

Minutes
Columbus Community and Industrial Development Corporation
Board of Directors Meeting

The Columbus Community & Industrial Development Corporation met in Regular session on Monday, **January 13, 2014** at 6:30 p.m., in the Council Chambers of City Hall located at 605 Spring Street, Columbus, Texas. The following CCIDC Members were present:

President	-	Curtiss Schonenberg
President Elect	-	Steve Woodall (absent)
Treasurer	-	Lori An Gobert
Secretary	-	Elizabeth Flint
Board Member	-	DyAnn Lauzon
Board Member	-	Joel Usher (arrived at 6:37 p.m.)
Board Member	-	Byron Marburger
City Manager	-	Donald Warschak
City Secretary	-	Linda Lakich

1. Call to Order.

President, Curtiss Schonenberg, called the CCIDC meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation.

The Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation were lead by Curtiss Schonenberg.

3. Consent Agenda:

- a) Approval of invoices.
- b) Approval of revised regular meeting minutes for November 18, 2013.
- c) Approval of regular meeting minutes for December 16, 2013.

Elizabeth Flint had two corrections that she requested on the December 16, 2013 minutes. On Item 6 she wished to clarify that she had said that she would not vote to spend "economic development" money on pool tables, etc. On Item 13 she asked for additional detail on the discussion of Green Oil (aka Lubritech). Linda Lakich stated that she would listen to the tape, revise the minutes, and add the approval of the revised December 16, 2013 meeting minutes to the next agenda. There were no other corrections to the consent agenda.

Lori An Gobert made the motion to approve the consent agenda with requested amendments. Byron Marburger seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. The vote was as follows:

Ayes: Flint, Gobert, Lauzon, Marburger, and Schonenberg

The motion passed.

4. Citizens' Presentations and Comments.¹

Dr. Michael Ridlen with the Columbus Little League made a presentation of a cost estimate and a working diagram to the Board outlining a proposed softball field awning that they would like to place at the softball field. This request for community development grant funds was presented at the last Board meeting. Since the softball field is owned by the City and leased by the Columbus Independent School District, no item will be on the agenda until new lease agreements are signed. Dr. Ridlen also addressed a question from the prior meeting concerning whether Little League carries liability insurance coverage on spectators. He said that they do not carry liability coverage on spectators, but they do carry coverage on players, coaches, and concession stand workers. He said that this is the norm for Little League associations. He also said that Little League had received a \$4,000 contribution from UTEX and that he would try to get that donation allocated to helping to fund this project. He also said that he thought that the Little League Board would be interested in providing additional funds to help fund the project.

Joel Usher arrived at 6:37 p.m.

5. City Manager's Report: Sales Tax.

City Manager Donald Warschak said that the CCIDC's sales tax collection for January was down approximately \$1,000. He stated that Eagle Lake, Weimar, and the County all saw an increase in sales tax collections. He also reported that the 54-acre tract at the Industrial Park had been disced and that he had spoken with Billy Mitchell at the Appraisal District. He said that Mr. Mitchell said that he was satisfied that the agricultural use had been established.

6. Discussion and Action, if necessary, regarding the 2013-2014 Community Grant Application received from the Boys and Girls Club of Champion Valley – Columbus Unit.

Curtiss Schonenberg stated that Amy Brandt and Cindi Koehn from the Boys and Girls Club of Champion Valley were in attendance to answer questions about the grant request. He stated that at the last CCIDC meeting Pat Gillespie, City Attorney, said that CCIDC could fund grant requests for items pertaining to sports. The applicable sports equipment included in the grant request totaled \$9,600 including the storage locker according to Curtiss. Amy Brandt presented a brief history of the Boys and Girls Club in Columbus. She stated that they operate an after-school and summer program in Columbus and receive funding from H-GAC. The program is currently located at the Columbus Elementary School, but they are moving to a separate permanent facility. When the move is made they will need their own sports equipment. Cindi Koehn pointed out that the use of the foosball and pool tables teaches math, sportsmanship, and socialization skills to the children. Elizabeth Flint stated that while she supports the Boys and Girls Club wholeheartedly and that the key to opportunity is education, she believes that the skills mentioned could be better learned with other activities. She also expressed a concern with the proposed location of the new facility. She said that in 2013 the group was granted \$5,500 for computers and lockers, they spent \$2,703 of that grant on computers, leaving the remainder on the table. She also said that she believes the future of education is through computers and the internet. She said that she would rather see grant money spent on other equipment such as balls, board games, jump ropes, and ping pong tables. After a discussion of the ages served by the club, DyAnn Lauzan asked what item on the request would be the club's priority and was told that it would be the pool table. Curtiss Schonenberg suggested that the Board could provide a grant of \$6,625 for the Boys and Girls Club to use at their discretion for qualifying educational and sports items, which would leave \$6,625 in the budget for the Little League project. Curtiss said that he did not want to micromanage the Boys and Girls Club in what sports equipment they buy because they know best what they need. Elizabeth Flint said that she supports the Boys and Girls Club but does not think that it is micromanaging to tell them that they should not buy certain equipment with grant funds. Lori An Gobert said that she knew how much the Boys and Girls Club needs the funds and that the \$6,625 left over would not really be enough for the Little League to do their project. She said that the Board could look at the Little League request for the next budget cycle.

