



SENIOR ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES

Monday, May 21st, 2012

City Hall Conference Room
4000 Main Street
Rowlett, TX 75088

Present: Bobbie Jo Kelly, Sue Watkins, Lloyd Copeland, Jerome Grossie, Jerry Daniels, Fred Cares
Absent: Della Vickers, Pamela Bell, Susan Bell
Staff: Jermel Stevenson, Director of Parks and Recreation, Sebrena Smith, Senior Administrative Assistant, Dianne Jones, Recreation Programmer, Angie Smith, Recreation Division Manager.

1. The Chair called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m.
2. Quorum was present.
3. Motion brought forth by Fred C. to approve minutes from April regular meeting. Jerome G. seconded motion, 5-0 approval.
4. Mayor Todd Gottel shared with the board an update concerning the Realize Rowlett 2020 plan and the steps that are being taken at this time. Senior housing is a major concern for the seniors and Mr. Gottel discussed with the board where the City is at on this matter. Mr. Gottel explained to the board that Economic Development and other departments throughout the city have been putting together a plan that will benefit the citizens of Rowlett in the years ahead.
5. VIPS (Volunteers in Police Service) Coordinator Michael Barajas spoke with the board about the VIPS Program and shared their requirements to be a VIPS member and responsibilities once you become one.
 - a. VIPS responsibilities within their patrol unit includes, handicap parking enforcement, neighborhood patrols, house/business watches (vacation watches) code enforcement, school crossing guards-fill in assignments, barricade/traffic control for special events or emergency activation.
 - b. VIPS also helps with the animal shelter and emergency management drills.
 - c. VIPS structure includes, Chief of Police – W.M. Mike Brodnax, Commander—Lt. Marvin Gibbs, Community Services Officer—Greg Baldwin, VIPS Coordinator—Michael Barajas, VIPS Asst/Clerical Administrative Services Coordinator—Suzanne Chism, VTO—VIPS training Officers (7), Patrol Unit, Administration/Clerical Unit.
 - d. Training takes place mostly at the police department training room or recreation center. Uniforms were supplied through state and federal grants at the beginning of the program. They have several uniforms in stock; however, the police department will be filling in by purchasing what is needed until we are able to secure more grants. They are in the process of looking for more grants at this time.



6. Upcoming programs: How to Use a Fire Extinguisher and Identity Theft and Fraud will be the next two classes. We have already had the Estate Planning, Trusts, Taxes and Beneficiaries class.
7. Suggestions for fall programs. Deadline for Parks & Leisure Magazine is June 1st, 2012.
 - a. Bobbie Jo contacting Dallas County Department of Aging.
8. Senior budget update reviewed by the board. Angie supplied the board with updated budget. The board will discuss the budget in more detail with receipts at next board meeting.
9. Director's Report given by Jermel Stevenson.
 - a. Congratulations to Chief George Harris! He received the Big "R: Pacesetter Award at the Chamber of Commerce Annual Awards Banquet. This is the highest award given by the Chamber in appreciation for outstanding leadership, long term service and contribution to the growth of Rowlett. Chief Harris has truly exhibited the qualities of this award throughout his 26+ years of service to the City and citizens of Rowlett. Please join us in congratulating Chief Harris.
 - b. The new Medic 1 arrived from the manufacturer Frazier on Tuesday evening. FF/Paramedic Chris Weinzapfel went to Houston and drove the new MICU to Rowlett. Chris reported that it only used ½ tank of fuel for the trip and the ride was extremely smooth. A big plus for a citizen being transported after an injury. The new MICU like all of our apparatus is outfitted with warning stripes compatible with the Federal Traffic Incident Management Systems (TIMS) required for us on the PGBT and SH 66.
 - c. Held in conjunction with Children's Book Week, "Food for Fines" helped library customers get back to reading while giving back to the community. Patrons were given the opportunity to waive \$1.00 fines for each canned or packaged food item donated. (Lost and damaged materials were not eligible). A total of 1,202 food items were received in the week-long campaign. Donations benefited local food pantries (First Baptist and First Christian Church), and 130 patrons found themselves ready to start the summer with their accounts up to date.
 - d. Wet Zone Water Park opens on Saturday, May 19th.
 - e. Memorial Day/Touch a Truck will be Saturday, May 26th beginning at 10 am.
 - f. Fireworks on Main, Wednesday, July 4th. Festivities begin at 5 pm.
 - g. Deadline for Lakeside Leisure Magazine is June 1st, 2012.
10. Members of the board may request topics for future agenda meetings. No member of the board or commission may discuss any of the requested subjects until such matter has been properly placed on a posted agenda.
11. The vote was unanimous to adjourn at 12:05 pm.


Bobbie Jo Kelly, Chair


Jermel Stevenson, Director of Parks and Recreation