



**LA MARQUE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 17, 2023**

AGENDA:

1. CALL TO ORDER

Board member Hocking called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m.

2. ROLL CALL

PRESENT:

Bobby Hocking
Cleveland Lane
Gene Smith
Tracie Steans

City and EDC Officials:

Kimberley Yancy	Councilmember Dist. A
Cesar Garcia	City Manager
Kierra Nance	City Clerk
Alex Getty	EDC Director
Mandy Woodburn	EDC Public Relations Officer
Joshua Pritchett	City Public Relations Officer

Community Members:

Greg Cornett
James Osteen
Phillip Palmer

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. Regular meeting of November 15, 2022

Board member Smith made a motion to approve November 15, 2022, minutes. Board member Steans seconded the motion. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

4. FINANCIAL REPORT

a. Presentation of the monthly financial report

The financial report stood as submitted.

5. PRESENTATION

- a. Phillip Palmer; introduction and Market on 3 ideas

Phillip Palmer gave a presentation for creating exposure and revitalization of the Market on 3 property, and a brief recap of the Martin Luther King Day event held on the property. Members of the board shared their pleasure at the event and what they had seen of community response and also through attending the event. Many members shared their support for entering a partnership with Mr. Palmer.

- b. Councilmember Kimberley Yancy; small business incubator proposal

Councilmember Yancy gave a proposal for a micro-business lab following in the pattern of the Goldman Sachs small business cohort.

6. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Discussion/possible action to elect a Chairperson for the La Marque Economic Development Corporation

Board Member Hocking made a motion to nominate Board Member Smith as Chairman of the Board. Board Member Steans seconded the motion. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

- b. Discussion/possible action to elect a Secretary for the La Marque Economic Development Corporation

Board Member Smith made a motion to nominate Board Member Lane as Secretary of the Board. Board Member Steans seconded the motion. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

- c. Discussion/possible action to ratify the executed agreement with the Houston Business Journal

Board Member Smith made a motion to ratify the executed agreement with the Houston Business Journal. Board Member Steans seconded the motion. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

- d. Discussion/possible action regarding the proposal submitted by Trade & Industry Development

Board Member Smith made a motion to approve option 3 of the proposal submitted by Trade & Industrial Development. Board Member Steans seconded the motion. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

- e. Discussion/possible action regarding the professional services agreement received from Retail Strategies LLC

Board Member Lane made a motion to approve the professional services agreement received from Retail Strategies LLC. Board Member Smith seconded the motion. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

- f. Discussion/possible action to send the executive director and interested Board members to the TEDC Legislative Conference that is to be held February 22-24th

Board Member Smith made a motion to approve the expenditure for sending the executive director and interested board members to the TEDC Legislative Conference, allowing for a Breakfast Sponsorship providing there are enough members interested in attending to satisfy the sponsorship's registration allocation. Board Member Steans seconded the motion. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

- g. Discussion/possible action to take the steps necessary to dedicate the EDC Building (1130 1st Street) to Ron Crowder in an effort to honor his unwavering commitment and years of dedicated service to the La Marque Economic Development Corporation and the City of La Marque

Board Member Hocking made a motion to authorize the executive director to proceed with the effort to dedicate the 1130 1st Street to Ron Crowder. Board Member Lane seconded the motion.

Board Member Lane stated "He was La Marque to his heart. It was an honor to meet, serve, and talk with him. We definitely owe this honor to him to ensure that he is not forgotten".

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

7. DISCUSSION

- a. Director's Report - report may include information regarding past, present or future projects

EDC Director Getty presented his Director's Report.

- b. EDC PR Specialist's Report - report to include an overview of efforts as it pertains to public relations

EDC PR Specialist Woodburn presented her report.

****** *Board Member Hocking recessed the Regular Meeting and entered Executive Session at 11:16 a.m.*

8. EXECUTIVE SESSION

- a. Section 551.072 of the Government Code - deliberations about real property - land acquisition and or sale
- b. Section 551.071 of the Government Code - consultation with attorney
- c. Section 551.087 of the Government Code- deliberation regarding economic development negotiations

****** *Board Member Hocking closed the Executive Session and reconvened the Regular Meeting at 11:34 a.m.*

9. ACTION TO BE TAKEN FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

- a. Consider land acquisition and or sale
- b. Consider action to be taken regarding consultation with attorney
- c. Section 551.087 of the Government Code- deliberation regarding economic development negotiations

Board Member Smith made a motion to approve an earnest money contract and sale of property identified as #611977 and #134721. Board Member Lane seconded the motion. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

10. REQUESTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMENTS

City Manager Garcia announced that the City's violent crime rate is down 13%, and a new funeral home has opened near City Hall. He shared news of potential electric vehicle charging stations coming to the city and his excitement for Lemonade Day. He also asked for the board to consider a future request for assistance with lane striping in major thoroughfares.

Councilmember Yancy stated that she is looking forward to the renovation of the former Churches Chicken property, hopefully into a Frenchys and more businesses. She also gave Mr. Palmer a "kudos" for his Market on 3 event.

Mr. Osteen addressed that he supports the growth of Market on 3 but the location needs bathrooms.

Mr. Palmer thanked the board for the opportunity at Market on 3.

Board Member Hocking congratulated the new officers of the board and thanked everyone for their attendance.

11. ADJOURNMENT

*******Meeting was adjourned at 11:37 a.m*

Gene Smith, Chairman

Kierra K. Nance
City Clerk