



SENIOR ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES

Monday, November 19, 2018
City Hall Conference Room
4000 Main Street
Rowlett, TX 75088

Present: Patricia Bird, Virginia Denson, Rob Rose, Michael Britt, Susan Bell, Alberta Reese, Kenneth Williams, Veda Kull, Chris Del Regno

Absent: Karen Cosby

Visitors: Brownie Sherrill, Chris Bunkoff, Richard Kull, Larry Beckham, Gaylynn Beckham

Staff: Shelly Monroe, Parks and Recreation Administrative Assistant; Angela Smith, Director of Parks and Recreation; Rachel Wagner, Recreation Supervisor; Pamela Bell, City Council Liaison; Maria Martinez, Neighborhood Services Manager; Victoria Miles, Animal Control.

1. The Chair, Rob Rose, called the meeting to order at 10:00am
2. Quorum was present.
3. Administered the Oath of Office and the Statement of Elected/Appointed Officer to the newly appointed members.
4. Consider action to approve October 15, 2018 minutes.
 - A. Susan Bell made a motion to accept the minutes as written.
 - B. Michael Britt seconded the motion.
 - C. Approved 7 - 0.
5. Neighborhood Services presentation (Maria Martinez, Neighborhood Services Supervisor and Victoria Miles with Animal Control).
 - A. Code Enforcement: Changes are being made with the way persons are notified of issues in that it is first indicated as educational information. Staff have been in the process of working with groups, such as Boy Scouts, to help assist individuals who have certain difficulties in compliance. Nicole Wilkerson in utilities may be contacted to help set up trash pickup for those who have a handicap. The goal is compliance.
 - B. Home Rehab program: There is a new application process. Funding was increased for this next year which will help approximately 15 persons.
 - C. Animal Shelter: There is a senior citizen discount to anyone 60 years or older for pet adoptions. Microchipping is done when a pet is adopted. Vaccination clinics are hosted by Liberty Grove Animal Hospital the first Sunday of each month, unless it falls on a holiday, from 2pm - 5pm. Lost animals with no owner information will be posted on the website intake page. If owner information is known, the pet is delivered to the home and if the pet is registered with the city then a one-time "get out free" is allowed. Since 2015 the shelter has a 90% release rate. Friends of Rowlett Animals is a partner that helps to promote awareness and host fundraising activities. Rowlett PetSmart will house some of the cats up for adoption. If anyone wants to volunteer to walk a dog and play with cats just



complete the online volunteer application. The shelter accepts donations and with cold weather beginning blankets or old towels are good but also wet food, dog toys or little goody bags for the dogs at Christmas.

6. Orientation for newly appointed members.
Angela Smith presented information about this board's primary function, board's role, services for the citizens, how to get information on the agendas, what to do if a citizen asks you a question, points of interest, project funding, accomplishments, FY2019 goals, future concerns, and annual reporting.
7. Senior Program Updates.
 - A. Rachel Wagner reported there is a correction with the number of passes reported last month, therefore the total since October 1, 2018 is 550 passes for 84 different persons. There will be a final date as to when the passes cannot be used since DART will be making some changes to the passes for 2019. The guidelines for the passes and contact information was reviewed.
 - B. Updates: December 5th is the monthly birthday lunch at 11:30am. December 11th is the Writing Salon meeting at 11:30am. Holiday Pot Luck will be on December 13th at 11:30am and an increase in participants has been approved for 40 persons but individuals still need to register. December 14th is the trip to Choctaw with a cost of \$20. RCC will close at noon on November 21st for a cleaning day then for Thanksgiving holidays. The downstairs gym floor is being stripped so this gym will be closed for 2 weeks and aerobics room will be closed this week due to floor refurbishing.
8. Update on Home Defense - Eyes of Rowlett program held October 13, 2018.
Patricia Bird reported there were 22 participants in attendance. The subject of discussion ended up being somewhat different than the seminar title, but it was good information on things occurring within the city.
9. Further discuss presenters for the Spring 2019 educational seminars identified as Scams, Get Your House in Order and IRS-Taxes.
 - A. The Health Fair will be April 9, 2019. January 8th, February 12th, and March 12th are the dates set for seminars held in the spring.
 - B. Scams: Rob will work on this speaker.
 - C. Get Your House in Order: Susan Bell will obtain this speaker.
 - D. IRS/Taxes: Virginia Denson will contact for a speaker and aim to schedule it in January.
10. Re-schedule the January 21, 2019 meeting.
Offices are closed on this date due to a holiday. Members unanimously agreed to move the meeting to January 28, 2019.
11. Discuss goal setting for 2018-2019.
 - A. Goal is Education for seniors and the objectives are 1) Go Link Education, 2) Health Fair, 3) Seminars
 - B. Goal: Research senior-friendly services and the objectives are 1) Investigate the possibility of Rowlett seeking membership in AARP's Network of Age-Friendly



