



DESOTO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

October 31, 2016

The DeSoto Economic Development Corporation Board met at **9:00 a.m. on Monday, October 31, 2016** in the Council Conference Room located in City Hall at the DeSoto Town Center, 211 East Pleasant Run Road, DeSoto Texas 75115.

Present: Lucious Williams, Board President
Belinda May, Board Vice-President
Stephanie Bowers, Board Director
Curt Krohn, Board Director
Bobby Waddle, Board Director

Staff Present: Jeremiah Quarles, Chief Executive Officer
Steven Drake, Economic Development Specialist
Alicia Villanueva, Administrative Assistant

Also Present: Laura Terhune – President, DeSoto Chamber of Commerce
Peter Smith – Attorney, Nichols, Jackson, Dillard Hager & Smith, LLP
Perry Holloway – Personnel Committee

At 9:36 a.m. Board President Williams called the meeting to order and acknowledged the presence of a quorum.

A. REGULAR SESSION – CALL TO ORDER

1. Invocation was given by Bobby Waddle

B. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of the September 26, 2016 Board Meeting Minutes

2. Approval of the DEDC Financials through September 30, 2016

Motion by Board member May. Second by Board member Krohn to approve Consent Agenda. Motion approved by Board members May, Krohn, Bowers, Williams, and Waddle (Motion approved 5-0)

C. REGULAR AGENDA – NEW BUSINESS

1. City Liaison update regarding City Council events, meetings, etc. – D. Lockhart Jones
(Not present)
2. DeSoto Chamber of Commerce Update - Laura Terhune, President
 - a) The Chamber is hosting the “State of the District” Quarterly Luncheon on December 1st at Seven Essential Elements Event Center.
 - b) The Annual Gala “Blue Prints for the Future” is sold out. Saturday, November 5th at the Hilton Garden Inn.
 - c) They had a successful “Taste of DeSoto” event, sold all the booth spaces, had an extraordinary response from the community and also distributed all the 300 goody bags. Plans on making very few changes for next year, and want to create more awareness of the impact of shopping local.
 - d) Helping the City with the Hometown Holiday Parade.
 - e) The Chamber is exploring ideas to host conferences and events in collaboration with the Heliport, to attract more business to DeSoto.
 - f) President received a loan inquiry from Horcacitas Tamale Factory, and the review committee is prepared to submit a request for the funding of a loan.

D. OTHER BUSINESS

Board President Williams announced at 10:00 a.m. that:

EXECUTIVE SESSION UNDER TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE Section 551.074 Deliberation regarding personnel:

Evaluation of Chief Executive Officer and the Chief Executive Officer development plan for office

E. TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION AS RESULT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION

(No action taken)

Reconvened into open session 1:04 p.m.

F. BRIEFING BY JEREMIAH QUARLES – DEDC CEO

1. Scorecard update on current DEDC activities

- a) DeSoto recognized as one of the Fastest Growing Cities in North Texas by Dallas Business Journal, came in at number 16 from 25 and only in the BSW.
- b) EuroFins Scientific, world leader in food, pharma and environmental lab testing will have a presence in DeSoto at 1635 Falcon Drive.
- c) Outback Steak House is remodeling their DeSoto restaurant.
- d) SEW-Eurodrive has started with their construction.

2. Update on local site visits and retention efforts – Steven Drake, Economic Development Specialist

- a) Worked with Wingspan designers to help with pictures of the City to use for new website.
- b) Attended the ICSC Conference at Dallas Convention Center to promote and market our City.
- c) Met with a developer that is interested in bringing a mixed use development to Hampton and Wintergreen.

G. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss President Williams adjourned the meeting at 1:22 p.m.



Lucious Williams, Board President



Curt Krohn, Secretary