



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, January 14, 2020

6:30 p.m.

Rowlett Public Library - 3900 Main Street

- 1) Meeting called to order by Vice-Chair Deborah Crosby at 6:34 p.m. and determined a quorum was present.
 - *Members present: Deborah Crosby, Gary Alexander, Neslie Fudge, Kim Nurmi and Barbara Morrison (arrived at 6:40 p.m.)*
 - *Members absent: Jeff Winget and JR. Forasteros*
 - *Visitors present: Richard and Patricia McNeill*
 - *Staff present: Council Liaison Martha Brown; Laura Tschoerner, Interim Library Director, Brenda Kennedy, Senior Administrative Assistant and Constance Whalon, Library Assistant*
- 2) Chair selects voting alternate(s), if necessary.
 - *N/A*
- 3) Citizens' Input.
 - *Richard McNeill is a 20 year citizen of Rowlett. He is a professional artist and has experience creating murals. He asked what the City is looking for in a mural? Location, theme and cohesiveness is a good place for City to start. What are the pros and cons? Costs associated with producing and maintaining a mural? Martha Brown would like to hear more ideas from him.*
- 4) Around the table introductions by members.
 - *Brief introductions made by all members.*
- 5) Consider approving the minutes from the regular meeting held Tuesday, November 12, 2019.
 - *Motion made by Gary to accept meeting minutes as written; seconded by Neslie.*
 - *Motion approved 5-0.*
- 6) Update on Asphalt Art Initiative Grant application. (Grant Committee)
 - *Martha Brown gave an update letting Commission know the grant application has been submitted; she thinks Rowlett has a good chance on receiving grant. Grant awards will be announced in the Spring 2020. Even if Rowlett does not receive grant, she recommends that the City move forward with plan and complete project.*
 - *Will request a copy of the grant application from City Manager and distribute to Commission members.*
- 7) Presentation from Ad Hoc Committee on partnering with the Library on an "arts" program concept.
 - *JR. and Neslie scouted out library to see ages and number of children visiting library in the afternoons. Would like to create "arts" program geared toward "after school" children. Will come back and talk with children to find out what their interests are in order to create "arts" classes. Example of class to be offered: How to take better photos with your cell phone, etc.*
- 8) Recap participation in City's tree decorating event held December 3, 2019.
 - *Commission participated in tree decorating; trees looked good.*

- *Martha Brown commented many trees were not lighted this year. City needs a generator for that area or run electrical power to area so all trees can be lighted in the evenings.*

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

- **Calendar**
 - *Deborah reported she received 1,020 calendars and is very pleased with results. She has delivered to Rowlett businesses, City Hall, Library and will deliver to schools later in week. Tamra Williams and her brother assisted with deliveries. Staff has mailed calendars to contest judges and all 2019 Commission winners.*
- **Grants**
 - **Cultural Arts Grant**
Receive recommendations from Cultural Arts Grant Standing Committee on grant applications received.
 - *Gary reported three applications were received:*
 - 1) *Artists 'Round Texas – requested \$1,950 for professional artists demonstrations; juror fees and awards for "Small Works" and "Paint and Photograph Rowlett" shows; and advertising.*
 - 2) *Rowlett High School Eagle Theatre Booster Club – requested \$1,500 for wireless microphones for sound systems.*
 - 3) *Rowlett Summer Musicals – requested \$2,500 for the purchase of ten wireless head worn microphones*
 - *Standing Committee (Gary and Kim) recommended:*
 - 1) *Artists 'Round Texas - \$820*
 - 2) *Rowlett High School Eagle Theatre Booster Club - \$630*
 - 3) *Rowlett Summer Musicals - \$1,050*
 - *Discuss and take possible action on the Cultural Arts Grant awards for FY2020*
Motion made by Neslie to accept standing committee recommendations as presented; seconded by Kim. Motion approved 5-0.
 - **Arts in Education Grant**
 - *Grant applications are due Friday, January 17, 2020.*
 - *Standing committee will make recommendations at the February 11, 2020 meeting.*
- **Young Artists Exhibit**
 - *Deborah emailed contest information to Fine Arts Department administrators (Rockwall and Garland ISDs) for distribution to teachers Monday, January 13, 2020.*
 - *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 has arranged video judging for 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, March 31, 2020 at the Rowlett Chamber of Commerce.*
 - *Online entry form has been updated and is ready for Friday, January 31, 2020 publicity.*
 - *Gary reserved stage, audio and lighting for event. Invoices emailed to staff for payment.*
 - *Gary has confirmed emcee and judges for event.*
- **Writing Contest**
 - *JR. and Phil Barott are working on the possibility of online entry submissions.*

- *Rowlett Artist Exchange*
 - *Next Exchange scheduled for Tuesday, January 28 in the library café. JR. will work with local vendor for refreshments.*
- *Publicity*
 - *Kim has been sharing items on Arts and Humanities Commission Facebook page.*

10) Discuss current and future public art projects:

- *Martha Brown reported the Asphalt Art Initiative Grant application was submitted.*
- *Martha Brown gave an update on art sharing program with Dallas. Will need to know what the Commission wants. Agreement should include this plus maintenance needs, how to display and insurance costs. Can the Commission afford to maintain art pieces?*

11) Public Announcements.

- *Neslie announced the Rowlett Chamber of Commerce Banquet is January 25, 2020.*
- *Laura announced a couple of library contests, Martin Luther King bookmark contest and Love Your Library poetry contest. She asked if any Commission members would like to judge? If so, please contact her. Deborah volunteered to judge the Martin Luther King bookmark contest.*

12) Future topics.

- *Call to order*
- *Chair selects voting alternate(s), if necessary*
- *Citizens' Input*
- *Consider approving minutes from previous meeting*
- *Update from Ad Hoc Committee on partnering with the Library on an "arts" program concept*
- *Review updates and take possible action on standing committee reports:*
 - a) *Grants*
 - *Arts in Education Grants*
 - *Receive recommendations from Arts in Education Grants standing committee on grant applications received*
 - *Discuss and take possible action on the Arts in Education Grant awards for FY2020*
 - 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

- *Vice-Chair Deborah Crosby adjourned the meeting at 7:22 p.m.*

Approved by the Rowlett Arts and Humanities Commission:

Signature



Date

Feb 11, 2020