



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, August 13, 2019

6:30 p.m.

Rowlett Public Library
3900 Main Street

- 1) Meeting called to order by Chair Jeff Winget at 6:33 p.m. and determined a quorum was present.
 - *Members present: Jeff Winget, Deborah Crosby, Tamra Williams, Gary Alexander, JR. Forasteros, Laura Keasling and Neslie Fudge*
 - *Members absent: Kim Nurmi*
 - *Visitors: Alena Shelbia, Rowlett Diversity and Inclusion Commission member*
 - *Staff present: 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 the minutes from the regular meeting held Tuesday, June 11, 2019.
 - *Motion made by Deborah C. to accept meeting minutes as written; seconded by Tamra W.*
 - *Motion approved 7-0.*

- 4) Discuss participation in "Taste of DiverCity" event on October 5, 2019 (Alena Shelbia, Rowlett Diversity & Inclusion Commission).
 - *Alena gave a brief history on DiverCity Day, previously known as International Day. Commission has partnered with Parks and Recreation Department to present "Taste of DiverCity" on Saturday, October 5, 2019, to celebrate all the cultures in Rowlett. There will be performers, food vendors, etc.*
 - *Alena asked if the Commission could provide contacts for performers or artists who may want to participate. Deborah C. will contact Rowlett High School for students with artwork from last school year who may want to participate.*
 - *The Commission agreed to have a booth at the event or partner with the Diversity & Inclusion Commission in having one.*

- 5) Discuss City "Trunk or Treat" event on Saturday, October 26, 2019.
 - *In recent years, the Parks & Recreation Department's "Camp Fear" has been rained out, so they will now host a downtown "Trunk or Treat" event. Several departments are involved in the planning.*
 - *There are 20 parking stalls on Martin Drive which will be blocked off for "Trunk or Treat" vehicles; City Boards and Commissions will be invited to participate, as well as local non-profit organizations. Arts and Humanities Commission will challenge other Boards and Commissions to participate, with a gift card awarded for the best decorated trunk.*
 - *Event date is Saturday, October 26, 2019, from 5-8 p.m.*
 - *In addition to trunk or treating, food and games, contests and a movie will be shown.*
 - *A face painter is needed, Deborah C. volunteered. She will email staff with supplies needed.*
 - *In conjunction with "Trunk or Treat," Neighborhood Services will be doing "Scarecrows on Main." The "stuffing day" is scheduled Sunday, October 20, from 2-5 p.m. Elise Bowers will provide straw, stakes and light refreshments. The Commission will confirm their participation at the September meeting.*

6. Update on Rowlett Partners Group.

- *At the August 14, 2018 AHC meeting, Parks Board member Mike DeLatte spoke about creation of a 501(c)(3) organization. He was seeking representative members from select City boards and commissions to serve on the new organization's board.*
- *The June 2019 Parks Advisory Board meeting minutes note that Mike Delatte plans on contacting identified board and commission members to see if they are still interested in serving.*
- *JR. is interested in serving as the Commission's representative; Kathy will contact Parks & Recreation director Angela Smith to let her and Mike know.*

7. Review updates and take possible action on standing committee reports:

a) Photography Contest

- *Tamra W. has been receiving lots of questions.*
- *Tamra and Neslie will do Take-In, dates are: Friday, August 23 (3 – 5pm) and Saturday, August 24 (10 am – 12pm)*
- *Cindy Serine confirmed that she will judge contest entries on Saturday, August 24.*
- *Will have Arts & Humanities Commission infographics cards available; staff will add contest awards info on backs of cards.*
- *Neslie F. volunteered to photograph contest entries.*

b) Rowlett Artists Exchange

- *Tentative date is Tuesday, September 17 from 7 – 8:30 p.m.*
- *JR. has not received a definite answer on use of Book Club Café after-hours for the meeting. Discussion ensued. Kathy asked JR. to request a quote for non-alcoholic beverages and pastries for 50 attendees; the Library's café area can be reserved if Book Club Café is only interested in catering the event.*
- *JR. will speak with past AHC contest winners to invite them to attend and give a short bio and background about their work.*
- *JR. will post the event on the AHC Facebook page.*
- *Attendees will be asked to register to for a gift card drawing to create an email distribution list for future Exchange meetings.*

c) Publicity

- *Jeff W. will ask Larry Beckham to run Rowlett Artists Exchange info in his newsletter.*

