



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, November 12, 2019

6:30 p.m.

Rowlett Public Library - 3900 Main Street

- 1) Meeting called to order by Chair Jeff Winget at 6:31 p.m. and determined a quorum was present.
 - *Members present: Jeff Winget, Deborah Crosby, Gary Alexander, JR. Forasteros and Neslie Fudge (arrived 6:54 p.m.)*
 - *Members absent: Kim Nurmi and Barbara Morrison*
 - *Staff present: Brian Funderburk, City Manager; Councilmember Martha Brown (arrived 6:45 p.m.); Lexie Woodward, Economic Development Specialist; Kathy Freiheit, Director of Library Services and Brenda Kennedy, Senior Administrative Assistant*

- 2) Chair selects voting alternate(s), if necessary.
 - *N/A*

- 3) Citizens' Input.
 - *N/A*

- 4) Consider approving the minutes from the following meetings:
 - *Regular meeting held October 8, 2019*
 - *Motion made by JR. to accept meeting minutes as written; seconded by Deborah.*
 - *Motion approved 4-0.*
 - *Special work session held October 19, 2019*
 - *Motion made by Gary to accept meeting minutes as written; seconded by JR.*
 - *Motion approved 4-0.*

- 5) Discuss and take possible action on Asphalt Art Initiative Grant opportunity. (Brian Funderburk, City Manager)
 - *Brian Funderburk gave a brief presentation on Bloomberg Philanthropies' Asphalt Art Initiative grants. The program's goals include improving street and pedestrian safety, revitalizing and beautifying underutilized public spaces, and promoting collaboration and civic engagement in local communities.*
 - *This is a \$25,000 competitive grant opportunity, with awards made to only 10 cities with populations between 30K and 500K for specified arts-driven transportation projects. Project site/s must be identified, be largely or completely on public property, and be fully open to the public.*
 - *Brian's presentation included slides of previous grant-winning projects and site possibilities within Rowlett.*
 - *Discussion ensued. If Rowlett is awarded the grant, community support and assistance will be needed to complete the project; may consider enlisting the help of high school volunteers for sense of "ownership" and less vandalism potential. Brian noted that successful grants tell the story behind a project to catch the grantor's attention.*
 - *Consensus of Commission was to move forward in applying for the grant.*
 - *Discussion ensued regarding artwork locations; downtown pedestrian plaza sidewalks were favored.*

- *Brian described structure of a project team; Council liaison Martha Brown and Commission members Deborah Crosby and JR. Forasteros will help with the grant application, which is due Thursday, December 12, 2019, 5 p.m. EST. Commission Chair Jeff Winget volunteered to spearhead the project.*
- *Next steps include identifying matching efforts (i.e., dollars and volunteer equity) and writing the grant. Kathy noted the current Public Art fund balance in consideration.*

Brian Funderburk left the meeting at 7:23 p.m.

Chair Jeff Winget excused himself at 7:23 p.m.; Vice-Chair Deborah Crosby presided.

- 6) Presentation from Ad Hoc Committee on partnering with the Library on an “arts” program concept.
- *Tabled until January 14, 2020 meeting.*
- 7) Review, discuss and take possible action on FY2020 work plan items from October 19, 2019 special work session.
- *Brenda asked questions on work plan items from the November Boot Camp*
 - *Gary will send info on who is doing “video judging” for Rowlett Sings – also need date, time, location, etc. by January meeting*
 - *JR. will meet with Information Systems Administrator Phil Barott to discuss possible options for online submission of Writing Contest entries – need decision by January meeting*
 - *Themes needed for Writing Contest and Photography Contest; consensus decision of members was:*
 - *Writing Contest – Who Dunit?*
 - *Photography Contest – Rowlett 20/20*

Jeff returned at 7:30 p.m. and led remainder of the meeting.

- *Gary made a motion to accept FY2020 work plan as presented; seconded by Deborah.*
- *Motion approved 5-0.*

- 8) Recap participation in past events:
- *“Scarecrows on Main Street” event held Sunday, October 20, 2019*
 - *Members decorated a scarecrow as “Bob Ross”, complete with wig and squirrel.*
 - *“Trunk or Treat” event held Saturday, October 26, 2019*
 - *Well-attended; estimated event attendance was 3,500 people.*
 - *Deborah and daughter painted approximately 500 faces.*
 - *Council member Blake Margolis served as “Best Decorated Trunk” judge; Catalyst Community Church won this year’s (traveling) trophy.*
 - *Improvements for next year’s events included more trunks and relocating games away from candy handout area to avoid bottlenecks. Kathy will suggest adding a place on Parks’ online application to indicate if group is supplying a game or photo op.*
 - *Rowlett Chamber of Commerce’s “Taste and Trade” event held Monday, November 4, 2019*
 - *Deborah reported event went well; she’ll let Laura Keasling know it would help to know in advance which games are planned.*
 - *Dance performances brought many parents and grandparents to the event.*

