy discussion and ideas, motion was made to contact Crane-West regarding building our website, i.e. prices, logos, designs. Teresa will call and get specifics. Teresa will present this to the City Council at the meeting of September 20th.

Motion – Katie Second – Brenda Ayes – All

Assist Chamber of Commerce – 501(c)3

Denise Gallaway updated the board regarding the Chamber of Commerce's request for assistance with funds to pay the 501(c)3. Since Jennifer Addona has pulled out and is trying to sell house and business, Denise is taking the lead and trying to get bylaws and interest by downtown businesses. The Chamber will try to work under the Restoring Bronte Foundation umbrella, so is withdrawing the request. Discussion regarding getting the entities on the same page, working toward the same goals.

USDA Rural Business Loan

Teresa will get the status update from Jason Luna regarding their \$25,000.00 USDA monies. Bronte account has been opened and \$25,000.00 deposited. This will be tabled until next meeting, pending information from Jason regarding implementation and action going forward.

Upcoming Texas Municipal League Economic Development conference

Letter read regarding the upcoming annual conference for Texas Municipal League Economic Development conference in Bastrop, Tx on November 15th and 16th. Katie expressed interest in attending this conference. Also a conference will be held in Abilene, Thursday the 20th and after discussion, will send Katie Cooper-Ramirez to that conference, and as many as can go.

More information forthcoming by Teresa.
Motion - Brenda Second - Marlene Ayes - all

Annual Fundraiser - Ft. Chadbourne Foundation

Fort Chadbourne annual fundraiser invitation for September 15th read and passed around. Discussion regarding the many opportunities to donate and promote events in our premise, such as Octoberfest, Fort Chadbourne. The board members talked about reaching out to Fort Chadbourne and starting to try to work together and promote each other. Will invite them to the next meeting.

Roundtable Discussion - goals, projects, upcoming opportunities

Stormy Vaughn suggested that during the Hunters BBQ that is hosted by the Bronte Volunteer Fire Department on November 3rd, the downtown merchants may want to participate. This would eliminate competing with the park sites during Octoberfest, and allow a lot of exposure for their businesses. Will present to Denise, Chamber of Commerce.

Discussed the need for signage somewhere that is visible for drivers going through, from highways 158 and 277. Discussed putting up poles that will accommodate signs. Motion was made to contact Cortese Flag & Silkscreen Company in San Angelo and purchase longest sign that will go across the street.

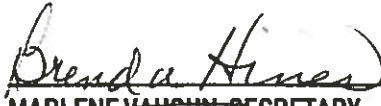
Motion - Marlene Second - Katie Ayes - All

Adjourn

Susan adjourned the meeting at 8:08 p.m.



SUSAN WILLIAMS, PRESIDENT



MARLENE VAUGHN, SECRETARY
Brenda Scott, ^{MS}