



Official Minutes of the Rowlett Arts and Humanities Commission

Tuesday, August 14, 2018

Rowlett Public Library, Class / Board Room

3900 Main Street, Suite 200, Rowlett, TX 75088

- 1) Meeting called to order by Chair Jeff Winget at 6:31 p.m. and determined a quorum was present.
- *Members present: Jeff Winget, Jim Katzenberger, Deborah Crosby, Tamra Williams, Gary Alexander, Laura Keasling and Neslie Fudge*
 - *Members absent: LeighAnn Welk and Teresa Lua*
 - *Visitors: Christy Katzenberger and Mike DeLatte, Vice-Chair Parks and Recreation Advisory Board*
 - *Staff present: Elise Bowers, Neighborhood Life, Kathy Freiheit, Director of Library Services and Brenda Kennedy, Senior Administrative Assistant*

- 2) Chair selects voting alternate(s), if necessary.
- *N/A*

- 3) Consider approving minutes from the regular meeting held June 12, 2018.
- *Motion made by Deborah C. to accept meeting minutes as written; seconded by Tamra W.*
 - *Approved 6-0.*

Regular member Neslie Fudge arrived at 6:32 p.m.

- 4) Presentation on possible Commission liaison to proposed Parks 501(c)(3) organization (Mike DeLatte, Parks and Recreation Advisory Board).
- *Parks Advisory Board Vice-Chair DeLatte explained Parks Department's need for a 501(c)(3) organization to manage donations received and to apply for grants that could help with projects; parks donations are currently included in the City's general fund.*
 - *Organization would include a member from the following groups: Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, Arts and Humanities Commission, Senior Advisory Board, Keep Rowlett Beautiful and the Parks and Recreation Department. Meetings would be held once a quarter.*
 - *Jim K. expressed interest in serving as the AHC liaison. Motion made by Gary A. to appoint Commission member Jim K. to newly formed "Partners" organization; seconded by Laura K.*
 - *Approved 6-0, with 1 abstention*
- 5) Presentation on Fall "Scarecrows on Main" event and September Rowlett City Academy (Elise Bowers, Neighborhood Life).
- *Elise B. presented a "Scarecrows on Main" slideshow; projects offer displays that "showcase your story in straw."*
 - *Scarecrows will be displayed on the Village green; build start date is October 5 and scarecrows will be displayed until the weekend after Halloween. Would require someone from Commission to check their display daily and make repairs as needed. Also, would need a sign with Commission's name for display.*
 - *Commission will discuss participation at September meeting.*
 - *Elise B. also suggested offering a "chalk art festival" and would be interested in doing this jointly with the Commission.*
 - *Rowlett City Academy's fall session begins September 6; classes held Thursdays from 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.; class size limited to 20, registration closes next Thursday.*
- 6) Presentation on Rowlett Chamber of Commerce "Taste & Trade" event, October 30, 2018 (Laura Keasling).
- *Laura K. announced the 13th Annual Taste & Trade will be held Tuesday, October 30, 2018 from 5:30 – 8:00 p.m. at Rowlett High School. The theme this year is a "Tailgate Party".*

- *Laura K. asked for volunteers to run the kids' booth and monitor games. Volunteers for event include Deborah C. and her daughter, Tamra W., Neslie F. and possibly Jeff W.*

7) Review, discuss and take possible action on FY2018 operating budget.

a) *Receive quote for display case*

- *Tamra W. shared printout of an oak display case; discussion ensued. Case is needed for AHC contest entries throughout the year. Lighted case will require power; also need to determine hallway dimensions and ease of opening the locking door to place items on shelves.*
- *Motion made by Tamra W. to purchase display case at a cost not to exceed \$1,700, subject to fit, availability of electricity and door access. Deborah C. seconded motion.*
- *Approved 7-0.*
- *Kathy F. will provide follow-up and advise of any problems.*

b) *Receive quote for stage curtain with "Rowlett Sings" graphics*

- *Tabled until September meeting; Tamra W. will research cost for a 4'x8' vinyl banner (with grommets) for use with a black stage curtain during Rowlett Sings contest; will also contact Drew Rist for appropriate graphic.*

8) Review updates and take possible action on standing committee reports:

a) *Summer Scribes Writing Contest (Youth and Adult)*

- *Low turnout again this year; may need to advertise more.*
- *Kathy F. shared that City of Arlington Animal Shelter has an annual writing contest, suggested AHC might consider partnering with Rowlett Animal Shelter to do something similar; other suggestions included beefing up prizes to encourage more entries and doing away with a contest theme.*
- *Deborah C. will contact winners and remind of Council presentation on Tuesday, September 18.*

b) *Photography Contest*

- *Take-in on Friday, August 24 (3-5 p.m.) and Saturday, August 25 (10 a.m.-12:00 p.m.) in the Annex; this is same day as "Spirit of Rowlett" dedication.*
- *Jim K. said Cindy Serine is set to judge contest on Saturday, August 25.*
- *Jim K. received several inquiries about contest; contest information is on marquee at City Hall; Jeff announced to Rowlett Photography Club on Commission Facebook page; Jim K. will formally invite Artists 'Round Texas to participate.*
- *Brenda will order Velcro tape strips for attaching photos to display panels; dots are not strong enough and photos keep falling to the floor.*
- *Contest awards will be presented at September 18 Council meeting.*

c) *Publicity*

- *Jeff W. announced Drew Rist posted the Rowlett Sings video; discussed having Drew do Facebook Live recording for the next Rowlett Sings contest.*
- *Schrade Bluebonnet Park grand opening and "Spirit of Rowlett" dedication is Saturday, August 25 at 9 a.m. Commission members are asked to attend.*

d) *Arts in Education Grants*

- *With purchase of a display case, Velcro and Commission banner, additional funds are no longer available.*

