

**Meeting Minutes**  
**Bellville Economic Development Corporation**

The regular meeting of the Bellville Economic Development Corporation was called to order by David Ottmer at 5:30 P.M., Monday, April 9, 2001, in the Council meeting room at City Hall, Bellville, Texas.

Present were David Ottmer, Gary Byrd, Fritz Nelius, Kenneth Stein, Wayne Browning and John Harle. A quorum was present.

Wayne Browning made a motion the Agenda be approved as posted. The motion was seconded by John Harle and carried unanimously.

Gary Byrd made a motion the Minutes of the March 12th, 2001 Regular Meeting be approved as presented. The motion was seconded by Kenneth Stein and carried unanimously.

The Treasurer's Report was presented by Gary Byrd and is attached to these minutes. The ending statement balance as of March 31, 2001 was \$133,714.27 with an ending checkbook balance of \$133,703.77. The check in the amount of \$10.50 payable to Michael Villeneuve on May 18, 2000 continues to be outstanding, but will be written off on next month's report as a stale dated check. John Harle made a motion the report be accepted as presented. The motion was seconded by Wayne Browning and carried unanimously.

**Agenda Item # 6**

**Public Comment**

Clay Krhovjak and John Marek spoke to the Board representing Kromar Covenant Partnership. They presented an application for \$15,000.00 to be applied first to uncompleted exterior projects related to the remodeling of a home at 524 W. Main. Remaining funds will offset the cost of renovation of the home into offices for Citywide Mortgage and John Marek Custom Homes. An additional home is being sought to be moved on adjacent property for remodeling into office space to be leased. This request will be placed on the agenda of the June BEDC meeting.

Bill Moehl, Funding Chairman of RAP (Raising Academic Performance, Inc.) presented an application for \$5,000.00 for the publication, distribution and presentation of a gang awareness handbook to be presented countywide to school children, teachers, school administrators, parents, concerned citizens and law enforcement agencies during the 2001-2002 school year. This request will also be placed on the agenda for the June meeting.

**Agenda Item #7**

**Consideration and Action Concerning the Application of**

**The Boys & Girls Club of Bellville for \$20,000.00**

Ellen Lancaster was present representing the Boys & Girls Club of Bellville as were many concerned citizens. Ms. Lancaster spoke in favor of the request for funds as did Don Lawrence and Nick Jackson. Various petitions and correspondence were presented as evidence of the support of many in the community. Highlighted in the discussion which followed were the current expenditure of approximately \$60/child per year to provide the quality activities sponsored by this club and an announcement the club has qualified for a free summer food program for members. John Harle made a motion the request for \$20,000.00 be granted. This motion was seconded jointly by Fritz Nelius and Wayne Browning and passed unanimously.

**Agenda Item # 8**

**Consideration and Action Concerning the Application of**

**Lana Johnson and The Bellville Trading Company for \$25,000.00**

Jim Bishop and Lana Johnson were present to answer questions of the Board members concerning the request for funds for this project and to present an architectural rendering of the proposed, remodeled façade of the building. Ms. Johnson stated her plan to open the high-end specialty womens' apparel store in September. The business will cater both to Austin County residents and visitors from Houston and other areas. She mentioned particularly the number of anticipated patients to her husband's practice who will be recuperating in this area and shopping and dining in the Bellville community.

A five-year business plan is currently being prepared by Ms. Johnson's CPA. John Harle proposed the decision to provide funds for this project be tabled until the business plan is presented to Ms. Johnson and can be reviewed by the Board. If necessary, a Special Meeting of the Board could be scheduled for the purpose of reviewing the business plan before the next scheduled monthly

meeting. A 72-hour advance posting of the meeting would be required. Wayne Browning seconded this proposal and the motion was carried unanimously.

**Agenda Item # 9**

**Consideration of Any Action Necessary and Related to the Organization**

**And Operation of a Corporation formed under Chapter 4B of the Economic Development Act of 1979, as Amended**

A proposal to change the BEDC meeting date from the second Monday of each month to the second Tuesday of each month was discussed. The meeting would begin at 5:30 p.m. as currently scheduled. Wayne Browning made a motion in favor of the proposal; John Harle provided the second. The motion was carried unanimously. The next meeting of the Board will be held Tuesday, May 8<sup>th</sup>.

Wayne Browning presented for discussion the idea of the development of a budget which would limit the amount of monies disbursed from the BEDC funds. He suggested a percentage of funds be held in reserve for future development and the purchase of land. The discussion which followed included information on the future purchase of land, the practices of other area EDC's, the use of an LCRA consultant, the formation of an Austin County EDC, and the city's plans for the annexation of land.

Gary Byrd suggested he prepare a summary report of the expenditures of the BEDC over the past two years. This information would give the Board a historical perspective of where funds have been spent and would aid in the development of a budget. John Harle suggested this information be presented at the next monthly meeting for continued discussion of the Board.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 6:39 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

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Suzanne C. Edwards

Recording Secretary