- Communities; 2) Explain the results of the research to the City Council in the June joint meeting.
- C. Goal is Communication and the objectives are 1) Develop FAQ for seniors to be included on the city website, including the mobile app; and 2) Design flyers for senior resources. These can be distributed at the RCC and at Rowlett City Offices, along with other locations that seniors gather, such as senior living communities, the hospital, etc.
12. Updates from City Council member, Pamela Bell.
- A. Developer for Town houses on Miller developer pulled it so this is on hold.
 - B. Rowlett Chamber of Commerce donated \$1500 to the Animal Shelter. Funds were raised from the golf tournament.
 - C. Carol Prano who has worked with the Chamber of Commerce for 16 years has resigned. A replacement will be sought.
 - D. City Council approved a resolution of a project for the PGBT northbound right turn lane by the high school to help with traffic flow in the mornings and afternoons.
 - E. Rowlett staff and volunteers assisted with JA Biztown held at the Gilbreath-Reed Career and Technical Center. Susan Bell added comments about her experience.
 - F. Pamela Bell and Jada, her dog, interviewed Katie Rinz who was the winner of the Spirit of Rowlett award.
 - G. Persons can attend Planning & Zoning meetings which helps to stay informed about city information. The next meeting is November 27, 2018.
 - H. City facilities will be closed Thursday and Friday due to Thanksgiving holiday. FCC will not be picking up trash on Thursday due to the Thanksgiving holiday.
13. Senior concerns.
- Chris Del Regno mentioned that the city lacks sidewalks but understands through the City Academy there is a plan to add sidewalks and trails.
14. Public Input or questions.
- A. Chris Bunkoff with Life Message stated this past Saturday over 200 families were served through the food pantry. Food pantry will be closed on Thursday and Friday therefore individuals need to come Wednesday. December 6th & 20th is the next round of senior nutrition classes. Seniors have an easier process for getting groceries than previously.
 - B. Richard Kull said the comprehensive plan is on City Council agenda for December 11, 2018 for approval. He encouraged members to attend to hear the plan and is a place to voice opinion about the plan. There was a question as to if this date was firm, therefore staff will check into it and send the board members a message.
15. Public announcements. Members of the Board and/or staff may make announcements of local civic events.
- A. Michael Britt voiced he supported the change for senior transportation from STAR to DART and although the two different types of services can't really be compared it does appear that the change to DART is successful. Inquiry made regarding more funding for DART passes if there becomes a shortage of passes. Angela Smith responded this will be an operational issue to be monitored.

- B. Parks and Recreation Department will be hosting the 12 Days of Christmas and most activities will be held downtown. Main Street Fest and tree lighting will occur on December 1, 2018 and the Holiday Parade will be on December 8, 2018. This year there will be light up on Main which consists of decorated trees, although there is a registration fee, the fee may be waived if person donates toy for the same value for Toys For Tots donation drive.
 - C. Brownie Sherrill announced the Stop a Cop for Christmas Toy Drive has begun. Individuals can wave down an officer on patrol who is not responding to a call and give the donated toy, or one can bring the toy to the Police Department lobby donation drop. This goes through December 15, 2018.
 - D. Chris Del Regno stated Sachse High School is hosting a Turkey Trot.
 - E. Brownie Sherrill said City Council will be ringing the bell at Walmart for Salvation Army on December 1, 2018. This is a fun competition between the cities of Garland, Sachse and Rowlett.
16. Members of the board may request topics for future meetings.
No topics requested.
17. Adjournment
- A. Michael Britt made a motion for adjournment at 11:52am.
 - B. Patricia Bird seconded the motion.
- Unanimous vote in favor to adjourn.



Rob Rose, Chair



Angela Smith, Director of Parks & Recreation