9. Discuss and take possible action on Public Art projects:

a) *Sculpture maintenance*

- *Kathy F. will discuss Mark Twain sculpture maintenance with Friends of the Rowlett Public Library; the sculpture was a gift of the Friends and has been maintained by the group in years past.*
- *Concerns expressed regarding continued maintenance of the Noblique pieces and "Phoenix" sculpture; difficult for members to clean and wax because sculptures are so tall; will probably need to outsource sculpture maintenance and would be paid from Commission's operating budget.*

b) *"Spirit of Rowlett" sculpture*

- *Kathy F. reported \$930 paid to vendor for electrical grounding*
- *Expenditures to date total \$55,937 (excluding plaque)*

c) *Plaque for "Spirit of Rowlett" sculpture*

- *Jim K., Tamra W. and Jeff W. met with sculptor Troy Connatser for input on plaque wording. Troy C. wants the people who helped with project to be listed on plaque; if they are not listed, he does not want his name on plaque.*
- *Troy C.'s professional services contract states artist's name is to be included on plaque. Kathy F. was asked to read section 8.1 of contract which states, "City shall, at its expense, prepare and install at appropriate locations, after consultation with Artist, a plaque or sign, identifying Artist, the title of the Work and the year of completion, and any other information agreed to between the parties and shall reasonably maintain such notice in good repair against damages due to normal wear and tear." Discussion ensued.*
- *Jeff W. distributed copies of an email from Council liaison Martha Brown, expressing her position on wording for the plaque; discussion ensued.*
- *Four versions of proposed plaque wording were presented. Discussion ensued.*
- *Motion made by Neslie F. to recommend purchase of a plaque with the following wording:*

"Spirit of Rowlett"

Troy Connatser, Sculptor

*Commemorating the strength and resilience
of our community in the aftermath of the
December 26, 2015 tornado*

*Presented by
Rowlett Arts &
Humanities Commission
2018*

- *Deborah C. seconded motion.*
 - *Approved by vote of 4-1, with 2 abstentions*
- d) *Future art projects*
- *Tamra W. researched wind sculptures by Lyman Whitaker and presented a slide show. Discussion ensued.*
 - *Opinions differed over placing kinetic art in Veterans Park.*
 - *Two options proposed:*
 - *Option 1: Purchase one "Twister Oval Sub-Huge" sculpture for Fire Station 3. Purchase two "Sails" sculptures and one "Double Helix Sail Sub-Huge" for Veterans Park. Anticipated cost: \$10,200*
 - *Option 2: Purchase one "Twister Oval Sub-Huge" sculpture for Fire Station 3. Purchase two "Sails" sculptures and two "Double Helix Sail Sub-Huge" for Downtown landscaping structures. Anticipated cost: \$13,100*
 - *Kathy F. indicated proposals need to be vetted with Parks Director Angie Smith and Fire Chief Neil Howard; proposals should also be shared with the Parks Board.*
 - *Motion made by Deborah C. to recommend the two options to City Council after discussions with City staff; Tamra W. seconded motion.*
 - *Approved 6-1.*

Gary A. left meeting at 8:45 p.m.

10) Public Announcements.

- *N/A*

11) Future topics.

- *Call to order*
- *Chair selects voting alternate(s), if necessary*
- *Consider approving minutes from previous meeting*
- *Presentation on proposed friends' art organization (Lake Cities Chorale & Lakeshore Symphonic Winds)*
- *Discuss and take possible action on yarn art project*

- *Discuss participation in "Scarecrows on Main" event*
- *Discuss participation in Fall Main Street Market*
- *Discuss upcoming Chamber "Taste & Trade" event*
- *Review, discuss and take possible action on quote for Rowlett Sings vinyl banner*
- *Review updates and take possible action on standing committee reports:*
 - a) *Summer Scribes Writing Contest – Youth and Adult*
 - b) *Photography Contest*
 - c) *Publicity*
- *Update on Public Art Projects*
 - a) *Sculpture maintenance*
 - b) *Spirit of Rowlett dedication*
 - c) *Plaque for Spirit of Rowlett*
 - d) *Future art projects*
- *Discuss upcoming Boot Camp*
- *Discuss participation in Library's "Trunk or Treat" event*
- *Public announcements*
- *Future agenda items*
- *Adjourn*

12) Adjournment

- *Meeting adjourned at 8:49 p.m.*

Approved by the Rowlett Arts and Humanities Commission:

Signature  _____

Date 9-11-18