

**The Woodlands Township**  
**AD HOC ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**Thursday, September 21, 2017**  
**MINUTES**

The Ad Hoc Economic Development Committee of The Woodlands Township Board of Directors met in regular session, open to the public, on Thursday, September 21, 2017 posted to begin at 8:30 a.m. The Committee meeting was held in a meeting room at the office of The Woodlands Township, 2801 Technology Forest Boulevard; The Woodlands, Texas 77381 within the boundaries of The Woodlands Township.

**DIRECTORS PRESENT:** Committee Chair Dr. Ann Snyder, Committee Member John McMullan and Committee Member Brian Boniface.

**STAFF ADVISORS:** Director of Community Relations, Nick Wolda; The Woodlands Township President, Don Norrell; Community Relations Manager, Mary Connell; The Woodlands Township Assistant General Manager of Community Services, John Powers; The Woodlands Township Attorney, Robin Cross and CVB Administrative Assistant, Danielle Gatlin.

**OTHER ATTENDEES:** Jonathan Shelledy, Gensler; Amy Lecocq, Waterway Arts Council; Heather Joy, Waterway Arts Council; and Mike Bass, Waterway Arts Council.

**Call to order;** 8:33 a.m.

Committee Chair Ann Snyder called the meeting to order at 8:33 a.m. There was a quorum of members present; the Committee proceeded to conduct business regarding the following matters.

**Public Comment;**

None.

**Receive, consider and act upon adoption of the meeting agenda;**

Motion made by Brian Boniface to adopt the agenda as presented and John McMullan seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

**Receive, consider and act upon minutes from August 17, 2017 meeting;**

Motion made by John McMullan to adopt the minutes and Brian Boniface seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

**Receive, consider and act upon matters regarding a Cultural Arts District;**

Committee Chair Dr. Snyder introduced The Woodlands Arts Council and its Executive Director Mike Bass to present. Mr. Bass explained how The Woodlands Arts Council operates and introduced Heather Joy who is the artist director for The Woodlands Arts Council. Mr. Bass discussed the creation of a Cultural District Economic Development program developed 12 years ago by Texas Legislature. While funding was eliminated by the State of Texas this year, there are hopes it will return in the next session. There are a total of 36 Cultural Districts in Texas and The Woodlands Arts Council is seeking collaboration to create one in The Woodlands. The program is still alive and taking applications. Other grant funding is available and Arts Council is submitting a National Endowment of the Arts "Our Town" Public Art Grant Request. The Woodlands already has in place multiple requirements needed to designate as a Cultural District, according to Mr. Bass. The Woodlands Arts Council is proposing a strategy to build a collaborative effort called the Cultural Arts Coalition. The Committee agreed that the next step is to make this an agenda item with The Woodlands Township Board of Directors. Motion to bring the Cultural Arts District to the Township Board Meeting in October was made by Committee Chair Dr. Ann Snyder and seconded by John McMullan. Motion passed unanimously.

**Receive, consider and act upon Cultural Arts Study and Phase II implementation;**

Committee Chair Dr. Snyder introduced Jonathan Shelledy from Gensler, who discussed the new proposed schedule for the Cultural Arts Study. The facility tour in Sugar Land has been rescheduled for Thursday, November 2, 2017. The plan is to leave The Woodlands at 8:30 a.m. and return by 4 p.m. All Township Directors are welcomed to attend and a Public Meeting Notice will be established. Also on this topic, Duncan Webb of Webb Management Services will plan to be at either the November 29, 2017 Township Board of Directors meeting or December 6, 2017 to present the wrap up of Phase II. Motion for Cultural Arts Study and Phase II implementation was made by Brian Boniface and seconded by John McMullan. Motion passed unanimously.

**Recess to the Executive session with counsel, staff and/or affected third parties to discuss matters relating to real property, deliberation of economic development negotiations, discuss personal matters, consult with The Woodlands Township attorney, and discuss funding alternatives and potential agreements with other local, state and federal agencies;**

The Committee agreed to forgo Executive Session.

**Receive, consider and act upon the next meeting date of the Economic Development Committee;**

The decision was made to hold the next meeting on Thursday, November 2, 2017 to travel to Sugar Land and Houston to tour museums and cultural centers. The Committee agreed to cancel the October 5, 2017 meeting. The next meeting date will be November 29, 2017 or December 6, 2017, depending on when Webb Management can schedule. Motion for the next

meeting date of the Economic Development Committee was made by Brian Boniface and seconded by John McMullan. Motion passed unanimously.

**Consideration of items to be placed on the agenda for the next meeting;**

Items to be placed on the next meeting's agenda are to include discussion of the Cultural Arts District and the wrap up of Phase II of the Cultural Arts Study.

**Adjournment;**

Motion made by John McMullan to adjourn meeting. John McMullan seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 9:26 a.m.