The mission of the City Development Corporation of El Campo is to promote economic development and growth in El Campo while protecting

CITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION OF EL CAMPO SPECIAL CALLED MEETING

TUESDAY, JANUARY 19, 2016 AT 11:30AM EL CAMPO COUNTRY CLUB ~ 1788 COUNTY ROAD 351 ~ EL CAMPO, TEXAS

MINUTES

President Kinnan Stockton called the meeting to order at 12:33PM and certified a quorum of Board members present, including Kinnan Stockton, David Allgayer, Wesley Lange and John Hancock. Larry Russell was absent. CDC staff Carolyn Gibson-Baros, Executive Director, and Beverly Supak, Economic Development Specialist, were also present.

Joe Gonzalez with the Management Connection facilitated the Strategic Planning Workshop with El Campo City Council. Following lunch, the facilitator broke the group (Board & Council) into three groups and then took all staff out of the room.

He instructed the three groups to come up with three focus topics for Economic Development, and then tell why they chose each. After the groups completed their assigned tasks, the facilitator brought staff back into the room. With staff in the background and not interacting, each group talked about their choices.

The focus topics from each group were:

- 1- Quality Job & Business Retention, Get It Done Attitude (so we can quickly react when opportunities present), Clean up Downtown
- 2- Job Retention, Job Creation, Fill Vacant Buildings to expand the tax base
- 3- Support & Retain Existing Businesses, Recruit Small-Medium Businesses with Higher Paying Jobs, Collaborate with Other Stakeholders- ECISD, Wharton EDC, Wharton County, WCJC, EC Memorial Hospital, etc.

The facilitator then identified four focus topics, with complete consensus from the group members:

- 1. Business & Job Retention Support and Retain Local Businesses as they are already here. Encourage expansion of existing businesses.
- 2. Job Creation- Small to Medium Size Business Recruitment, to create higher paying, quality jobs.
- 3. Fill Vacant Buildings, Revitalize El Campo and the Downtown area specifically.
- 4. Collaboration between CDC/City and Stakeholders and a "Get It Done" Attitude.

This set the course for the direction of the CDC, and the City, for Economic Development in 2016-17. All agreed on the "What" and "Why", and would like to have another meeting very soon to discuss the "How".

President Stockton adjourned the Called Meeting at 1:45PM.

Next meeting date: Monday, January 25, 2016, 3:00pm, in room 106, Northside Education Center, 707 Fahrenthold, El Campo, Texas

<u> Carolyn Gibson-Baros</u>

Carolyn Gibson-Baros, Executive Director