

Waxahachie Community Development Corporation  
October 19, 2017

A regular meeting of the Waxahachie Community Development Corporation was held on Thursday, October 19, 2017 at 3:00 p.m. in the City Council Conference Room, 401 S. Rogers, Waxahachie, Texas.

Board Members Present:     John Sanders, President  
  Mike Ramsey, Vice President  
  Kevin Strength, Mayor  
  Michael Scott, City Manager  
  Bob Lynn  
  Daniel Morton  
  Layne Ballard

Ex-Officio Members:       Lori Saunders, City Secretary  
  Charles Harris, Director of Finance

Others Present:             John Smith, Director of Parks and Recreation  
  Laurie Mosley, Director of Convention & Visitors Bureau  
  April Ortiz, Civic Center Director  
  Chris Seale, Horticulturist

Others Absent:             James Villarreal, Recreational Superintendent

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President John Sanders called the meeting to order.

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**Mr. Dan Morton nominated Mr. John Sanders as President and Mr. Mike Ramsey as Vice President of the WCDC Board for fiscal year 2017-2018.** Mr. Layne Ballard seconded, **All Ayes.**

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**Vice President Mike Ramsey moved to approve minutes of the WCDC meeting of September 12, 2017.** Mr. Daniel Morton seconded, **All Ayes.**

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Ms. Laurie Mosley, Director of Convention & Visitors Bureau, reported the feedback on the recent "Operation Checkered Flag" was successful. She stated placing checkered flags in hotels and around Waxahachie for the AAA Texas NHRA Fall Nationals created an experience for the race teams and fans. Ms. Mosley handed out brochures promoting the Texas Country Reporter Festival, Holiday events, and discovering Waxahachie.

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Ms. April Ortiz, Civic Center Director, reported September closed with 55 events and stated October currently has 46 events booked. October events include: Annual Waxahachie Chamber Auction; Just Between Friends Children's Resale Event; North Texas Region Classic Car Club Show and dinner. Ms. Ortiz stated in November the Center will be decorating for the holidays and start planning for the Daddy Daughter Dance set for February 2018. She stated there are 2 full-time and 1 part-time staff positions posted and will be searching for the right applicants to become part of their team. Ms. Ortiz referenced the patio project noting the survey was completed in September and awaiting on the results.

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Mr. John Smith, Director of Parks and Recreation, reported Mr. James Villarreal is in Greensboro, North Carolina attending a softball tournament conference and advertising for Waxahachie. Mr. Smith presented a report pertaining to the Sports Complex as follows: parking lot repairs are continuing; survey work and drilling test for soil and core samples are complete; and, the perennial rye grass will go in next week. Mr. Smith presented a proposed drawing, from Felty Jr. High, depicting a Muriel for the dumpster enclosure. The board discussed and concurred to move forward with the drawing.

City Manager Michael Scott reported he has received request from citizens who walk at the Sports Complex to have an access gate. After a brief discussion, the Board concurred to have an access gate. Mr. Scott stated the builders sign will be moved within 2 weeks.

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Mr. Chris Seale, Horticulturist, reported the color change out is complete and spring bulbs have been ordered. He stated Earth Planters for the Sports Complex are on order. Mr. Seal reported pumpkins, hay bales and corn stalks have been distributed downtown for merchants competition noting there is more participation this year. He stated the pond at the Sports Complex will be stocked in December and January for a total of 1,000 trout.

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Mr. Jim Phillips, 606 West Marvin, Waxahachie, working in conjunction with the 2016 Class of Leadership Waxahachie on the Amphitheater project, reported since the last meeting on this subject, two issues arose being parking and restrooms.

Mr. David Buchanan, Halff Associates, Inc., presented an updated concept preliminary plan for the Amphitheater noting the hurdles are the trestle bridge to the back of the Amphitheater and the flood plain. He stated hydraulics was the biggest issue therefore a depression area was created to allow for quick flow of water.

Mr. Buchanan stated this is a park that facilitates performances noting the identity of a brand image was missing with a specific name. He associated the park with the SoCo Depot and brought in the title of "The Rail Yard" as a recommendation. Mr. Buchanan reported playground and musical equipment was placed in areas of the park and an area was created to hold portable restrooms when needed.

Discussion was held pertaining to the option of parking, restrooms, busses, and entertainers. Mr. Buchanan stated their number one hurdle is the flood plain. Members offered thoughts on use of golf carts to shuttle patrons to and from the venue and utilizing the Farmer's Market area when the venue is utilized.

Mr. Jim Phillips offered the idea for a new restroom facility being approximately 20x40 and include 4 stalls for women and 4 stalls for men. A location was discussed and it was determined to continue discussion of restrooms and parking logistics at the next Board meeting.

Mr. David Buchanan reported the total budget for the project equals \$2,508,664.91. He stated in the next two weeks Half Associates, Inc. will be 50% complete with the plan and will forward it to the City for review.

Mr. Jim Phillips stated the goal of Leadership Waxahachie is to come back to the Board for funding approval.

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**Public Comments:**

President Sanders congratulated Mr. Michael Scott as City Manager noting he is excited about the future.

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**There being no further business, Vice Chairman Mike Ramsey moved the meeting adjourn at 4:33 p.m. Mayor Kevin Strength seconded, All Ayes.**

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Saunders  
City Secretary