

City of Rowlett
Diversity Commission Meeting
Wednesday, September 19, 2018
City Hall
4000 Main Street, Rowlett, Texas 75088

Meeting Minutes

1. Call to order
 - Meeting to order at 6:37pm. The following members were present: Robert McCarrier, Simone Wallace, Michael Hernandez, Denise Younge, Alena Jefferson-Shelbia, Brooke Donnelly, Lakisha Culpepper, Patricia Layer, Sushil Mathew. Mark McAvoy and Elise Bowers represented City Staff. Mayor Tammy Dana-Bashian represented City Council.
 - Chair placed alternate members Layer and Wallace into voting positions for the 9/19/2018 meeting.

2. Approve Prior Meeting Minutes
 - **Motion to approve minutes passed unanimously.**

3. Review Proposed Goals and Further Define Commission's Work and Purpose
 - Provide educational opportunities for the community (Added during meeting)
 - Discussed police | community relations
 - Discussed assessing the potential for hosting discussion forums
 - Discussed whether/how-to approach a community discussion about affordable housing
 - Attend and support events to locate opportunities for better engagement
 - Discussed creating a sub-committee focused on events
 - Create a system for communicating with wider audiences
 - No discussion
 - Ascertain why there has been historically low engagement (research)
 - Discussed benchmarking similarly positioned cities
 - Create a platform for current groups to submit recommendations
 - No discussion
 - Create a way for commission to communicate with and provide feedback for other groups
 - Discussed opportunities for making idea sharing and communications across all boards and commissions easier and more productive.
 - Assist existing programs to become more inclusive
 - No discussion

4. Review City Activity Calendar
 - No calendar activities discussed.
 - **Motion to discuss 2018 Holiday Parade preparations at the October meeting passed unanimously.**

5. Discuss Participation in 2018 International Festival

- Commission discussed supporting the International Festival by coordinating with Parks and Rec staff and staffing a Diversity & Inclusion Commission booth.
 - Commission reached a consensus on providing a 1-page flyer publicizing Rowlett's community framework data (demographics).
6. Discuss Participation in 2018 Scarecrows on Main
- Commission discussed decorating a Scarecrow and agreed to participate as individual schedules permit.
7. Adjourn
- Commission chair adjourned the meeting at 8:24pm.



Robert McCarrier, Chair



Mark McAvoy, Staff Liaison

1/19/2019

Date Approved