



August 21, 2007 Meeting Minutes

Introduction & Opening:

The June meeting was held at T-Bar M who also hosted the meeting. Kevin Kelley opened the meeting by welcoming members and guests.

Member companies present were: Alamo Worksource, Ashley Furniture. Cemex, CTTC, Detex, EH Systems, Fedex Services, Great American Products, Hawkins Personnel Group, NB chamber of Commerce, NBU, NB Smokehouse, Objective Maintenance, Priority Personnel and Star Manufacturing.

New member welcome for: New Braunfels Smokehouse

Welcome back to: Checks In the Mail who reinstated their membership.

Guests present were: Matt Harrison from the 4B Board and Safesite.

Thank you to T-Bar M for hosting the meeting.

Officer Reports:

Paul provided an update on the organization's finances. We have paid out \$1500 in scholarship distributions, \$240 for website and domain renewal, \$189 in dues to the NB chamber, and miscellaneous funds for name tags and postage.

Committee Reports:

- Membership:
 - o The membership committee will be meeting soon. Mike will contact the committee to set a date.
- Fundraising:
 - o No Report
- Scholarship:
 - o The scholarship committee is waiting for new applications.
- Trade Show:
 - o Buddy Watson needs electronic logos from all member companies for the slide show that will be used in the booth
 - o The committee needs small giveaways from each company that will be used for prizes to booth visitors
 - o Buddy & Caroline need volunteers to help staff the booth. If you did not sign-up at the meeting, contact Buddy at bent1111@yahoo.com to fill a time slot.

Featured Program:

Kevin introduced Matt Harrison from the 4B Board. Mr. Harrison presented a slide show and discussion about the New Braunfels Industrial Development Council (4B Board):

- Board Overview:
 - o Non-profit corporation
 - o Aid and improve the economy in New Braunfels
 - o Funded through sales taxes.
 - o 4B boards only in municipalities of 100,000 people or less.
 - o The state sets limits and defines allowable projects
 - o Board Members are appointed by the city council for 2 year terms.
- Goals:
 - o Attract and retain significant employers
 - Evaluate availability of land space
 - Educate workforce (CTTC)
 - Obtaining triple freeport (no-interstate tax)
 - Incentives (training grants, infrastructure, low cost loans, abatements)
 - Better place to live and work
 - White collar employers for higher wages
 - o Diversify and expand economy
 - o Encourage better paying jobs
 - o Improve the Quality of Life
- Function:
 - o Start initiatives such as industrial parks
 - o Respond to funding requests
 - o Fund promotion of New Braunfels to new employers
- Results:
 - o New employment with incentives
 - o New employment without incentives (No 4B funds, but other assistance)
 - o Organic Growth
 - o Quality of Life projects (parks and recreation)
- Recent investments:
 - o Public library, CTTC, Parks projects, HEB @ 306, Star Manufacturing, Ltd, Senior Flexonics, Ashley Furniture, A-Lert, Bandstand, Airport, Civic Center Expansion, Industrial Park, Job training at CTTC, GIS system for the NB Chamber
- Funds:
 - o Provided through sales tax
 - o 45% of the funds used for business development
 - o 10% of funds used for quality of life improvement
 - o The board has reserve funds for long-term projects
- New Initiatives:
 - o Possible CTTC Expansion
 - o Possible incubator project
 - o Possible TIRZ involvement at Creekside
- Board Meetings:
 - o Meetings are monthly
 - o Special meetings may be called

- Attend the meetings or contact a board member for more information
- Check the newspaper for meeting dates.

Chamber Report:

Rusty Brockman touched on a number of events and issues that are on the horizon:

- The New Braunfels Trade show will be held on September 11th and 12th. Please attend and participate in the activities.
- The shadow program will meet October 9th at the Oakwood Baptist Church.
- The Chamber will be moving back to the civic center next week.

Next Meeting:

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 18th. The meeting will be at 11:45 a.m. in Honors Hall at the Civic Center. The NB Chamber will be our host and program for the meeting. Contact Rusty Brockman for reservations.

Respectfully submitted: Paul W. Webber, Secretary/Treasurer