



ARTS AND HUMANITIES COMMISSION MINUTES

Our Vision: A well-planned lakeside community of quality neighborhoods, distinctive amenities, diverse employment, and cultural charm. Rowlett: THE place to live, work and play.

Tuesday, May 15, 2019

6:30 p.m.

Rowlett Public Library
3900 Main Street

- 1) Meeting called to order by Vice Chair Deborah Crosby at 6:32 p.m. and determined a quorum was present.
 - *Members present: Deborah Crosby, Tamra Williams, Gary Alexander, Neslie Fudge, JR. Forasteros and Kim Nurmi*
 - *Members absent: Laura Keasling and Jeff Winget*
 - *Staff present: Kathy Freiheit, Director of Library Services and Brenda Kennedy, Senior Administrative Assistant*
- 2) Chair selects voting alternate(s), if necessary.
 - *Alternate Kim N. selected as voting member in Jeff W.'s absence.*
- 3) Consider approving the minutes from the regular meeting held Tuesday, April 9, 2019.
 - *Motion made by Tamra W. to accept meeting minutes as written; seconded by JR. F.*
 - *Motion approved 6-0.*
- 4) Review updates and take possible action on standing committee reports:
 - a) Recap - Young Artist Exhibit
 - *Deborah C. reported the awards presentation was well attended.*
 - b) Recap - Writing Contest
 - *Deborah C. reported the awards presentation was also well attended.*
 - *JR. F. suggested providing contest theme earlier for teachers; will discuss at Boot Camp.*
 - *Deborah suggested inviting principals to attend in recognizing their teachers and schools.*
 - c) Recap - Rowlett Sings
 - *Gary A. thanked Commission members for their participation; he will be working on a contest FAQ and asked members who have answered frequent questions to please forward them to him for inclusion.*
 - *Huge success this year; may consider adding a "senior" category next year.*
 - *Discussed holding contest at an alternate location; discussion ensued. Consensus of members felt it was not a good idea to hold the contest in another city when participation is limited to Rowlett residents.*
 - *Gary noted AHC members spent 14 hours over two days at the RCC in preparing for the contest. Kathy reported last year's attendance was 150 and 170 attended this year; RCC capacity is 200+ people.*
 - *Tamra W. will inquire about cost to rent Rowlett High School auditorium.*
 - *JR. F. suggested doing a "video package" of contestant introductions; could also use in promotions and do same for winners of other contests.*
 - *Gary reported that judges had good comments this year.*

- *Suggestion was made to have winners walk across stage to receive their awards, stopping in front of "Rowlett Sings" banner for photos.*
- *Group consensus was to request additional \$1,000 in the FY2020 budget request for a possible alternative venue for "Rowlett Sings."*

d) Recap - Village of Rowlett Spring Main Street Market on May 4, 2019

- *Due to miscommunication, only one of the artists recruited by the Commission participated. Members talked with a number of citizens and Commission has been invited to come back. Going forward, it will be the responsibility of Commission to coordinate with each artist; Commission is to be provided a set number of spaces at the next Market.*

e) Photography Contest

- *Deborah C. will email contest information the week of May 13, 2019 to Garland ISD and Rockwall ISD administrators, asking them to distribute to schools.*
- *Tamra W. will contact Cindy Serine about judging the contest.*

f) Publicity

- *Kathy shared Jeff W.'s comments in his absence, reporting that Kim N. has been posting frequent updates and sharing many different topics on the AHC Facebook page.*
- *Kathy added that Jeff W. would like to focus on collecting data for the June 18, 2019 joint work session with Council.*
- *Discussion ensued on using Facebook "boosts" to further promote events, contests, etc.; staff will research how other City departments are doing this.*
- *Group consensus was to request additional \$1,000 in the FY2020 budget request for publicity expenses.*