Lori An Gobert made a motion to award \$9,600 to the Boys and Girls Club for qualifying equipment. Elizabeth Flint stated that she supports the Boys and Girls Club and would vote to give them every penny they requested for education, but that she could not vote for the items mentioned. Byron Marburger was given clarification that the grant amount was \$9,600. Curtiss Schonenberg seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. The vote was as follows:

Ayes: Schonenberg, Gobert, Lauzan, and Marburger
Noes: Flint
Abstain: Usher

The motion passed.

7. Public Hearing, if necessary, regarding the 2013-2014 Community Grants.

Curtiss Schonenberg opened the public hearing at 7:19 p.m.

Curtiss explained that the public hearing was an opportunity for the public to express concerns or comment on the community grants which the Board had approved. For the current year those grants

included \$2,500 to the Columbus Garden Club for the 2014 Trash Off Day, \$2,250 to the Columbus Garden Club for Downtown Banners, and \$9,600 to the Boys and Girls Club of Champion Valley for qualifying equipment. There were no comments from the public.

Curtiss Schonenberg closed the public hearing at 7:22 p.m.

8. Discussion and Action, if necessary, regarding Budget Amendments.

There was no discussion, and no action was necessary.

9. Discussion and Action, if necessary, regarding the transfer of mineral rights to the City of Columbus.

Curtiss Schonenberg said that the transfer was still in the works, and that they were waiting on the two property owners. No action was necessary.

10. Discussion and Action, if necessary, regarding updates about the existing Crossroads Business Park Tenants: KW International and E'Kabel.

Curtiss Schonenberg said that there was nothing new to report. He said that they continue to receive emails from E'Kabel but that the company principals are heavily involved in Venezuelan politics and the current government changes.

11. Discussion and Action, if necessary, regarding any prospective companies interested in land at the Crossroads Business Park.

Curtiss Schonenberg reported that the Green Oil (Lubritech) project did not qualify for state assistance. He said that Lubritech is now trying to put together a financing package from their side. He also said that he has made it clear to them that they will still need to get the project approved by the Planning and Zoning Commission. Ms. Flint asked if Lubritech has done waste oil recycling in Dubai or any place else. Curtiss said that it is being done in Georgia but not by Lubritech.

12. Executive Session: In accordance with Texas Government Code, Subchapter D, Section 551.072 deliberation regarding real property and Section 551.087 deliberation regarding economic development.

This item was not necessary and was skipped.

13. Reconvene into Regular Session and consideration and action, if any, regarding Executive Session, deliberations regarding real property and economic development.

This item was not necessary and was skipped.

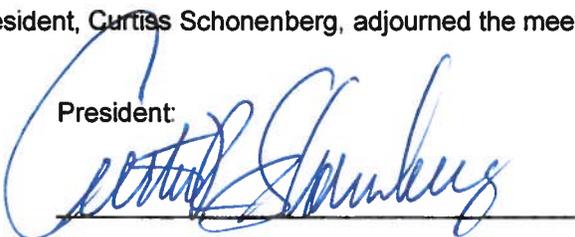
14. Discussion of items to be placed on future agendas and announcements.²

Lori An Gobert asked for an update on the Downtown Sidewalk Project at a future meeting.

15. Adjournment.

President, Curtiss Schonenberg, adjourned the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

President:



Attest
Secretary:

