

approved

STATE OF TEXAS §
COUNTY OF TARRANT §
CITY OF BEDFORD §

The Community Affairs Commission of the City of Bedford, Texas, met in regular session at 6:00 p.m. at the City Hall Conference Room, 2000-A Forest Ridge Drive, Bedford, TX on the 18th day of February, with the following members present:

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| Karla Setser | Tom Bresnahan |
| Mark Massey | George Mountcastle |
| David Franklin | Jason Sinisi |
| Jason Horsnby | Kim Probasco |
| Sherri Olsen | Mary Frazier |

constituting a quorum.

Others present included:

- Christine Hernandez & James Welch, Census Partnership Specialists
- Bill Syblon, Development Director

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Bresnahan called the meeting to order.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: It needs to be noted that Mary Frazier had an approved absence for the 1/21/2010 meeting. Otherwise, a motion was made by George Mountcastle to approve the minutes. The minutes were approved unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

Meeting time change:

It was discussed and approved unanimously that meetings for the Community Affairs Commission would continue to be held the third Thursday of each month with a new start time of 5:30 p.m. (instead of 6 p.m.).

2010 Census:

Christine Hernandez and James Welch, both Census Partnership Specialists, spoke at the CAC meeting regarding communication about the 2010 Census. Christy and James stated that single-parent homes and new immigrants with poor English speaking skills are the hardest to reach. They often reach these groups through Kawanas the Rotary Clubs. They have a meeting with Judy Ramos of HEB ISD to develop a communication plan for teachers to funnel information through curriculum in the classroom about the Census. They state the majority of the initiative is web-based and they need help getting the curriculum into the schools. Contact info for Christy and James:

- Christine Hernandez, Census Partnership Specialist, 469-236-1307
- James Welch, Census Partnership Specialist, 817-269-2755

The City's game plan is to target the school district, apartments, assisted living facilities, and major employers. A contact list was provided to the CAC detailing multi-family dwellings, retirement/assisted living facilities, churches, and major employers in the city of Bedford. The City of Bedford has established a meeting on March 18, 2010 at 11:30 a.m. to reach out to BAMA (Bedford Apartment Managers Association) for assistance in getting the word out to apartment residents, one of the primary groups targeted. The meeting will be held at the Central Fire Station. Lunch will be provided by the CAC. A second meeting for faith-based organizations may be needed. Mary Frazier offered to have this meeting at the Chamber and can put the link to the Census on the Chamber website. It was discussed that a letter coming from the Mayor to faith-based organizations is a good idea to encourage participation. Double counting is a concern with the Census. Participants of the Census should be encouraged because the questionnaire is very short – only 10 questions that take ~10 minutes to answer. Up to \$400 billion

federal dollars can come into a community through Census information. The data guides initiatives for social programs, roads, etc. Cities with populations over 50,000 get special opportunities for grants. It is very important that every person in Bedford is counted as we are close to the 50K. The City has to be prepared to answer questions from citizens about people showing up to collect Census information.

Alternative Energy Initiatives:

David Franklin provided information on solar power, the benefits in establishing a city ordinance regulating its use, and the opportunity to establish an economic zone for new businesses. David has been in contact with a few installers and believes that when solar panels are purchased, 2/3 of the cost is paid for through incentives and 1/3 can be paid through mortgage. David is to present the information to City Council next week.

Discussion of Committees:

Consideration was given to combine Business Development & Retention Committee and Communications Committee. However, since communication is inherent in any committee, it was motioned by Mary Frazier to dissolve the Communications Committee and seconded by George Mountcastle. Approved by all. Tom Bresnahan stated he would like to see a committee established for alternative energy. It was motioned by Karla Setser to create an Alternative Energy Committee and Kim 2nd the motion. Approved by all.

David Franklin will Chair the Alternative Energy Committee. Karla Setser and Mary Frazier requested to be on the committee. Mark Massey will Chair the Business Development and Retention Committee and George Mountcastle will co-Chair. Karla Setser will Chair the Residential Committee and Kim Probasco will assist. David Franklin and Sherri Olson requested to be on the Business Development Committee.

Economic Development Update:

Reconstruction of Airport Freeway is moving ahead. Several sub-committees were established to discuss aesthetics, transportation issues, and utilities. ROW acquisitions to occur within 18 months.

P&Z – Next comprehensive plan for City of Bedford under way. A 10 – 15 question survey for citizens will be going out on the web using Survey Monkey. Additionally, multiple public meetings are to be held mid-summer. Town Hall meeting to do the unveiling and gain citizen input. Plan completion is scheduled for August, 2010.

A branding campaign is being considered for the City. An RFP went out to gain professional bids.

Bedford is staying flat in sales tax. There have been 15 new CO's since beginning of 2010. The retail/office vacancy dropped. Retail asking rates jumped \$3/sf.

Holiday Inn is on the market with an asking price of \$5M.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business, meeting was adjourned.

Approved:

Tom Bresnahan, Chair