5) Discuss and take possible action on future public art projects:

a) Update on sculptures for Veterans Park and Fire Station #3

- *Kathy provided an update on status of the projects; there were delays in waiting for Southwest Gallery's certificate of insurance and indemnification agreement. Paperwork has now been received by Purchasing department and 50% deposits were received by vendor.*
- *Staff anticipated that a Veterans Park site visit would be made the first week in May; it is now confirmed for Thursday, May 16. At this date, "Synergy" sculpture may or may not be installed before Memorial Day celebration on Saturday, May 25.*
- *Kathy received estimate for stone column landscaping and shared a sketch of what is to be done and planted; cost is \$2,940.*
- *Kathy confirmed with Marquis Designers that bronze plaque font sizes conform with others previously fabricated.*

b) Plaque design proposal for Fire Station #3 sculpture

- *Sculpture is yet to be named; discussion tabled until next meeting.*

c) Lighting for sculptures at Fire Stations

- *Kathy is waiting on Fire Station #3 sculpture installation so that quotes can be obtained for all four Noblique pieces at the same time.*

- 6) Sculpture maintenance plan.
- Tamra W. reported she contacted several cities with sculptures; all reported that their Parks or Public Works departments were responsible for maintenance. City of Frisco is currently seeking bids for maintaining their sculptures. Tamra received one professional response, who quoted \$135 per hour; vendor is to provide a written estimate at a later date. Further discussion ensued.
 - Commission has an estimated \$1,000 available in current year budget that could possibly be used to clean the oldest Noblique sculptures; Kathy will confer with other City of Rowlett departments for possible maintenance solutions.
- 7) FY 2020 budget needs.
- JR. F. proposed creating a Rowlett Artists Exchange, a community of artists like one in Dallas. Could meet quarterly at a local restaurant; many types of artists could be invited to attend (visual artists, writers, musicians, etc.) to share information, read Writing Contest winning entries, etc. Discussion ensued, and a standing committee was formed: JR. – Chair, with Kim N. and Deborah C.
 - Standing committee will begin work on planning fall event and report back at June meeting.
 - Group consensus was to request additional \$500 in the FY2020 budget request for Rowlett Artists Exchange activities.
 - After review and further discussion, members confirmed a proposed a budget increase of \$2,500 in FY2020, bringing the operating budget to a total of \$16,000:
 - Rowlett Sings \$1,000 for alternative venue
 - Publicity \$1,000 for promotion of contests and events
 - Rowlett Artists Exchange \$ 500 for quarterly meeting refreshments, etc.
 - Commission will present proposed FY2020 budget request at their joint work session with Council on Tuesday, June 18, 2019.
- 8) City Council joint work session Tuesday, June 18, 2019.
- Jeff W., Deborah C. and Kathy will meet to discuss (date TBD).
 - All members were asked to attend the work session and encouraged to wear their AHC polos and/or name badges.
- 9) Public Announcements.
- Tamra W. announced that on Saturday, May 25, the Veterans Resource and Outreach Center will hold its 4th annual "Rowlett Rides for Veterans," ending with a BBQ for Veterans. Details available on their Facebook page.
 - Neslie F. announced her next photography classes at Life Message will be held at 10 a.m. on Saturday, May 18.; online registration is available.
- 10) Future topics.
- Call to order
 - Chair selects voting alternate(s), if necessary
 - Consider approving minutes from previous meeting
 - Review updates and take possible action on standing committee reports:
 - a) Photography Contest
 - b) Publicity
 - c) Rowlett Artists Exchange
 - Discuss and take possible action on future public art projects
 - a) Update on Veterans Park and Fire Station #3 sculptures
 - b) Plaque design for proposed Fire Station #3 sculpture

- c) *Lighting for sculptures at Fire Stations*
 - *Sculpture maintenance plan*
 - *City Council joint work session Tuesday, June 18, 2019*
 - *Public announcements*
 - *Future agenda items*
 - *Adjourn*

11) Adjournment

- *Vice-Chair Deborah Crosby adjourned meeting at 8:03 p.m.*

Approved by the Rowlett Arts and Humanities Commission:

Signature 

Date Jun. 11, 2019