FARMERS BRANCH

MINUTES
CITIZEN BOND COMMITTEE
FARMERS BRANCH MANSKE LIBRARY
FARMERS BRANCH, TEXAS 75234
MARCH 17, 2016
7:00 p.m.

Members Present: Chairperson Michelle Holmes, Rodger Cramer, Colin Eddy, Joan O'Shea, David Merritt, John Speed, Michael Driskill, Marcus Miller, Meredith MacLeod, Nic Rady, Vincent Montenegro, Tim Yarbrough, Jorge Gonzalez, Martina De Los Santos

Members Absent: James Webb, Meredith McLeod, Tamara Cleghorn, Bronson Blackson

Staff Present: Shawna Eikenberry, Management Analysis

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Michelle Holmes called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Motion made by Michael Driskill to approve the minutes from the March 10, 2016 Citizen Bond Committee meeting. Motion seconded by Martina De Los Santos. *Motion approved unanimously.*

3. DISCUSSION OF POTENTIAL PROJECTS TO BE CONSIDERED

After the March 10th meeting, the committee emailed Shawna Eikenberry their initial ideas on projects to consider for the bond committee. This list was compiled and submitted to the committee for consideration for further discussion. Shawna suggested to the committee to take a less is more approach when combining the proposals into subcommittee groups to consolidate broad topics into smaller number of groupings. Some of the ideas came with programming attachments. It was discussed that bond issues could be for the infrastructure with the future programming as a long-term justification for the need for the structure supported by non-bond funds. There was confusion on the Justice Center, Fire Station Number 2, and Animal Shelter bonds. Shawna explained that the City Council has asked that the committee look into all three

of these with the other quality of life bond initiatives, but will discuss other methods of funding Justice Center improvements at the next Council meeting.

4. **CONSIDERED BOND SUB-COMMITTEES AND STRUCTURE**

The initially proposed sub-committees from Shawna's compilation of the committee's ideas were: Public Safety, Economic Development, Social Infrastructure, Policy & Programming Initiatives, and Communication. The committee discussed that based on the programs offered, that Economic Development be split into Residential and Commercial and Social Infrastructure be broken into Parks & Recreation and Arts & Entertainment (Parks & Arts). After much discussion on the possible overlap of projects between the various sub-committees, a 10 minute silent break was called for individual consideration of projects and where they fit into the categories. It was brought up that we should also consider approaching the other applicants to the bond committee for the sub-committees. Shawna will e-mail out the final sub-committees to the entire applicant pool and invite them to aid the sub-committees.

The initial sub-committees, members, and initial topics are:

i. Economic Development Commercial

Members: Colin Eddy, Joan O'Shea, Michael Driskill, Marcus Miller, Vincent Montenegro, Tamara Cleghorn

Topics: Station Area Improvement, Retail Façade Upgrade, City Hall Restaurant Space, Bee Street Improvements, Four Corners Plan, Development Zones, Apartment Redevelopment, Pub/Sports Grill, Mixed Use Development, Hospital, Warehouse Redevelopment, Small Business Incubator

ii. Economic Development Residential

Members: Nic Rady, Martina De Los Santos, David Merritt, with Artie Palmer and Margaret Stidham as citizen consultants

Topics: Solar Panel Program, Dangerous Distressed Properties, Housing Renewal, Branch Renaissance, Demo/Rebuild, Senior Housing, House to Condo Swap

iii. Public Safety

Members: Chairperson Michelle Holmes, Rodger Cramer, Tim Yarbrough

Topics: Fire Station 2, Justice Center

iv. Parks & Recreation

Members: Chairperson Michelle Holmes, Rodger Cramer, Colin Eddy, David Merritt, Michael Driskill, Nic Rady, Jorge Gonzalez

Topics: Farmers Market, Street Soccer, Trails/Sidwalks, Cooks Creek Greenbelt, Frisbee Golf, Nature Preserve, Beautification, Bike Rental

v.Arts & Education

Members: John Speed, Vincent Montenegro, Tim Yarbrough, Jorge Gonzalez, Martina De Los Santos with Libb Grimett as citizen consultant

Topics: Free Wi-Fi, Library, Animal Adoption, Fire House Theater, Art Install/Art Czar, Gathering Places, Historical Park Development, Performing Arts Center

vi. Communication

Members: Chairperson Michelle Holmes & Collin Eddy with at least one member from each sub-committee to be installed at next meeting

5. SCHEDULE OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Nic Rady wanted clarification from Shawna if all sub-committee meetings were subject to the open meeting act requirements. Shawna affirmed that they were and Michelle Holmes asked that more information be provided to the committee at the next meeting on what this entails with the structure of the group. The question of benchmarks that the committee should use to evaluate a particular program were also raised with the consensus that an initial discussion should be had with the topics of: Need, Outreach, Cost, Benefit, and Existing Research.

It was decided that there will be no meeting next week due to Good Friday and the next meeting will be held at a place yet to be determined on Thursday, March 31, 2016.

6. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn was made by Collin Eddy. Motion seconded by Martina De Los Santos. *Motion approved unanimously.* The meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

M. Holmes
Chair

Attest:
Nic Rady
Vice-Chair