

North Fort Worth Alliance

I. **The North Fort Worth Alliance Meeting was called to order at 9:10 AM, April 17, 2010 at the Fellowship of the Parks Church, 9900 N. Beach St.**

Colleen Demel, Executive Director, called the meeting to order. We had seven (7) communities Board of Directors present, and three (2) community homeowners present. We appreciate all those who turned out for the monthly meeting on a rainy morning.

II. **Attendance**

Arcadia Park Estates

Coventry Hills

Crawford Farms

Manor Hill

Sunset Hills

Trace Ridge

Village of Woodland Springs

❖ Special guest: Tarrant County Judge B Glen Whitley

Colleen Demel introduced our special guest speaker. Tarrant County Judge **B Glen Whitley**, a civic leader and certified public accountant, was born in Grand Prairie, Texas. He graduated from Grand Prairie High School in 1971 and earned a Bachelor's of Business Administration from the University of Texas at Arlington in 1976. He began his career at Ernst & Ernst and co-founded the Whitley Penn accounting firm with offices in Fort Worth and Dallas in 1983. He was elected Tarrant County Commissioner in 1996, representing the northeast portion of our county, and then Tarrant County Judge in 2006.

As the chief officer of Tarrant County, Judge Whitley presides over the Tarrant County Commissioners Court and represents all of the 1.8 million citizens of Texas' third most populous county. He explained that the Commissioners Court is the general governing body of Tarrant County. The court is made up of the County Judge who is elected countywide and presides over the full court, and the four

County Commissioners – each elected from one of the County’s four precincts. Despite the name, Commissioners Court is not a judicial court but is the general governing body of the County. Among the major duties of the Court is to:

- ✚ Set the tax rate and adopt the County budget;
- ✚ Appoint County officials and hire personnel;
- ✚ Fill elective and appointed vacancies;
- ✚ Establish voting precincts, appoint precinct judges and call county bond elections;
- ✚ Let contracts and authorize payment for all County bills;
- ✚ Build and maintain County roads and bridges;
- ✚ Build, maintain and improve County facilities, including jails;
- ✚ Provide for hospitals, public welfare and veterans assistance;
- ✚ Manage all County facilities;
- ✚ Provide for the data services and archival needs of the County;
- ✚ Appoint an Administrator to oversee the operation of those departments reporting to the Court.

Our meeting with Judge Whitley was so interesting and informative; Colleen asked Judge Whitley if he could join us again next month as our guest speaker. Judge Whitley agreed. If you were not able to attend this month, you’ll want to be sure and come to our May 15th meeting.

Colleen said she has the Trinity Meadows student petition form where the 5th grade student had proposed construction to build a foot bridge over Alta Vista where school children could cross during upcoming scheduled construction.

Colleen discussed the pros and cons of filing necessary forms to apply for a 501(c)(3) to Incorporate the North Fort Worth Alliance. A motion was made by Bill Lebo to Incorporate, seconded by Shirley Gansser and the motion passed.

Discussion on whether the NFWA should consider extending our boundaries to include new home community being developed. Wayne Gerlach stated that we should concentrate on how to get the twenty-one communities we current have to be more active in the Alliance. Of the twenty-one Community Board of Directors, we usually have only eight of the Community Directors or their appointed representatives attend

our monthly meetings. Wayne made a motion that we should not consider expanding our boundaries at this time. Seconded by Sarah Grimes and the motion passed.

Colleen stated to file forms to Incorporate, would require a change of official titles and a change to the By-Laws. A motion was made by Bill Lebo to change the position of Executive Director to President and Associate Director to Vice President. Seconded by Sarah and the motion passed.

Colleen mentioned the following, Hospital Corporation of America will build a new hospital at the corner of I-35W and North Tarrant Parkway, a new library is being planned for far North Fort Worth.

Continue to check our new website, www.North-FortWorth-Alliance.com as information is updated often. Recent updates included information on "Road" construction.

City's plan to annex Avondale – Haslet area.

Colleen discussed the plan of Fort Worth to annex Avondale-Haslet area and the citizens of that area against annexation. Fellowship of the Parks Church had bought land in that area for expansion and has discovered how much more costly their project will cost if annexation goes forward. Bill Lebo made a motion to not support the annexation until the City is able to balance their budget and provide more support within our boundary for infrastructure, libraries, code compliance officers. The motion was seconded and carried.

Our next meeting is scheduled for May 15th. We will have Tarrant County Judge Glen Whitley as guest speaker. Judge Whitley will continue his discussion of Tarrant County and the Commissioners Court with a Q&A period. Please come and bring a neighbor.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:10 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Robert Mohler,
Secretary, NFWA