



## **Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting Minutes**

**Wednesday, September 11, 2019**

**7:00 p.m.**

**Rowlett Community Centre, Room D**

**5300 Main Street, Rowlett TX 75088**

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**PRESENT:** Dolores Henning, Mike DeLatte, Alan Hogan, E.C. Umberger, Lonnie Cornwell, Donna Ferguson, Bernadette Hagmeier, Robert Paroski

**ABSENT:** Diane Perkins, Anthony Scott

**VISTORS:** None

**STAFF:** Shelly Monroe, Sr. Administrative Assistant; Angela Smith, Parks & Recreation Director; Kari Pacheco, Parks & Recreation Operations Manager

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1. Chairman EC Umberger called meeting to order at 7:03pm.
  2. Quorum present.
  3. No Citizen Input.
  4. Consider action to approve minutes from August 14, 2019.
    - A. Dolores Henning made a motion to approve the minutes as corrected.
    - B. Lonnie Cornwell seconded the motion.
    - C. Approved 5 - 0.
  5. Neighborhood Life new community programs.
    - A. Elise Bowers presented information on a Neighborhood Summit that will be held on November 9, 2019. City of Rowlett is partnering with City of Garland and City of Plano to host this summit in Plano. Bus transportation will be provided.
    - B. There are a couple programs being offered in 2020 such as the HOA Legal Clinic in March and Neighborhoods USA is hosting conference in May.
  6. Continue discussion of Eco-tourism.

Lonnie Cornwell contacted the same astronomist who presented at the last Star Gazing event. They are available for November 2, 2019 and this is close to the First Quarter Moon with a backup date of November 9, 2019. There may be consideration to postpone the event until early Spring 2020. Lonnie Cornwell and D. Henning attended a star gazing event in Garland and shared their experience. They need to speak with the coordinator to see if the Texas Astronomical Society of Dallas is interested in holding events in Rowlett. Inquiry will be made as to if they would be able to look at a couple park locations and decided what is best for the star party. Until this is determined plans for the next event are on hold. There is a free app called Skyview that is useful for star gazing.
  7. Discuss plans for the Parks Board Boot Camp to be held on October 19, 2019.

Angela Smith asked members what they would like to see covered during this special meeting. Members are interested in each member touring a park or two then bring feedback from a park user's standpoint to the board.



8. Update from City Council liaison, Blake Margolis.
  - A. Lonnie Cornwell was interviewed for the September Spirit of Rowlett Award as he was the recipient.
  - B. Council will formally adopt the FY2020 budget on September 17, 2019 and some of the specific items covered in the budget were shared with members.
  
9. Director's Report. (Robert Paroski entered)
  - A. On September 3, 2019 City Council approved an agreement with Sports Field Solutions for field improvements at Springfield and Shorewood Parks.
  - B. Movies on Main began August 2, 2019 and starts at dusk which is typically about 8:30pm.
  - C. On October 26<sup>th</sup> from 5pm to 8pm a Trunk or Treat event will be held. Activities include bounce houses, food trucks, movie, costume awards and games. The board was asked if they would like to participate. The board decided they would like to volunteer but not be responsible for a vehicle.
  - D. Scarecrows on Main begins soon and there is no charge. The scarecrows will be in the downtown area. The board decided they would like to make a scarecrow. More details will be sent to board members for them to move forward with plans.
  - E. Rowlett Parks and Recreation received official notification to be re-accredited through CAPRA. As of today, there are 169 accredited parks and recreation agencies in the United States. Of hundreds of all the agencies in Texas and there are only fifteen agencies that are accredited.
  - F. An explanation of fee increases starting October 1, 2019 for FY2020 for both Wet Zone and Rowlett Community Centre was provided.
  - G. Upcoming events: Main Street Market on September 21, 2019 and Taste of DiverCity on October 5, 2019; Adopt-a-thon on October 26, 2019.
  - H. Recognition was given to E.C. Umberger for his years served on this board including his role as Chair for the past couple years.
  
10. Public announcements by members of the Board and/or staff were made.
  - A. Lonnie Cornwell shared that the Tri-City Cleanup will be held October 5, 2019 and volunteers are needed. There will be prizes and gifts for each volunteer. Electronics and document shredding will be held on October 19, 2019. More information can be found on Keep Rowlett Beautiful's website.
  - B. EC Umberger read an article from a US News Report listing City of Rowlett as one of the top 10 places to retire. Blake Margolis added that Rowlett was identified as the 8<sup>th</sup> fastest growing city in the United States.
  
11. Members of the Board may request topics for future agenda meetings.

Inquiry about Paddle Point Park status being considered for an item.
  
12. Adjournment.

Bernadette Hagmeier made a motion to adjourn at 8:20 pm.  
Dolores Henning seconded the motion.  
Unanimous by all those present to adjourn.

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Mike DeLatte, Vice Chairman

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Angela Smith, Director of Parks and Recreation