



# MEETING MINUTES

Day: Tuesday Date: 2/28/2023 Time of Meeting: 16:00 Project No.: GLD23089

Project Name: Lou Huff District Subject: Key Stakeholders Meeting

## IN ATTENDANCE (In Person):

Ziad Kharrat  
D'Lee Williams  
Matthew Grubisich  
Mark Ellender  
Robin Williams  
Nicholas Nelson  
Jeremy Nelson  
Terry Doggett  
Bertha Wallace

Chester Johnson  
Diane Fields-Robinson  
Robert Clark, Jr.  
Susan Ballrye  
Karen Archibald  
Roy Leszeynski  
Ricky McNeal  
Thomas Hughes, Jr.

**DISTRIBUTION:** All Attendees

**PREPARED BY:** Jeremy Nelson

**DATE OF MINUTES:** 2/28/2023

The following summation represents our interpretation of the items discussed at the referenced meeting. Any persons desiring to comment on or correct the minutes are requested to put their comment in writing to Teague Nall and Perkins, Inc. within 10 days of the date of the report. Otherwise, the minutes will stand as written.

## PRIOR BUSINESS:

| Item | Items for Discussion | Responsibility | Due Date |
|------|----------------------|----------------|----------|
|      | N/A                  |                |          |

## NEW BUSINESS:

### Project Overview

Historical Lou Huff Park in Garland, TX to be re-imagined as a successful community location while retaining its history and what makes it special.

- American Rescue Act Funds.
- Bertha Wallace – Historian/Carver
- Stories
  - Footprints
- Terri – Rainbow President  
Chester Johnson – NAACP  
Robert Clark – Chaplain @ Rainbow  
Thomas O. – Original to  
Andy  
Mark  
Matt  
Ray  
Ricky McNeal – NAACP

### Public Engagement

- Survey Recommendations from Champions:
  - When spending time outside with family, what do you enjoy?
  - What is your favorite outside activity?
  - Would you be interested in speaking in the area of cultural history?
  - Are you interested in learning about other cultures?

- Are you interested in African American history?
- How often would you attend activities in the district?
- Would you like the district to include a picnic area?
- Would you like the district to include a walking trail?

## **Park Impacts**

- The Name “Lou Huff”:
  - More than just a name.
  - Important it's not lost.
  - Ideology, character, intent, beyond a park, cultural, recognition.
- Cultural center: Building Renovation.
- Murals – Memories – facility for families.
  - Educational
- Community use.
- Active usage – Represent history.
- Access to Resources – a place for community resources.
- Cultural Diversity.
- Used as a hub.
  - Combine resources.
- When Carver was made, the space was taken from the community.
- Pastoral alliance.
- Black chamber of commerce.
- *Park dedication never took place.*
- Cultural district
  - Lou Huff Cultural District.
    - Lou Huff Park – Heart of the District.
      - Historical marker for rec-center.
      - Place for community meetings.
        - Place to come together.
      - Inviting & welcoming environment for the community.
      - A place for information – access & resources.
      - Use other than just recreating.
- Transition:
  - Need to have a dedication.
    - Make it a community event.
    - Make sure the residents know about it.
  - Lou Huff Cultural District
    - More than just a park.
    - Lou Huff wasn't historically a park.
    - Facility for association meetings.
    - Historical marker.
      - Would be the 1<sup>st</sup> recreation center in Texas with a historical marker.

## **Best way to interface with the community:**

- Fliers: Door to door.
- Social media.
- Important to know the associations & churches.
  - Communicate through them. Use their meetings as advertising the meetings, etc.
  - 1 consistent message.

- Rainbow HOA meeting 4<sup>th</sup> Friday.

## **What do the stakeholders see their roles as?**

- As champions.
  - Need ideas they can get behind.
- A partnership with the community.
  - Vital to have true and accurate information that they can communicate to the rest of the community.
  - Consensus they can get behind.
- Transparency (repair relationships after the Carver Rec Center)

## **6 Words or less activity:**

- “Foundation that shapes our future.”
- “A place for families to meet & gather.”
- “It informed my career path.”
- “Building bridges.”
- “We learned teamwork and coordination.”
- “Cultivating ourselves.”
- “Cultural district affects the lives of the young and old.”
- “First Black swimming pool.”
- “Gathering & growth because it was the only one.”
- “Experiences that empower wisdom.”
  - Mr. Fields (Galefields)
  - Quincy Adam “QA” Lipscomb
  - Deacon Clark – oldest black chapel
- “Community” – cultural district?
  - Civic club.
  - Civic Ette club.
    - Ida bell white – Civic Ette.

## Garland Black History Documentary

- 12 sections

## Crossing Highway:

- Barry Charles Johnson
  - Hit by car & killed in front of park.

## **ACTION ITEMS:**

| Item | Items for Discussion | Responsibility | Due Date |
|------|----------------------|----------------|----------|
| 1    |                      |                |          |
| 2    |                      |                |          |