

Envision Elgin Thursday January 18, 2017

Called- Called to order at 7:40 am by Forest Dennis at ACC Campus Elgin.

Attending- Gena Carter, Bruce Wentworth, Jessica Bega, Beth Walterscheidt, Jason Tatum, Tom Mattis, Forest Dennis, Sue Brashar, Owen Rock, Betsy Erwin, Nancy Schmidt, Meredith Williams, Jodi Duron, Valerie Reddell, and Amy Miller.

Approval of minutes- Gena Carter moves to approve November minutes. Second by Bruce Wentworth, passed unanimously.

At Large Nomination: Gena Carter, Chair of nominating committee, shared the recommendation that Forest Dennis and Jason Tatum be appointed to serve another term. Seconded by Beth Walterscheidt. Passed unanimously.

ACC Campus- Betsy Erwin reported new semester starting well and the campus is looking forward to an exciting year.

Bastrop County update- Commissioner Snowden at construction meetings and unable to attend today's meeting.

Education- Dr. Duron reported Elgin High School Choir performing Little Shop of Horrors Friday through Sunday. Dr. Duron shared an overview of the Grading system A-F which was recently released. Districts across the State are coming out against the system. It's not scientific metrics. Very subjective, the schools that struggle the most are those with the highest concentrations of free and reduced lunch populations. EISD met state accountability standards last year for all campuses. Elgin Elementary moved from not meeting standard to meeting standard. Elgin Middle School was commended for science scores. Please come to the February 2 Chamber luncheon for a presentation by Dr. Duron on this topic. So many good things in our district like doubling participation in dual credit classes and All Star academically performing football players etc., our farm to school programs, AP classes and so many things that are left out of A-F Score. We have an excellent school district that is always striving to help all students be successful.

EDC and future development: Owen Rock reported 2017 has many great projects. Panda Express has opened on Hwy. 290. Lee Dildy Blvd. to be extended from 11th Street at HEB to Saratoga and then Roy Rivers Road at Prosperity Bank, this is a \$3 million-dollar project. New office warehouse space available in the business park.

Promotion and Tourism: Gena Carter reported on Annual events planning. Started Highway 290 Corridor Committee with communities from Elgin to Brenham have joined together to promote each other along Hwy 290. Travel show season I started and Gena will be representing Elgin with Bastrop County and the BEST program at several spring/winter rodeos/travel shows including South by Southwest.

EHA: Donna Snowden reported as Co-President with Debbie Cartwright, that the Elgin Historical Association will host a Texas Independence Day program on March 2 at Fleming Community Center at 7pm. The speaker will be Henry Krenick quarterback in 1958 State winning Elgin ISD football team and

career as college president. He will share a presentation on Texas History. The EHA is Planning Volume 2 Elgin etc. final submissions due in July. March 5- Writers Workshop at library. Any Elgin story welcome. Please share your stories for this edition!

Community Projects & Sustainable Growth: Amy Miller presented Downtown Elgin update presentation to the group. In 2016 five properties were restored and new commercial and loft spaces occupied 26 North Main, 28 North Main, 114 North Main, 109 Central Avenue and 19 North Main. Façade Updates were made at 107 North Main ATX Jerky, 105 North Main Elgin Courier, 113 North Main, Frank's Custom Cuts, and 111 North Main, Martinez Foods New businesses in 2016 included: A Flower Connection, The Laurel Tree, ATX Jerky, 28 N - Yoga Studio & Workshop space, Hatcreek Pickle Company, Tattered Shutter, The Brique, Double R Hathouse, All Star Pest Control, LML Appliances, and Daisy's Furniture and Home Décor. The Elgin Main Street Board hosts and works with partners to host a variety of events downtown including Sip Shop and Stroll which has become a very popular monthly activity on 2nd Thursdays. The downtown revitalization effort is successful thanks to the partnerships and support of the City Council, EDC, the Chamber and many other groups in the community.

Announcements-

February Bastrop County Leg Day- reserve a spot with Chamber
Elgin Farmers' Market every Saturday at Veteran's Memorial Park from 9am-1pm
CAMPO Active Transportation Plan Public input meeting, January 25, 4pm-7pm, Fleming Community Center
Sip, Shop & Stroll, February 9 in downtown from 5-8pm
Pop Up Art weekend downtown Elgin February 9-12
Hatitude, Black History Month program, February 4 at Elgin Public Library
Community Blood Drive Wednesday, February 15 from 1-7pm at Fleming Community Center- sign up online

Next meeting April 19, 2017

Adjourned at 8:45am

Approved:

Attest:
