



SENIOR ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES

Monday, November 20, 2017
City Hall Conference Room
4000 Main Street
Rowlett, TX 75088

Present: Patricia Bird, Michael Britt, Virginia Denson, Duane Fecher, Charles Gaugler, Janie Lossman, Duane Fecher, Pam McKissick, Rob Rose

Absent: Susan Bell

Visitors: Della Vickers, Linda Richardson, Jeff Sheldon

Staff: Shelly Monroe, Parks and Recreation Administrative Assistant; Angela Smith, Director of Parks and Recreation

1. The Chair, Rob Rose, called the meeting to order at 10:00 am
2. Quorum was present.
3. Consider action to approve October 16, 2017 minutes.
 - A. Patricia Bird made a motion to accept the minutes as written.
 - B. Michael Britt seconded the motion.
 - C. Approved 4 - 0.
4. Senior Program updates. (Duane Fetcher arrived)
 - A. November 20, 2017 at 9:00am Carl Burlow, Financial Advisor, will speak on Elder Law. STAR Transit provided a seminar since they now require a STAR ID for all seniors who use their service.
 - B. Fifty seniors took a trip to Fort Worth this past Friday. December 14, 2017 a Holiday Potluck will be held at 11:30am. December 15, 2017 a holiday movie will be shown at 1:00pm. December 21, 2017 there will be a shopping trip to Bishop Arts District and lunch at Hunky's Hamburgers. December 29, 2017 a New Year's Celebration will be held at 11:30am.
 - C. Drumba appears to be successful. A new class will start in January with hopes to increase the number of available slots for participants.
5. Animal Shelter presentation - Victoria Miles
 - A. The shelter has a 98% release rate of the animals. This is a higher percentage rate than the cities of Rockwall and Garland. Some of this success is contributed to working with Friends of Rowlett as well as holding adoption events. They haven't euthanased an animal for more space since 2014.
 - B. Registration to adopt an animal is free for persons over the age of 60. Rabies tags last for 3 years. Regular registration costs \$55 if the animal needs to be spayed or neutered, otherwise the fee is \$5. Friends of Rowlett offers microchipping two or three times a year.
 - C. The Animal Shelter will be present at Main Street Fest and the Holiday Parade.
 - D. The Animal Shelter accepts donations such as blankets, food, money, etc.



6. Further discuss the volunteer tracking and recognition, Health Fair, Senior Workshop Coordinator, Senior Outreach and Connect Rowlett.
 - A. A task list for each category was provided to each member explaining the involvement of each task. Members were asked to consider overseeing one of the selected tasks. Members voiced their own interest in the tasks.
 - B. Michael Britt was assigned to the Volunteer Tracking and Recognition; Rob Rose was assigned to Health Fair; Patricia Bird was assigned to Senior Workshop Coordinator for the seminars; Charles Gaugler was assigned to Senior Outreach; and Susan Bell was assigned to the Senior Business Award.

7. Upcoming programs: Discuss the 2018 arrangements for Surviving Spouse Planning, Meals on Wheels, and Smartphone Use for Seniors.
 - A. Duane Fecher reported he contacted VNA, a nonprofit organization that helps elderly neighbors maintain their independence by providing services and one of these include Meals on Wheels for Dallas County. This presentation will be scheduled for January 9, 2018.
 - B. Janie Lossman will contact the speaker for Surviving Spouse Planning to inquire availability of February 13, 2018 or March 13, 2018 then inform Rob Rose of the results. The Smartphone presentation will be on the last remaining date.

8. Update on the FY18 budget recommendations from Senior Advisory Board.
 - A. Last year there were three budget requests: 1) Continue senior transportation, 2) Golf cart to help with senior transportation in RCC parking lot, and 3) Funding for a golf cart driver.
 - B. The golf cart has been purchased and the service for assisting seniors to and from the Rowlett Community Centre and the parking lot has begun. The service is set to run for Monday through Friday from 8:00am - 12:00pm. A city logo will be placed on the golf cart. Members requested for some type of acknowledgement be placed on the golf cart to recognize the Senior Advisory Board since the golf cart was their suggestion to help the seniors.
 - C. March will be the 6-month mark to re-evaluate the STAR senior transportation.

