

Minutes of the General Meeting, May 16th, 2025

Bill Wilson, President, called the meeting to order. There were 19 members, one guest, and two guest speakers present.

Bill Wilson led the members in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Jim Galbraith led the members in prayer.

Bill Wilson led the group in singing "Take Me Down to Kiwanis."

Program

Bill Wilson introduced James Clark, the Mayor of Justin, TX, and Jarrod Greenwood, the City Manager of Justin. Jarrod joined the city about two years ago, bringing a strong background in city management to support Justin's growth. Justin has experienced significant expansion, and Jarrod is responsible for managing it through a coordinated approach. A key aspect of overseeing this growth is providing leadership development for the city's department leaders. Jarrod emphasized the recent addition of two new fire engines and the groundbreaking of a new state-of-the-art fire station.

James Clark presented a most interesting overview of his journey to become a resident of Justin and engage in the city's political scene. James transitioned from the military to a horse ranch and was then encouraged to move to Justin. His new experiences living in Justin, along with its small-town friendships and neighborhoods, inspired him to pursue leadership roles.

James expressed appreciation for all the Robson Ranch residents who visit Justin to support the local restaurants and businesses. He reviewed Justin's history, starting with its founding by Justin Sherman, a railroad contractor. It is such a stark change from the late 1800s when a married man was allotted a section of land (640 acres) for free if one structure was built and occupied for two years, to the current average price of a single-family home of \$500,000. Justin presents a rich environment for developers, both for residential and commercial projects. This growth has put Justin and the surrounding area five years ahead of growth projections.

Balancing this rapid growth with the developers while maintaining the city's character and the wishes of current residents is a significant feat. One proactive approach is to annex areas surrounding the town so that when the city provides services to that area, it can play an active role in determining the direction and standards of each potential development. James highlighted the Special Purpose Annexation with Hillwood Development at their new Treeline location. This has been very beneficial for both the city and Hillwood.

He discussed his interactions with various agencies, such as TxDOT and Denton County, regarding improving and expanding critical roads leading to Justin. The realignment of FM407, the FM1171 extension from 35W to Hwy 156, and the Stader Road rebuild were highlighted for their progress.



James and his staff in Justin have many opportunities to coordinate and manage the growth of grocery stores, schools, and other commercial ventures.

For more information about Justin, see their website at - https://www.cityofjustin.com/

Election of Officers and Board Members for 2025-2026

 Bill Wilson reviewed the nominations for officers and board members for the 2025-2026 Kiwanis year. The list of nominations was emailed to all members before the meeting, and a copy was provided at the meeting. Bill asked for additional nominations from the members present. However, there were no further nominations. Barbara Leurig moved, and Randy Blackburn seconded a motion to elect the nominees as presented. The motion passed. There are still openings for a President-Elect and a Secretary. Bill encouraged all members to consider volunteering for these roles. A copy of the elected officers and board members is attached.

Club Business Items

- Ed Ahrens reported that June's Our Daily Bread volunteer days will be Monday, June 9th, Wednesday, June 11th, and Friday, June 13th.
- Comfort Dolls will meet on May 28th at the CATC.

Announcements and Reminders

- Bruce Walker reported on completing the work on the platform/ramp at the New Hope Equine Assisted Therapy Center. He thanked the members who worked during the three work times to prepare and stain the platform/ramp.
- Bill Wilson reported on the upcoming donations for May -
 - Friends of the Family \$1,500
 - CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate) \$1,000
 - Charlotte Ivy, Mayberry Gardens materials for kids \$350

Club Member Updates

- Birthdays for May Charles Wobbeking, 4th
- Chris Laffey reported that Greg was home and recovering well.

Happy Dollars followed.

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 am.

Submitted – Ed Ahrens





James Clark and Jarrod Greenwood with Bill