

FOUNDING PRINCIPAL, THE NEHEMIAH COMPANY
AND ENGAGING SPEAKER

Robert Kembel

Robert Kembel graduated from the University of Texas at Austin with a Finance Degree and began his career in Banking in 1986. In 1997, Bob began his career in developing master-planned communities and homebuilding in Colorado, when he joined McStain Enterprises as Chief Operating Officer and then joined John Laing Homes as President of the Denver Metro area until the company was sold.

In 2004, after returning to Texas, Bob was hired as President of Huffines Management Partners and VP of Huffines Advisory Services. In August 2012, Bob joined JCKPL, LLC as partner and president. The company was merged into The Nehemiah Company in 2015. The company is the developer of the Viridian community in Arlington, Karis community in Crowley, Talia community in Mesquite, along with Arlington Commons, an award-winning multi-family community. In addition, the company has developed a wide range of BTR products over the last five years.

Bob has been a member of the Congress for New Urbanism and ULI along with various trade and builder organizations. Bob was a regular speaker at the Lee Evans conferences on builder risk throughout the 90s, and he has been a member of the C12 Group since 2008. Bob is a past board member of the Brent Eley Foundation in Denver, Colorado and the Cotton Bowl board, Arlington Chamber of Commerce Board; Chairman in 2015/2016 and continues to serve on the Executive Committee, River Legacy Park foundation board, and is a Board member of Mission Metroplex/ Arlington. He is Associate Teaching Pastor for Parkview Fellowship Church in Arlington. Bob founded, with Howard Porteus, the Nehemiah Builds Foundation, focused on after school education ministry and wrestling ministry in partnership with Arlington School District and Mission Arlington.

Bob is an accomplished glider pilot and private pilot. He loves hiking in the Tetons and fly fishing. Bob's passion is organizational development and creating environments where individuals can grow professionally and spiritually. Bob has three children and six grandchildren and has been married to Keri Kembel for 35 years.



Past Presentations

All Mixed Up: Blurring the Lines Between Uses to Better Serve Residents

ULI Houston: Blueprints: Community Development, Best Practices & Trends

A Look Into Viridian: A Synergetic & Profitable Public-Private Partnership

NAHB International Builders Show

Build to Rent vs. Build to Sell Where are Market Leaders Seeing The Most Capital Opportunities?

Bisnow Dallas Master Planned Communities & Homebuilding Annual Event

Density Development and Public Private Partnerships

Municipalities of Grand Prairie, Waxahachie, Crowley, Mesquite, North Richland Hills and Conroe

Bringing it Home: How Local Developers Are Integrating Healthy Living Practices

Part of ULI North Texas: Exploring the Value Proposition in Building Healthy Places

Community Development and Planning

Arlington Board of Realtors

Speaking Topics



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SOLUTIONS THAT WORK

Complex layers in design and how to finance.



HOW DO PUBLIC STAKEHOLDERS AND PRIVATE DEVELOPERS WORK TOGETHER TO CREATE THE BEST COMMUNITY EXPERIENCE

Survival of sustainable communities depends on it.



ECONOMIC TOOLS NECESSARY FOR QUALITY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Underfunded community infrastructure can be catastrophic.
Long term cost to municipalities and school districts.



DO URBANISM THAT WORKS AND IS CULTURALLY RELEVANT

Know the design and material culture of the market.



HOW THE BUILD-TO-RENT TREND CAN BALANCE HOUSING NEEDS & HOW THE PUBLIC SECTOR CAN NAVIGATE THE NEW MARKET

Why is build-to-rent such a growing conversation and why does there appear to be so much demand and limited supply? Are the risks different than multi-family?



PUBLIC AND PRIVATE ENTITIES WORKING TOGETHER TO CREATE PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE

Give your city a competitive advantage before you lose out.



FAITH, ETHICS AND BUSINESS

Integration of your faith and ethics into your daily business.... and finishing well.



Projects

MASTER-PLANNED COMMUNITIES

VIRIDIAN

A 2,000-acre master plan including five major lakes, 500 acres of open space, and floorplans ranging from townhomes to single-family, estate and custom homes, and even 55+ active lifestyle homes.

KARIS

Nestled in Crowley on 565 acres combining small-town Texas living and big city convenience, Karis will feature 2,025 homesites.

TALIA

A new master-planned community in Mesquite.

MULTI-FAMILY

ARLINGTON COMMONS

The Truman, The Roosevelt Linear Park on Median

Currently developing 1,400 units of multifamily at Arlington Commons with the third phase breaking ground in the fall of 2022.

BUILD-TO-RENT

DFW, SAN ANTONIO, & HOUSTON

We're developing 1,300 units of build-to-rent product along with new redevelopment land recently assembled in the area.

THE NEHEMIAH COMPANY

About Our Company

The Nehemiah Company partners with local city and county governments in development of substantial, infill locations primarily focusing on housing — master-planned communities, multifamily developments and single-family rental communities across DFW and San Antonio. Guided by our core values rooted in our faith, we design communities that foster an approach totally focused on creating hopeful, resilient, sustainable communities that uplift people and protect nature. Our communities carefully merge public pathways and private residences, as well as build parks and common spaces that foster pedestrian identity, resident engagement, and minimize automobile impact.



“Bob and his team think big and cast a wide vision that only enhances future development opportunities”

JEFF WILLIAMS, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF ARLINGTON

Impact and Accolades



Our ultimate goal is to be a catalyst for cultivating new, holistic, and sensible ways to develop as well as for fostering local stewardship; and to that end, we invest where we harvest to best serve the communities we are helping to build. Our Nehemiah Builds Foundation and our Youth Wrestling and After-School Programs provide year-round coaching and support to the young in the Arlington community.

"I wish we had more developers like The Nehemiah Company. Partnering with Bob to reinvigorate our community is a great example of building sustainable environments done right."

TARRANT COUNTY JUDGE WHITLEY

Awards

Best Real Estate Deals' Single-Family or Masterplanned Community (Karis)

Dallas Builders Journal 2023

Multifamily Community of the Year (Truman at Arlington Commons)

DBA McSam Awards 2022

Welcome Center of the Year (Truman at Arlington Commons)

DBA McSam Awards 2022

Best Community Amenity (Magnolia Lifestyle Center)

TAB Star Awards 2021

Best Real Estate Deal (Arlington Commons)

Dallas Builders Journal 2016

Best Poolscape (Viridian Lake Club)

DBA McSam Awards 2019, TAB Star Awards 2019

Best Event (Stars and Stripes)

DBA McSam Awards 2016, TAB Star Awards 2016

Audubon Gold Certification (Viridian)

Audubon International 2015

Gold Award Best Commercial Semipublic Pool (Viridian Lake Club)

APSP Region 3 Design Awards 2015