



Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, October 11, 2017
7:00 p.m.

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

PRESENT: Alan Hogan, Bernadette Hagmeier, E.C. Umberger, Diana Moore, Dolores Henning, Donna Ferguson, Gregory Craig, Lonnie Cornwell, Mike DeLatte, Nancy DeVelde, Ken Romaine, Sean McGrew

ABSENT:

VISTORS: Dale Morgan

STAFF: Blake Margolis, City Council liaison; Shelly Monroe, Sr. Administrative Assistant; Angela Smith, Director of Parks & Recreation

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1. Chairman E.C. Umberger called meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
 2. Quorum present.
 3. Administered the Oath of Office and the Statement of Elected/Appointed Officer to the newly appointed members.
 4. Consider action to approve minutes from September 13, 2017.
 - A. Mike DeLatte made a motion to approve the minutes as written.
 - B. Lonnie Cornwell seconded the motion.
 - C. Approved 7 - 0.
 5. Elect Chairman and Vice-Chairman for 2017-2018.
 - A. Mike DeLatte was nominated for Vice-Chairman. He accepted the nomination. Approved 9 - 0
 - B. EC Umberger was nominated for Chairman. He accepted the nomination. Approved 9 - 0.
 6. Select members of the Tree subcommittee for 2017-2018.
 - A. Angela Smith provided information about this subcommittee for new members. Moving forward this sub-committee will be named the Forestry Subcommittee. There are four members assigned to this sub-committee.
 - B. EC Umberger made a motion to nominated Alan Hogan, Gregory Craig, Lonnie Cornwell and Diana Moore for the Forestry subcommittee. Mike DeLatte seconded the motion. Approved 9 - 0
 7. Update on Dan Robert's Environmental Learning Center.
 - A. A. Smith provided a brief history for new members. At present staff are in the process of trying to obtain full ownership of the property so permanent improvements can be made. The goal is to develop the property into something special.
 - B. L. Cornwell reported Keep Rowlett Beautiful submitted a request to the Community Investment Advisory Board (CIAB) for funding to be included in the



next bond election in amount of \$200,000. This would allow design plans to at least begin. There is some communications with Dallas County Community College as possibly being a partner.

8. Discuss and make recommendation using Park Pro-Rata funds to resurface tennis courts and basketball court at Herfurth Park.
 - A. A. Smith reminded members what Park Pro-Rata funding is and how it can be used. The Department requested a recommendation from this board to allocate \$35,000 from Park Pro-Rata Funds to resurface four tennis courts, line two tennis courts with pickle ball lines and resurface one basketball court at Herfurth Park. The current Park Pro-Rata Fund balance is \$79,000. An explanation was provided as to why this request is being made now. If the board recommends this request then it will be brought to the City Manager for approval.
 - B. EC Umberger added that these are the only tennis courts throughout Rowlett because the ones at Rowlett High School are not open to the public unless city staff are present monitoring those courts.
 - C. Gregory Craig cautioned about a possible drainage issue with the north courts and this being checked before resurfacing.
 - D. Mike DeLatte inquired about the previous plans to “redo” Herfurth Park and develop it as an urban park. A. Smith voiced it does not appear funds will be approved for such development therefore this plan is a phase plan to renovate the park. Also noted that more people are and will be living near Herfurth Park with the new development downtown so the park will likely be used more frequently than it is now. Staff requested \$1,500,000 from CIAB for 2018 Bond Election to fund the renovation. Members briefly discussed.
 - E. Mike DeLatte made a motion to allocate Park Pro-Rata funds in the amount of \$35,000 to be used for resurfacing the tennis courts and the basketball court at Herfurth Park. Gregory Craig seconded the motion. Approved 9 to 0.
9. Discuss and make recommendation to donate \$10,000 from Tree Reforestation fund to RETREET.
 - A. A. Smith explained about an anticipated request for \$10,000 to be donated to RETREET, a 501(c)(3), for their next tree planting event held in Rowlett, TX. The current tree-reforestation balance is \$56,129. A past approved recommendation made by this board was for \$29,000 to be used to purchase the Urban Forest Ecosystem Assessment and Canopy Analysis.
 - B. The donation will be made directly to RETREET to help fund the next event which is tentatively scheduled for December 9, 2017. The goal is to plant 200 trees. The trees will be planted on private property of those who had tornado damage throughout Rowlett. The formal request has not been received by the Parks and Recreation Department yet but consideration is in preparation to receive the request.
 - C. Lonnie Cornwell made a motion to support donating up to \$10,000 of Tree Reforestation funds to RETREET for the 2017 tree planting event in Rowlett, TX. Alan Hogan seconded the motion. Approved 9 to 0.
10. Special Events Committee Update - Dolores Henning



- A. Camp Fear will be held October 27th and 28th. The fees and activities were shared with members. Volunteers are needed.
- B. Veteran's Day ceremony will be held November 11, 2017 starting at 11:00am located at the Rowlett Community Centre.
- C. Main Street Fest will be held December 2, 2017 at the Rowlett Community Centre. Live music will be provided from 4:00pm to 6:00pm with a tree lighting between 6:00pm to 7:00pm. The Trail of Trees will turn on at 6:30pm from December 2, 2017 through December 29, 2017.
- D. Holiday Parade - a Hometown Celebration will be held on December 8, 2017. An event will be planned to follow the parade.

11. Update from City Council liaison, Blake Margolis.

- A. Tri-City Clean Up with Dallas, Garland and Rowlett is scheduled for October 14th from 9am - 2:00pm. The focus is along the shores of Lake Ray Hubbard.
- B. Police Department and Fire Department's Annual Shoots and Ladders Softball game is scheduled for October 14, 2017 starting at 9:00am.

12. Reminder: Parks Board Boot Camp to be held October 14, 2017.

All members need to attend and the start time is 8:00am.

13. Public input and questions.

Dale Morgan, Treasurer for Open Space Alliance, is attending different Parks and Recreation Advisory Board meetings, as well as other of their board members. The reason is to obtain information related to the protection and conservation of open space of natural, historical or geological significances.

14. Director's Report - Angela Smith

- A. The Hwy 66 Green Ribbon project with TxDOT began August 7, 2017 and is still in progress.
- B. The hockey goals received a face lift by park staff and saved the department hundreds of dollars. Parks crew also worked closely with the Hockey Association to "spruce up" the hockey rink.
- C. Rowlett Youth Baseball which includes Blast ball, 6U and 8U began and the kids are having fun learning about baseball.
- D. Our fall season of adult sports has begun. There are 7 men's basketball teams and 7 co-ed volleyball teams.
- E. As of September 28th the Rowlett Community Centre has 8,780 active memberships. During the back-to-school membership drive for new youth and annual family memberships, we sold 88 youth memberships and 18 annual family memberships.
- F. Diversity Day was held October 7, 2017 and had approximately 150 people were in attendance.

15. Public announcements by members of the Board and/or staff were made.

Ken Romaine announced on October 14, 2017 there will be Night Fly which begins around dusk and continues until about 10:00pm.



16. Members of the Board may request topics for future agenda meetings.
No new topics requested.

17. Adjournment

- A. Mike DeLatta made a motion to adjourn at 8:45 p.m.
- B. Gregory Craig seconded motion.
- C. Approved 9 - 0.

Handwritten signature of E.C. Umberger in black ink.

E.C. Umberger, Chairman

Handwritten signature of Angela Smith in blue ink.

Angela Smith, Director of Parks and Recreation