9. Develop goals for 2017-2018.
 - A. Members developed a list of ideas for possible goals. Members agreed on the following as goals: Increase ridership in STAR Transit shuttle service; Communication with Rowlett residents on senior services; Education for seniors to include seminars and health fair. Each of these will be discussed in further detail during the next meeting in the aspect of how to accomplish each goal.
 - B. There is no funding for a new senior center. Community Investment Advisory Board is looking at including a request for a senior facility wing design as a project and their recommendation to City Council. The design would be in the 3rd year of the bond since there is no funding right now and hopes to include this in a future bond election.

10. Updates from City Councilmember, Pamela Bell.
 - A. City Council heard a presentation from Rowlett Housing Finance Corporation on their proposed development projects but this is outside the scope of the City of Rowlett.



- B. Affordable Housing was approved by City Council for the Residences at Long Branch (Pedcor) apartment project but they recently lost their funding because their tax credits expired. They appealed for an extension although there is no funding now. If their 2018 tax credits are received then Pedcor can move forward because the zoning has already been approved.
 - C. Lucy Bottoms with the Parks and Recreation Department was recognized for receiving Part-Time Employee of the Year by Texas Recreation and Parks Society North Region.
 - D. Kids Kingdom was recognized for receiving the Texas Recreation and Parks Society Committee Choice Award.
 - E. City Council approved a resolution to approve a bond issuance for financing by the Rowlett Housing Finance Corporation of a Senior Living Community, Savannah at Lakeview Senior Living located at 5314 Chiesa Road for TX Lakeview Seniors, LP.
 - F. City Council recognized a Vietnam veteran Donald Pierson during the November 7, 2017 meeting. This is a new Veterans Recognition Program for Rowlett. There was high attendance for the Veteran's Day ceremony held November 11, 2017.
 - G. The Primrose lane construction project is almost complete.
 - H. TxDOT is still working on the medians for the SH66 Beautification project. It was proposed the project would last approximately 256 days from start to finish.
11. Re-schedule the January 15, 2018 meeting.
January 15, 2018 is a city holiday therefore the meeting needs to be re-scheduled.
January 29, 2018 is the date agreed upon for the January meeting.
12. Transit opportunities for seniors. (Virginia Denson and Patricia Bird exited the meeting)
Mayor Tammy Dana-Bashian reported Rowlett is working with the DART Board. An update on senior transportation includes three areas:
- A. Parking in the DART parking lot stays full, therefore priority parking for Rowlett citizens is being considered. Being a DART member city was explained to members. A license plate survey was done to assist with gathering information. Brief discussion on City Council looking at a city ordinance related to this topic.
 - B. DART on-call service: DART has agreed to provide DART on-call service throughout Rowlett which presently does not exist. DART is seeking funding for a second vehicle with plans to vote on the funding in December 2017. If this is approved it will take 3 to 5 months for them to obtain the vehicle. DART will need to approve the operating cost too. Hopes are for this service to be fully functioning in June 2018.
 - C. Taxi voucher service: This has been implemented in other cities and it would be in addition to DART on-call service. The taxi vouchers will only be for persons ages 65 and older and/or disabled. The resident calls for a taxi and pays 25% of the cost then DART will pay the remaining amount. At present, this does not include LIFT or Uber services. A start date is yet to be determined.

13. Annual Boards and Commissions Volunteer Banquet to be held December 7, 2017. Members are invited to this event. It begins at 6:30pm and will be held at the Rowlett Community Centre. There was an RSVP and deadline was November 17, 2017.
14. Senior concerns.
No concerns.
15. Public Input or questions.
 - A. Jeff Sheldon mentioned SCOR provides health luncheon seminars and this coming Tuesday there will be one held on Nutrition for the Holidays from Life Message. The start time is 11:00am. There will not be a luncheon seminar in January.
 - B. Linda Richard expressed excitement for the DART services mentioned in this meeting, although she expressed disappointment regarding the possibility of the transportation through STAR being discontinued. The reasoning is because she has made some good friends while using STAR and wants to bring attention to board members this type of transportation is a means of socializing for the seniors who use it.
16. Public announcements. Members of the Board and/or staff may make announcements of local civic events.
 - A. Main Street Fest will be held on December 2, 2017 starting at 4:00pm. Activities will be at Pecan Grove Park. Trail of Trees will also start this date along with lighting of the tree.
 - B. Holiday Parade and other Christmas activities will be held downtown on December 8, 2017 starting at 7:00pm.
17. Members of the board may request topics for future meetings.
No requests
13. Adjournment
Charles Gaugler motioned for adjournment at 11:59 a.m.
Mike Britt seconded the motion.
Unanimous vote in favor to adjourn.



Rob Rose, Chair



Angela Smith, Director of Parks & Recreation