



**Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting Minutes**  
**Wednesday, March 14, 2018**  
**7:00 p.m.**

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

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**PRESENT:** Alan Hogan, Donna Ferguson, Gregory Craig, Mike DeLatte, Nancy DeVelde, Ken Romaine, Diana Moore, Lonnie Cornwell, Dolores Henning, Sean McGrew

**ABSENT:** E.C. Umberger, Bernadette Hagmeier

**VISTORS:** Pamela Bell

**STAFF:** Blake Margolis, City Council liaison; Shelly Monroe, Sr. Administrative Assistant; Angela Smith, Director of Parks & Recreation; Richard Harris, Parks & Recreation Operations Manager; Paul Stevens, Deputy City Manager

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1. Chairman Mike DeLatte called meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.
  2. Quorum present.
  3. Consider action to approve minutes from February 14, 2018.
    - A. Lonnie Cornwell moved to approve the minutes as written.
    - B. Gregory Craig seconded the motion.
    - C. Approved 6 - 0.
  4. Rowlett Hockey Association (RHA).
    - A. Information about hockey rink needs were presented and repairs that have been done to the rink by RHA at no cost for the City of Rowlett were shared. Basically the city provides the materials and RHA provides the labor to complete some of the repairs. Association members placed some used pavers to make a walkway between the shed and rink. RHA purchased a new scoreboard. RHA requested new goals although city staff have completely welded the goals to get them in better shape for play.
    - B. The 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Food Drive was held and resulted in an all-time record of 4,964 food items being donated to Life Message. RHA's achievements and traditions were presented. A couple of examples are skills competition, honor players who go into the military or active duty service, and seniors games. Some of their keys to success involve holding clinics in September to introduce hockey, purchasing of the Rockwallhockey.com domain, as well as City of Rowlett working with them.
    - C. Thirty-six percent of youth players live in Rowlett and 9% in the adult leagues are Rowlett residents. There are neighboring cities such as Wylie, Rockwall, Garland and Dallas that have participants in the leagues. They have found using billboards in the past was helpful in recruiting new participants. The email blasts from Rowlett Parks and Recreation is also helpful. Expressed they would like to have the capability to place signs to advertise.
    - D. RHA would love to have opportunities for ice hockey and provided an explanation. Stewardship is offered by monitoring the light usage. It was voiced that RHA can't afford to be shut down for a season while a new rink is being built. They will submit the financials soon.
  5. Rowlett Strategic Plan and Comprehensive Plan.



Paul Stevens introduced Imagine Rowlett and the plans will focus on the City's core vision and build upon the knowledge and success of the 2011 Comprehensive Plan, Realize Rowlett 2020. Stakeholder input is crucial to this process. Citizens can participate by completing the online survey via a computer or cell phone device and can be accessed through <https://clients.freese.com/RowlettCompPlan/>. The first town hall meeting will be held March 22, 2018 from 6pm to 8pm located at the Rowlett Community Centre. Board members were encouraged to help advertise, attend and advocate. There will be several poster boards throughout the city that persons can use to jot down their ideas on their vision for Rowlett in 10 to 20 years.

6. Community Investment Advisory Board presentation on 2018 Bond Election. - Oscar Aranda
  - A. Presented some brief history of how the Community Investment Advisory Board originated, their goals and strategy for success. Reviewed their ranking criteria system.
  - B. There are three propositions. Proposition A is for paving and drainage improvements for \$41.47 million; Proposition B is for parks, trails and open space for \$8.955 million; Proposition C is for public safety and facility improvements for \$9.485 million. City Council approved for the call of an election in May. There is no tax increase and each proposition stands on its own.
  - C. Future bonding capacity was explained. Projects that didn't make the list for the 2018 Bond Election will still be on an ongoing 5-year CIP with a long -term outlook, and CASH CIP will continue to fund smaller projects and repairs, etc.
  - D. Briefly reviewed an update on the 2015 Bond Election projects and the goal is to have all projects under construction completed by end of 2018.
  - E. Public meetings will be held, although information can be found on the city website and there is a page dedicated to the 2018 Bond Election. Important milestone dates are 1) Outreach during March and April; 2) Information meetings to be held on April 5, 2018 and April 19, 2018 at 6:00pm; 3) Early voting can be done April 23, 2018 through May 1, 2018; 4) Election will be held on May 5, 2018; 5) Issuance of bonds will be late summer 2018. Newsletters will be mailed and there will be handouts for distribution soon. There will be information sent in a future utility bill. Members can share information on social media and with any groups they may have connections.
7. Urban Forestry Subcommittee Update.

Gregory Craig reported the committee discussed several issues and they are at a point for a draft of an updated ordinance to be developed.
8. Update on Scentral Bark dog park.
  - A. The Grand Opening will be held March 17, 2018 from 10:00am to 12:00pm. The outline of events was presented.
  - B. Ninety-three volunteers helped with getting the dog park ready. A chain link fence was installed, terminal posts and top railing and all gates complete, Bermuda sod placed on both dog play areas, fifteen trees were donated and planted along the entry way and inside the fence areas, and water fountain installed in front of the bathroom.
9. Herfurth Park Phase 1.



