



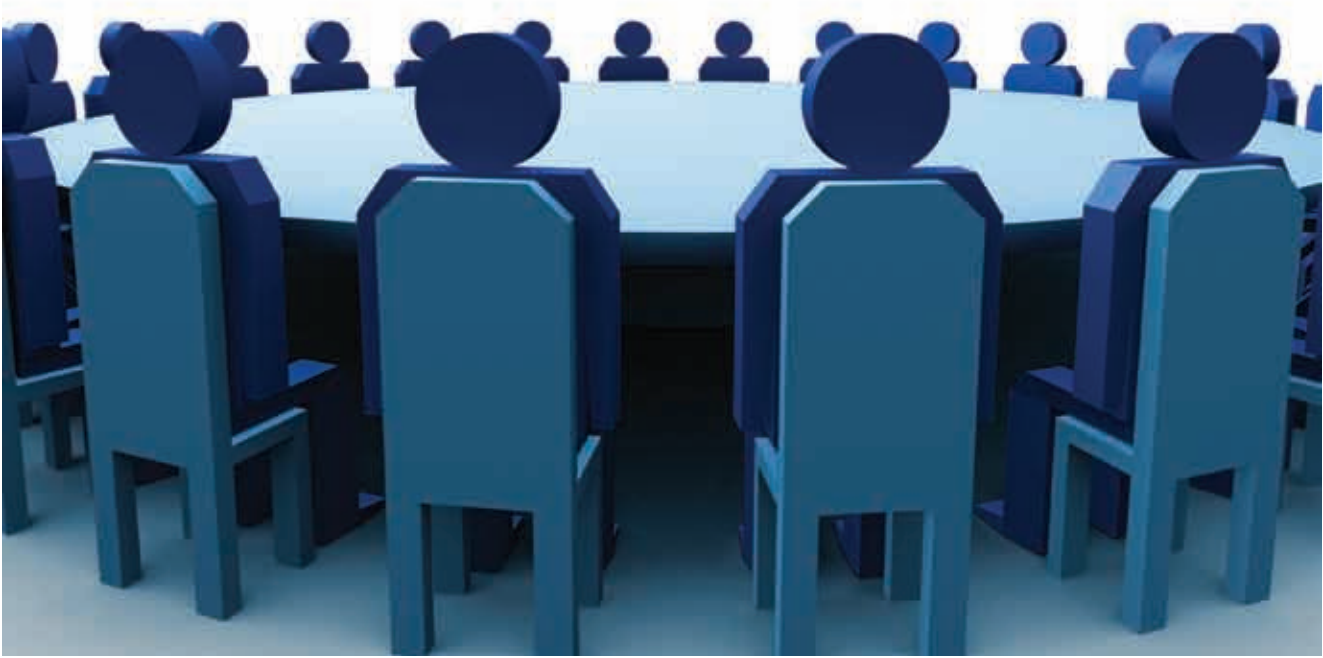
No portion of this article may be reproduced without
express written permission of Style Publishing Group, LLC.
©2007 • All rights reserved.



Style Publishing Group
P.O. Box 1676
Frisco, Texas 75034
Phone: 972.335.1181
Toll Free: 877.781.7067
Fax: 214.722.2313

E-mail: info@friscostyle.com
Web: www.friscostyle.com

Ad Sales: (972) 335-1306



Which Board is for You?

By Maher Maso

YOU CAN'T BE OPENING SIX NEW SCHOOLS next year!! That is the response I recently received at a National League of Cities youth conference in San Antonio. Others find it hard to imagine the growth we have experienced when I throw statistics their way. Our property values have increased \$1 billion dollars every year for the past six years. We have more children not yet enrolled in the school district than the entire current school district population combined (K-12th grade). We will issue approximately 4,000 new residential building permits this year. The stats go on and on. They ask, what is the secret to managing our growth? Well, the key is planning. However, that planning does not happen overnight. It also does not happen with only a few individuals.

The key to success in Frisco is the involvement of the community in every step of our growth. Volunteers for our appointed city boards are a large contributing factor. These volunteers spend many hours away from their families in order to help with the planning and implementation of our master plans. The Mayor, Council, City Manager, and staff all work closely with these boards

to make Frisco the best possible city.

The City Charter allows the Frisco City Council to create, establish, or appoint boards and commissions as needed, with the exception of the Housing Authority Board.

To be appointed to a city board, an individual must be a qualified voter in Frisco and must have lived in Frisco for at least one year. All applicants must read the City Code of Ethics, complete an application and provide a resume. All these forms are available from the City Secretary's office. Appointments take place in October with the exception of Planning & Zoning (July) and North Texas Municipal Water District (NTMWD) (May) and the number of board appointments are staggered for each board (not all board members are appointed at the same time).

Permanent Boards, except Planning & Zoning, can be abolished by the City Council when it is determined they are no longer needed.

