



**Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting Minutes**  
**Wednesday, March 11, 2020**  
**7:00 p.m.**  
**Rowlett Community Centre**  
**5300 Main Street, Rowlett TX 75088**

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**PRESENT:** Dolores Henning, Mike DeLatte, Alan Hogan, Lonnie Cornwell, Donna Ferguson, Robert Paroski, Anthony Scott

**ABSENT:** Bernadette Hagmeier, Richard Kull

**VISTORS:**

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

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1. Chairman Mike DeLatte called meeting to order at 6:30pm.
  2. Quorum present.
  3. Citizen Input.  
No input.
  4. Consider action to approve minutes from February 12, 2020 minutes.
    - A. Lonnie Cornwell made a motion to approve the minutes as written.
    - B. Dolores Henning seconded the motion.
    - C. Approved 7 - 0.
  5. 2020 Census presentation.  
Presenter was not present, therefore Angela Smith reviewed information from a slide show and Blake Margolis had additional comments. More information can be found on the website [2020Census.gov](http://2020Census.gov).
  6. Rowlett Hockey Association annual presentation.
    - A. David Reed, President of Rowlett Hockey Association, was unable to be present therefore Robert Stockard, Vice President, spoke on the following, 1a) Reviewed their food drive donations for Life Message since 2014; 2) Allen Americans, traditions such as end of season party, and honor graduating seniors; 3) Youth hockey numbers since 2010. Forty percent of the players are from Rowlett; 4) Adult Hockey numbers since 2011. Twenty-four percent of the adults are from Rowlett. There are multiple communities that play in the adult league; and 5) Keys to their success.
    - B. Challenges for the hockey leagues are 1) some destruction caused by persons practicing soccer on the rink; 2) Kids who fall in love with the sport on ice rather than roller hockey; 3) Dr Pepper/Stars have high school hockey leagues; and 4) Most of the adult players who play with this league also playing on ice at some level.
    - C. Future issues revolve around the discussions about the redesign of Herfurth Park and the not knowing of when or where the rink will be moved. Granted assurances have been made by city staff that the existing rink will remain in place until there is a new home. The unknown places



hardship on future planning. Angela Smith shared that as soon as David, President, is well they will meet to further discuss options. There is no specific timeline, and this could be 3 years out because the Herfurth Park renovation will be done in phases and as of right now the front part of the park where the rink is located will be in the last phase.

7. Special Events update.

- A. Adam Acoba spoke about upcoming events such as Lunch on the Lawn, Easter Eggstravaganza, Pup-pa-looza, Kid Fish and Cardboard Boat regatta. Volunteers are needed and A. Acoba explained in what capacity.
- B. Angela Smith announced a Parks Board banner was made for this board to use at events to help promote this aboard at events. Members were able to view the banner.

8. 2021 CIP Bond funding request update.

- A. Angela Smith shared a list of CIP projects and the top 5 potential CIP Bond Projects: Herfurth Park Phase II, Wet Zone (painting, UV system for activity pool and lap pool, furniture), Lakefront at Pecan Grove Phase II, Trail Construction, and Erosion Control around city parks. Staff have been in the process of applying for Grant funds for trails.
- B. Board members did not express any concerns about the identified projects. Blake Margolis asked if there are any fund requests for more sports fields. Angela Smith voiced funds were approved in 2018, therefore no more funds are being requested at this time. Mike DeLatte inquired about the erosion at Community Park. Angela Smith replied that Kari Pacheco and herself will look at the area and see if there is anything that can be done.

9. Parks Board event updates.

- A. The Star Gazing event was held March 6, 2020 starting at 7:30pm. Dolores Henning reports there was 144 attendees. There were only 2 telescopes for this event, whereas there were 3 telescopes at the last event. City Lights Astronomical Society for Students recommended to contact the Texas Astronomical Society for star gazing parties in the future due to the number of attendees this time. Members will look at the next event to be in the fall. Lonnie Cornwell suggests having specific Star Gazing signage.
- B. Cardboard Boat Regatta is April 25, 2020 and members decided to participate this year. Members who will ride in the boat are A. Hogan, D. Henning, and R. Kull. The boat needs some repainting. Members who will be present at the booth are D. Ferguson, R. Paroski, and M. DeLatte.
- C. Discussion held on the best time to hold the scavenger hunt and star gazing event. An informational flyer can indicate these events are "Coming in Fall 2020". Briefly spoke about a scavenger hunt app rather than an event where everyone meets to go on a scavenger hunt. A couple board members can meet with staff to come up with scavenger hunt items. Board members decided it would be helpful for each member to bring 3 or 4 ideas from a couple parks as possible items to put on the scavenger list to the next meeting. Consider scheduling the event in July which is Parks and Recreation month.

10. Update from City Council liaison, Blake Margolis.

- A. City of Rowlett is working with several entities regarding the Coronavirus issue. There will continue to be ongoing updates.
- B. Jersey Mikes opened today and is located next to Panera Bread.
- C. Effective February 19, 2020 Assistant Chief Godfrey was officially promoted to the new Rowlett Police Chief.
- D. Construction started on the right turn lane by high school and the project will hopefully be completed in about 4 months.

11. Director's Report.


- A. Boards/Commission and Volunteer Banquet will be held on April 9, 2020 located at the RCC. RSVP is due by March 13<sup>th</sup>.
- B. Recreation Division is gearing up for summer activities with various camps, SOAR, a couple new exercise programs, senior trips, and summer athletic leagues. The Lakeside Leisure summer edition will be available on April 1<sup>st</sup>.
- C. The DRELC Task Force is in the final steps of approving a company to complete the design for the Environmental Learning Center. Meetings were held this week with the final selection and once a price and terms are agreed upon, the vendor will present to Keep Rowlett Beautiful and then final approval will be done by the Rowlett City Council.
- D. Within the next week the AARP Network of Age-Friendly Communities survey for Rowlett citizens over the age of 45 will be sent to board members. Members are encouraged to help get this survey out to others and if a board member meets the criteria to consider completing the survey. The information will help with future planning on eight domains of livability.
- E. Winter 2019 Youth Basketball League ended last Saturday.

12. Public announcements by members of the Board and/or staff were made.  
No announcements this meeting.

13. Members of the Board may request topics for future agenda meetings.  
No requested topics for this meeting.

14. Adjournment.

- A. Lonnie Cornwell made a motion to adjourn at 7:42 pm.
- B. Robert Paroski seconded the motion.
- C. Unanimous by all those present to adjourn.

  
Mike DeLatta, Chairman

**Angela  
Smith**

Digitally signed by Angela Smith  
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Angela Smith, Director of Parks and Recreation