- A. Angela Smith reported there may be possible funding in the 2018 Bond Election for this project. The item will go to City Council in April to determine features, then a final phasing plan to be presented to City Council in May.
- B. Board members were asked to think about what elements should be considered through this planning process and send those ideas to Angela Smith or Shelly Monroe.

10. Update on Hwy 66 Green Ribbon Project.

Angela Smith reminded members this project was estimated to be complete in 265 days and presently only half way through the projected timeline. Ricky Harris said irrigation and main lines are complete with exception of a couple intersections. The trees are in route for delivery and the planting should be complete by end of this month. Phase 1 of this project is expected to be complete for May.

11. Special Events Committee update.

- A. Easter Eggstravaganza will be held March 24, 2018 from 10:00am to 12:00pm at Pecan Grove Park.
- B. Pup-A-Palooza will be held March 25, 2018 from 2:00pm to 4:00pm at Scentral Bark Dog Park.
- C. Kid Fish will be held April 28, 2018 from 9:00am to 12:00pm at Community Park.
- D. Cardboard Boat Regatta will be held April 28, 2018 starting at 1:30pm at Community Park. An idea is for the Parks Board to build a boat together.
- E. Memorial Day Celebration featuring Touch-A-Truck will be held May 26, 2018 from 10:00am to 1:00pm at the Rowlett Community Centre.
- F. Summer Concert Series will be held downtown this year rather than at Pecan Grove Park.
- G. Board members were asked to volunteer for these events and sign-up sheets were provided.

12. Parks and Recreation Master Plan.

City Council approved the 2018 Parks, Recreation, Open Space and Trail Master Plan. The final document will soon be received and will be posted on the city website.

13. Discuss non-profit organization development.

- A. Angela Smith stated Rowlett PARDners is closing. One option is to form a new 501 (c)3 to help Parks and Recreation Department to receive donations for projects, supplies and event.
- B. Mike DeLatte explained the importance of there being a group to have a mechanism for donations. Possibly look at having a member from each board to be a part of such a group.
- C. Members were asked to think about this and a follow up will be placed on next month's agenda.
- D. Sachse Park Pals is founding Scentral Bark Buddies and would like a member from the Parks and Recreation Advisory board to participate on this board.

14. Update from City Council liaison, Blake Margolis.

On March 20, 2018 the Sachse Park Pals will be recognized during the City Council meeting for their donation and commitment to Scentral Bark Dog Park.

15. Safety in parks.



Angela Smith conveyed the Rowlett Police routinely patrol all parks in the current system. If a board member sees someone who draws concern in a park or neighborhood the best action is to call 911. Building security is a discussion within the city and training is provided to staff.

16. Public input and questions.

None

17. Director's Report - Angela Smith

- A. Thirty-four seniors took a trip to Fort Worth for shopping and eating at Sundance Square.
- B. The Senior Health Fair will be held at the RCC on April 10, 2018 from 9:00am to 12:00pm.
- C. Paddle Point Park continues to be temporarily closed. North Rock Construction had to delay the start of improvement work due to all the rain. Erosion control will be installed for the mobilization of equipment and native soil is being removed to start the subgrade for parking area.
- D. On March 6, 2018 City Council approved a resolution to accept the deeds to the property on 6301 Chiesa Road. Dallas County and GISD's stipulations were introduced.
- E. Jill Beam, Senior Programmer, attended the Texas Recreation and Park Society Conference in Waco, TX. She presented her latest fitness program, Drumba, at the RCC.
- F. Little Dribblers participants graduated from the program. Next session begins on April 2, 2018
- G. Texas Parks and Wildlife lent six Genesis Compound Bows to archery program at RCC for students to have an opportunity to use the compound bow to compare to the traditional recurve bow.
- H. The Rowlett Youth Baseball league is featuring for the first time a 10U kid pitch league.
- I. The Dalrock live screening project is complete.
- J. A new pavilion has been installed at Kenwood Park.
- K. A shade structure is being placed at Katy Railroad Park and should be completed within the next 10 days.

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

- A. Nancy DeVelde stated the Second Annual Rowlett Rumble, pickleball tournament, will be held May 4<sup>th</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at Herfurth Park. Presently there are 160 persons registered which is an increase from 135 last year. Recently, twenty-four players participated in a mid-south tournament with 500 participants and Rowlett pickleball players came back with 40 metals.
- B. Sean McGrew expressed a huge thanks to staff for the Father Daughter Sweetheart Dance and stated it was a wonderful event.

19. Members of the Board may request topics for future agenda meetings.

None

20. Adjournment

- A. Dolores Henning moved to adjourn at 9:27pm.
- B. Lonnie Cornwell seconded motion.
- C. Approved 8 - 0.

Mike DeLatta, Vice-Chairman

Angela Smith, Director of Parks and Recreation