ARTS OF COLLIN COUNTY COMMISSION (ACC)

The ACC is the tri-city regional arts district project. The Cities of Allen,

Frisco and Plano have combined their resources and their citizens contributed \$19 million to build this project. A 118-acre site near the Southeast corner of Custer Road and Highway 121 was donated. The project will be developed in phases with phase one to include an approximate 2100 seat multi-use theater.

- Five-member commission, two at-large and one from each city
- Meets twice per month
- Information can be found at <http://www.artsofcollincounty.org>

BOARD OF ADJUSTMENTS AND CONSTRUCTION BOARD OF APPEALS (BOA)

The Board of Adjustments and Construction Board of Appeals is a unique board. Where applicants in front of the other city boards can always appeal decisions to the City Council, BoA applicants typically appeal their cases directly to the legal system. The Board's decisions are final unless overturned by a court.

- Five members and three alternates
- Meets on an as-needed basis prior to Planning & Zoning meetings

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (CDC)

The CDC is a legal corporation that is also known as a “4B” corporation for its enabling legislation. The corporation receives its funding from the voter-approved ½ cent sales tax collections in Frisco. The CDC is primarily known for the multitude of parkland it has purchased and, with the help of the Parks and Recreation Board and the City of Frisco, developed into parks. The CDC can also help fund many other public improvements.

- Seven-member board
- Meets monthly

CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU (CVB)

The CVB helps market the City of Frisco throughout the state. The recently opened convention center provides many opportunities for new events in Frisco. Tourism helps keep our local property taxes low. Funding is provided by the hotel/motel occupancy tax.

- Nine members – two at-large and seven sector-specific representatives
- Meets monthly

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (EDC)

The EDC is also a legal corporation which is also known as a “4A” corporation, again for its enabling legislation. Like the CDC, the EDC receives its funding from the voter approved 1/2 cent sales tax collected in Frisco. The EDC is tasked with growing and preserving economic development in the city of Frisco including job growth and enhancement of the tax base.

- Five-member board
- Meets monthly

HOUSING AUTHORITY BOARD (HAB)

The Housing Board (HAB) owns, maintains and operates the existing inventory of federally funded low-rent public housing in Frisco. The board also identifies new housing opportunities for low and moderate income families. The mayor, per state law, appoints this board.

- Five-member board
- Meets as needed

HOUSING TRUST FUND BOARD (HTF)

The Housing Trust Fund Board (HTF) was created by the Council in October 2002. It administers down-payment assistance programs and puts in place programs to support affordable homeownership for families that work in Frisco.

- Five-member board
- Meets monthly

NORTH TEXAS MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT (NTMWD)

NTMWD provides water for 13 member cities, one of which is Frisco. NTMWD also provides water to 29 customer cities. In addition, NTMWD treats wastewater from most of these cities. This is not a Frisco created board.

- Two Frisco representatives
- Meets monthly

PARKS & RECREATION BOARD (P&R)

The P&R board helps develop and implement a parks and recreation master plan for Frisco. This includes active and passive parks, hike and bike trails and recreational opportunities.

- Seven-member board
- Meets monthly

PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION (P&Z)

The P&Z commission is the only commission that is required by the City Charter. P&Z reviews all current and proposed ordinances that deal with zoning issues and makes recommendations to the City Council. P&Z also reviews plats and site plans and gives final approvals.

- Seven-member board
- Meets twice a month

PUBLIC ART BOARD (PAB)

The PAB helps administer the City’s Public Art Program. Project recommendations are made to the City Council.

- Five-member board
- Meets monthly

URBAN FORESTRY BOARD (UFB)

The UFB makes recommendations to the City Council on ways to improve and protect our best natural resource, our trees. They help coordinate projects

such as the Tree City USA initiative.

- Five-member board
- Meets monthly

FRISCO SQUARE MUNICIPAL MANAGEMENT DISTRICT (FSMMD)

FSMMD is a joint public/private partnership to develop Frisco Square. The new City Hall, Library, Senior Center and Heritage Center are all located in Frisco Square.

- Five members (three from City Council, two from developer)
- Meets monthly

NON-PERMANENT AD-HOC COMMITTEES

From time to time, the Frisco City Council appoints committees for a specific short-tem purpose. These committees typically meet more often and have a full schedule.

2005-2006 BOND COMMITTEE

This committee was recently appointed by the Frisco City Council to study the need for Capital Improvement Projects for the next five years. They will study these projects and make recommendations to the City Council.

- 19-member board
- Meets weekly

DOWNTOWN REVITALIZATION COMMITTEE

This committee was appointed to make a recommendation regarding the city owned buildings downtown, which will be vacated when the new City Hall opens in spring 2006. This committee may become permanent.

- 18-member committee
- Meets as needed

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN COMMITTEE (CPAC)

This committee (CPAC) was appointed by the City Council to review the Frisco Comprehensive Plan, which is also called the “Millennium Plan.” The Comprehensive Plan guides the direction for the future of the city. This committee was appointed in late 2004.

- 23-member committee
- Meets weekly

Maher Maso is the Mayor Pro Tem and current Frisco City Council member.