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

a) Update on Fire Station #3 sculpture

- *"Responder" has been installed; bronze plaque was ordered and is in process.*
- *Comments made that Commission was not notified about installation; Kathy noted install date had been uncertain and sculpture installed when she was away from work. Kathy also mentioned Public Works department's safety concerns when citizens are present at an active work site, expressed apologies and will notify chair in any future installations.*

b) Lighting for sculptures at Fire Stations

- *Electrician Randy Spencer walked Fire Stations #1, #3 & #4 to determine feasibility of providing power for outdoor lighting of sculptures.*
- *Randy reported that running underground power at all three stations could be expensive and perhaps cost-prohibitive:*

- Fire Station 1 – Need to tunnel under walkway and driveway
- Fire Station 2 – Tree roots will need to be removed
- Fire Station 3 – Long distance from power source to sculpture
- Kathy asked Randy to research commercial-grade solar power options and prepare a quote; findings to include battery life expectancy and cost to replace, solar power limitations and pitfalls, etc.

c) *Interactive mural*

- *Item tabled until FY2020 Boot Camp.*

9) Sculpture maintenance plan.

- *JR.'s volunteer group is interested in cleaning sculptures when weather cools down.*
- *Reviewed and discussed proposal from Eric Thomas at Bronze Conservation Services regarding sculpture maintenance for:*
 - *"Sparkle"*
 - *"Steady"*
 - *"The Best of Us Are Taken by Surprise"*
 - *"Hands" [sic] (i.e., "Synergy")*
 - *"Mark Twain"*
- *Proposed treatment notes an initial fee of \$1,000 to service Noblique sculpture at the Rowlett Community Centre, installed December 2015.*
- *Motion made by Deborah C. to hire Bronze Conservation Services to clean sculpture, "The Best of Us Are Taken by Surprise," located at the Rowlett Community Centre for \$1,000, with work to be completed before September 20, 2019. Seconded by Tamra W.*
- *Motion approved 7-0.*
- *Kathy will contact Mr. Thomas to request an invoice and follow up with him on other proposed treatment details.*

10) Recap FY2019 budget.

- *Reviewed FY2019 remaining budget; balance to be used for Photography Contest awards, September 17 Rowlett Artists Exchange and Rowlett Community Centre sculpture cleaning.*
- *Reviewed AHC's requested budget increases for FY2020.*
- *City Manager's budget recommendations included:*
 - *No increase in AHC operating budget*
 - *\$50,000 for public art, with \$10,000 of that amount designated for sculpture maintenance.*
- *Council budget discussions continue; final approval to be made on September 17, 2019.*

11) Recap City Council Joint Work Session Tuesday, June 18, 2019.

- *Jeff W. thought it went well; received good, constructive feedback.*

12) Recap City Council July 16, 2019 "Synergy" presentation at Veterans Park.

- *Jeff W. thanked Deborah C. for providing remarks at presentation. Kathy noted that comments were intentionally focused on the sculpture and veterans, rather than the Commission.*

13) Public Announcements.

- *Laura K. announced Chamber of Commerce's "Taste and Trade" event is Monday, November 4, 2019, from 5:30 – 8 p.m. at Rowlett High School. Rowlett Dance Academy to perform, children's area will have more space this year; Laura asked for volunteers to help at children's area, asking that they be there by 5p.m. Jeff W. and Neslie F. volunteered to work the event.*

- *Laura K. announced she will not be re-applying for service on the Commission next year; she is planning to attend the September meeting.*
- *Jeff W. reminded about FY20 budget hearing dates: Tuesday, August 20 and Tuesday, September 3, 2019.*

14) Future topics.

- *Call to order*
- *Chair selects voting alternate(s), if necessary*
- *Consider approving minutes from previous meeting*
- *Discuss participation in upcoming City events*
 - a) *"Taste of DiverCity" event on Saturday, October 5, 2019 from 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.*
 - b) *"Scarecrows on Main Street" event, "stuffing day" Sunday, October 20, 2019 from 2-5 p.m.*
 - c) *"Trunk or Treat" event on Saturday, October 26, 2019 from 5-8 p.m.*
- *Review updates and take possible action on standing committee reports:*
 - a) *Photography Contest*
 - b) *Rowlett Artists Exchange*
 - c) *Publicity*
- *Discuss current and future public art projects*
- *Possible Boot Camp dates*
- *Update on FY2020 budget*
- *Public announcements*
- *Future agenda items*
- *Adjourn*

15) Adjournment

- *Chair Jeff Winget adjourned meeting at 8:04 p.m.*

Approved by the Rowlett Arts and Humanities Commission:

Signature



Date

Sept 10, 2019