

Waxahachie Community Development Corporation
February 9, 2016

A regular meeting of the Waxahachie Community Development Corporation was held on Tuesday, February 9, 2016 at 3:00 p.m. at the Waxahachie Civic Center, 2000 Civic Center Lane, Waxahachie, Texas.

Members Present: John Sanders, III, President
Mike Ramsey, Vice President
Kevin Strength, Mayor
Paul Stevens, City Manager
Bob Lynn
Daniel Morton
Layne Ballard

Ex-Officio Lori Saunders, City Secretary
Member Present:

Ex-Officio Debra Wakeland, President, Chamber of Commerce
Member Absent: Charles Harris, Director of Finance

Others Present: Michael Scott, Assistant City Manager
Steve Chapman, City Attorney
John Smith, Director of Parks and Recreation
James Villarreal, Recreational Superintendent
April Ortiz, Civic Center Director
Laurie Mosley, Director of Convention & Visitors Bureau
Chris Seale, Horticulturist

President John Sanders called the meeting to order.

Mr. Dan Morton moved to approve the minutes of the Waxahachie Community Development Corporation minutes of January 20, 2016. Vice President Mike Ramsey seconded, **All Ayes.**

Mr. James Villarreal, Recreation Superintendent, reported he, Mayor Strength, Mr. Stevens, Mr. Scott and Mr. Smith recently visited Toyota Stadium in Frisco looking at ideas of what FC Dallas, an American Professional Soccer Club, can do in our southern sector. He noted the challenge at the Sports Complex is that it is a game-use facility only and recommended to start slow with soccer clinics.

Mr. Clem Oancea, FC Dallas, stated he played professional soccer in Romania and presented a slide show presentation noting his passion is to invest in the young people and would like to find a way to get Waxahachie to grow in the soccer sport. He reported FC Dallas builds character and values through soccer. FC Dallas' number one focus is student development in education of the players. They work with the school district to track grades and reports. Their desire is to build

home-grown players to the first team roster. Last year they won the national championship in the 16 year old division. He presented a rendering of a proposed indoor facility to be built in Waxahachie to include dorm quarters, restaurants, etc. with the goal by 2020.

Mayor Strength noted Mr. Oancea lives in Waxahachie and coaches at SAGU.

President Sanders asked Mr. Oancea what he needs to foster the program off the ground. Mr. Oancea stated the number one need is community support. Mr. Villarreal recommended starting with camps once a week and as they grow go to 2 days a week and include a fee schedule.

Mr. Layne Ballard asked if Waxahachie currently has soccer leagues and/or associations. Mr. Villarreal stated we have Waxahachie Soccer Association and the Waxahachie YMCA soccer league.

Mr. Bob Lynn stated it's a great idea and wondered if we can be inclusive for major league partnership for practicing. James stated there will be a policy and fee with FC Dallas and he will look into the legalities.

Mr. John Smith stated we treat our Sports Complex different than our public parks and noted the bulk of practices take place at Lions Park being a first come first serve basis. He noted we can, within the compound of the Sports Complex limit play and practice and explained we see the Sports Complex not as truly a public park like Lions Park. The Sports Complex is a semi-public park overseen by the WCDC Board with the right to dictate what goes on in the Sports Complex.

Mr. Stevens stated conceivably we can review proposals and consider them on a case-by-case basis.

Mr. Villarreal stated clinics and camps have been allowed but not practices and explained proposals can be structured as such.

After further discussion Mr. Stevens stated the Board will need a motion to approve the relationship with FC Dallas.

President John Sanders moved the Sports Complex be allowed to negotiate with FC Dallas National Soccer program to host youth clinics on a regular basis for a fee. Mayor Kevin Strength seconded, **All Ayes.**

The Board members toured of the Civic Center.

No action taken.

There being no further business, Mr. Dan Morton moved the meeting adjourn at 4:30 p.m. City Manager Paul Stevens seconded, **All Ayes.**

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Respectfully submitted,

Lori Saunders

City Secretary