9) Review updates and take possible action on standing committee reports:

- *Calendar*
 - *Jeff thanked Deborah for getting quotes on producing calendars.*
 - *Deborah received quotes from two local vendors: Garland ISD Career and Technical Center and Flat Rate printing. Discussion ensued; Flat Rate can produce 1,000 calendars and typesetting within allotted budget.*
 - *Deborah will contact Adam Acoba at the Rowlett Community Centre to ask for 2020 Parks and Recreation dates for calendar. Martha Brown asked to include Keep Rowlett Beautiful dates in calendar, she will email Deborah the dates.*
 - *Jeff has photos from 2019 contests and copies of Creative Works Display Agreements to verify how parents prefer their children's names be displayed on the calendar.*
 - *Kathy and Brenda requested opportunity to do one final proof of calendar before order is printed.*
 - *Motion made by Neslie to purchase 2020 calendars from Flat Rate Printing in an amount not to exceed \$2,999; seconded by JR.*
 - *Motion approved 5-0.*

- *Grants*
 - *Cultural Arts Grant*
 - *Grant applications are due Friday, December 13, 2019; standing committee will make recommendations at the January 14, 2020 meeting.*
 - *Grant applications were emailed to last year's recipients and information has been posted on City's Arts and Humanities Commission webpage.*
 - *Arts in Education Grant*
 - *This grant is available only to public and private schools physically located in Rowlett.*
 - *Grant applications will be emailed to schools Monday, November 18. Grant applications are due Friday, January 17, 2020.*
 - *Standing committee will make recommendations at the February 11, 2020 meeting.*

- *Young Artists Exhibit*
 - *Deborah has contacted Jon Millet to ask him to judge contest again this year.*
 - *Take-in date of artwork is Friday, March 20 (3-5 p.m.) and Saturday, March 21 (10 a.m. – noon); Deborah will need assistance during the Friday afternoon take-in.*

- *Rowlett Sings*
 - *Gary will provide video judging date/time/location by January 14, 2020 meeting.*
 - *Kathy reserved rooms at Rowlett Community Centre for event and has confirmed date with Drew Rist for videotaping.*
 - *Gary reserved stage for event but hasn't reserved video package for taping of final contestant interviews to be shown the night of event. Discussion ensued; it was determined that a video package is needed; Gary will contact vendor to reserve.*

- *Publicity*
 - *Kim has been sharing items on Arts and Humanities Commission Facebook page.*

10) Discuss current and future public art projects:

- *Select Standing Committee members*
 - *Jeff will continue to chair the committee.*
 - *JR. will continue to serve; Neslie will fill the standing committee vacancy created with Tamra Williams' departure.*

Gary left the meeting at 8:07 p.m. and returned at 8:10 p.m.

JR. left the meeting at 8:10 p.m.

11) Public Announcements.

- *Reminder: Open Meetings Act training certificates are due to City Secretary by Monday, December 2, 2019 (for new and reappointed members).*
- *Reminder: Board and Commission orientation date to be determined (for new and reappointed members)*
- *City tree decorating is planned for Tuesday, December 3, 2019 at 5 p.m. Power will be provided, but groups should supply extension cords. Outdoor lighting should be used. Application to participate is available online; Jeff will apply on behalf of the Commission.*

12) Future topics.

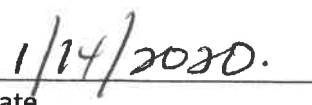
- *Call to order*
- *Chair selects voting alternate(s), if necessary*
- *Citizens' Input*
- *Around the table introductions by members (if needed)*
- *Consider approving minutes from previous meeting*
- *Update on Asphalt Art Initiative grant application*
- *Presentation from Ad Hoc Committee on partnering with the Library on an "arts" program concept*
- *Recap participation in City's tree decorating event held December 3, 2019*
- *Review updates and take possible action on standing committee reports:*
 - a) *Calendar project recap*
 - b) *Grants*
 - *Cultural Arts Grants*
 - *Receive recommendations from Cultural Arts Grant standing committee on grant applications received*
 - *Discuss and take possible action on the Cultural Arts Grant awards for FY2020*
 - *Arts in Education Grant*
 - a) *Young Artist Exhibit*
 - b) *Rowlett Sings*
 - c) *Writing Contest*
 - d) *Rowlett Artist Exchange (RAX)*
 - e) *Publicity*
- *Discuss current and future public art projects*
- *Public announcements*
- *Future agenda items*
- *Adjourn*

13) Adjournment

- *Chair Jeff Winget adjourned the meeting at 8:15 p.m.*

Approved by the Rowlett Arts and Humanities Commission:


Signature


Date