



**Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting Minutes**  
**Wednesday, September 12<sup>th</sup>, 2012**  
**7:00 p.m.**

***Rowlett Community Centre, Room D***  
***5300 Main Street, Rowlett TX 75088***

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**PRESENT:** Lonnie Cornwell, Wayne Baxter, Mike DeLatte, John Macatee, Rick Helfers, Matt Grubisich, Brownie Sherrill, Tien Nguyen, Rhetta Bowers

**ABSENT:** Debby Bobbitt, Ken Romaine, Brownie Sherrill

**VISTORS:**

**STAFF:** Jermel Stevenson, Director of Parks & Recreation, Sebrena Smith, Senior Administrative Assistant, Parks & Recreation, Angie Smith, Recreation Division Manager

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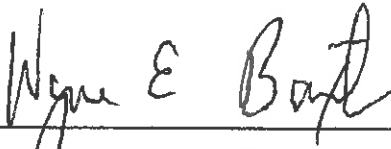
1. The Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm.
2. Rick H. moved to regular voting member.
3. Lonnie C. motioned to approve minutes from August 8<sup>th</sup>, 2012 meeting. Rick H. seconded motion, 6-0 approval.
4. Discuss Katy Railroad Park Grand Opening Celebration:
  - a. Jermel gave an overview of grand opening and stated that each year we host a Play Day for the community and this year we are including Play Day into the grand opening celebration at Katy Park. Jermel asked for two volunteers from the board; one to speak at the ceremonies and one to help set-up and break down.
  - b. Jermel stated that the grand opening event is being advertised on the city web-site, social media, and direct contact of neighbors.
  - c. Park construction is on schedule and should be complete within a few weeks.
  - d. Lonnie C. asked about the basketball courts and the open space for soccer; asking if anyone or sports groups can use the open space. Jermel stated that this open space isn't designated for one particular sport and can be utilized by any sport that would like to practice or play or individual play. There will be a pavilion structure, grills, and courts in the park.
5. John Macatee reviewed with the board the need for more involvement with the aquatics programs and the need to host swim meets at the Wet Zone.
  - a. John shared that with his child being a member of Rowlett's swim team this year has opened up a few ideas about how we can be more competitive within the leagues and also generate funds for this department. John praised the coaches for the swim team this year and would like to see more participation within this program.
  - b. Angie stated that one of the issues is Wet Zone's pool is not dive ready or regulation sized for swim meets.

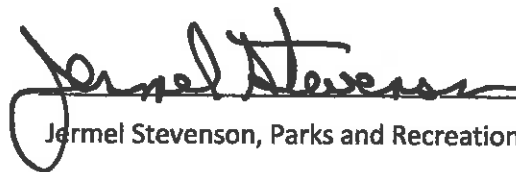


- c. Jermel shared that he doesn't want to say that this cannot be done; it just can't be done at this time.
  - d. Lonnie shared that natatorium was brought forth and the costs were discussed within the city with a rating of 4 to 5 on the list of priorities at one time.
6. Feedback given concerning the Boards and Commission Volunteer Fair 2012.
- a. Wayne asked if it were possible to require anyone that would like to volunteer with a board that they must attend at least one meeting before they are appointed to that board. This will help the volunteer get a feel for what each board does. The board agreed that this would be a good idea.
  - b. Rick stated that during his interview process he was surprised that the city council didn't ask more questions at the interview.
7. Discussed Parks Board Retreat coming up on Saturday, October 13<sup>th</sup>. Jermel shared that there will be a bus tour of our parks again this, light breakfast, and lunch will be served at 12 noon. The meeting will be held in this Room, which is Room D. The time frame is 9-5, and we will be discussing this year's goals for the board. The new board members that haven't been appointed yet will have enough time to attend this year's retreat.
8. Matt shared the first portion of Realize Rowlett is over and that he has a meeting coming up to talk trees on Friday with Erin Jones from Planning.
9. Update on Dog Park, Wayne Baxter.
- a. Wayne shared that he talked to Christian City Church about the fence and they are keeping the fence. We will have a meeting with Jermel soon to discussing getting bids together for the fence.
  - b. Wayne stated that we have a venue coming up with the Christmas Parade. He stated that he would like to make up brochures/flyer on the dog park and would like to distribute these asking folks for feedback and financial support. This will be a short form brochure that will solicit donations from the dog park through PARDners Foundation. We will have the City's Attorney draw up any legal paperwork allowing this. We would need to present this to City Council.
10. Jermel gave Director's Report:
- a. Scenic Point Park update: The Economic Development and Planning Departments are working with a developer relative to housing near Scenic Point Park. The opportunity that exists is for parking accessibility and trail head developments from the housing units into the park. We have adjusted the bidding and construction process to begin in late fall and construction to begin in early spring.
  - b. Katy Park update: The walking trail and drainage areas are complete, the alley concrete and aprons are complete with the exception of the sides that need to be leveled and sodded. The system irrigation is 50%, and the handicap entrance ramp off the parking lot needs to be poured. The play areas, pavilion and landscaping concrete pads are underway to be poured. The contractor is testing the irrigation system to ensure complete coverage.
  - c. The Department is taking a major role in the festivities surrounding the DART Light Rail on Saturday, December 1<sup>st</sup>. The event will be a blend of the Memorial Day Touch a Truck and Fireworks on Main events. The day will begin at 3 pm. There will be vendors, bands, and a youth choir. The evening will be culminated with fireworks or a laser light show at 6 pm.



- d. The While you Wait Program started back up this week at Coyle Middle School on the first day of school. The program is averaging 7 participants per day. Coyle Middle School has implemented an application process to be a part of the While You Wait Program for 2012-2013 school year.
  - e. After the completion of the West Nile spraying for mosquitoes we have power washed all of the playground systems in our parks twice to ensure they have been cleaned for the park users.
11. Public Announcement. Members of the Board and/or staff may make announcements of local civic events. No member of the board or commission may discuss nor take any action with regard to the announcements.
- a. Movies on Main @ the RCC on September 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, and 21<sup>st</sup> @ 8 pm. Seating will open at 6:30 pm in the upstairs gym. September 14<sup>th</sup> movie is Puss & Boots and on September 21<sup>st</sup> the movie is Hoodwinked Too!
  - b. Lonnie announced that on September 22<sup>nd</sup> KRB will be hosting a clean –up day and everyone is to meet that morning at the Wet Zone parking lot. They will be cleaning up debris around the lake. Also, they will be serving hot dogs for lunch and they are expecting around 100 volunteers.
12. 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 matters have been properly placed on a posted agenda.
- a. Lonnie Cornwell – KRB would like to donate a tree in honor of the Girl Scouts at an urban forest such as Community Park.
13. Matt G. motioned to adjourn at 8:00 pm. Lonnie seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous to adjourn.

  
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Wayne Baxter, Chairman

  
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Jermel Stevenson, Parks and Recreation Director