



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, February 11, 2020

6:30 p.m.

Rowlett Public Library - 3900 Main Street

- 1) Meeting called to order by Chair Jeff Winget at 6:34 p.m. and determined a quorum was present.
 - *Members present: Jeff Winget, Deborah Crosby, Gary Alexander, Neslie Fudge, and JR. Forasteros*
 - *Members absent: Kim Nurmi and Barbara Morrison*
 - *Staff present: Laura Tschoerner, Interim Library Director, Constance Whalon, Library Assistant and Brenda Kennedy, Senior Administrative Assistant*

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

- 3) Discuss United States Census 2020 – Jeff Winget, 2020 Census Complete Count Committee.
 - *Committee is talking to individuals, organizations, schools, etc. to provide information regarding the census and why is it important to complete. Committee is encouraging everyone to complete the census.*
 - *Each person (even children two and under) should be counted.*
 - *Missing even 1% of people living in Texas could result in missing out on \$300 million dollars of public funding per year.*
 - *You can complete the census online, by phone or by mail.*
 - *Your personal data is protected by federal law, any violation comes with a penalty of up to \$250,000 and/or up-to 5 years in prison.*

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

- 5) Consider approving the minutes from the regular meeting held Tuesday, January 14, 2020.
 - *Motion made by Neslie to accept meeting minutes as written; seconded by Deborah.*
 - *Motion approved 5-0.*

- 6) Update from Ad Hoc Committee on partnering with the Library on an "arts" program concept.
 - *Committee would like to engage middle school students in afternoon "art" programs. Neslie talked with a few middle schoolers and they were interested in "art" programs. Students she spoke to attend either Coyle Middle School or Rowlett High School. Will gear programs toward middle school students.*
 - *Laura presented a list of questions from library staff asking how programs would work; when programs would take place and where; etc. Committee will review and send Laura their answers. Laura will probably need to clear program specifics with City Attorney.*
 - *Jeff suggested:*
 - *Committee continue to work on project*
 - *Deborah to talk with Coyle Middle School PTA to enlist their help*
 - *look at an outdoor activity*
 - *reply to Laura's questions so she can present to City Attorney*
 - *look at possible May event date*

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

- *Grants*
 - *Arts in Education Grants*

Receive recommendation from Arts in Education Grant Standing Committee on grant applications received.

 - *Gary reported one application was received:*

Chad Wilkinson, Rowlett High School Art Department - requested \$1,000 for an Apple iPad with Apple Pencil (for digital drawing)
 - *Standing Committee (Gary and Kim) recommended:*

Award Rowlett High School Art Department \$1,000 grant
 - *Discuss and take possible action on the Art in Education Grants award for FY2020*

Motion made by Deborah to accept standing committee recommendations as presented; seconded by Neslie. Motion approved 5-0.
- *Young Artists Exhibit*
 - *Deborah reported Jon Millet will judge the exhibit 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, she should be at Annex by 4 p.m. Gary agreed to assist as he will be there to accept entries for Rowlett Sings.*
- *Rowlett Sings*
 - *Gary will be available Friday, March 20 (3-5 p.m.) and Saturday, March 21 (10 a.m. – noon) in the Annex to accept entries.*
 - *Gary has arranged video judging for 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, March 31, 2020 at the Rowlett Chamber of Commerce. He is contacting possible judges for video viewing. Staff to purchase \$25 gift cards for judges as a thank you.*
 - *Online entry form has been updated and was posted January 29, 2020.*
 - *Gary has confirmed emcee and judges for event; staff to purchase \$50 gift cards for emcee/judges as a thank you.*
- *Writing Contest*
 - *JR. reported Phil Barott and he tried to work out a solution allowing online entry submittals for this year, but were not able to do so. Phil will work on during year and hopefully next year Commission can offer online entry submittals.*
 - *JR. has confirmed three judges for this year. Suggestion to ask local author Kathie Truitt to judge next year.*
- *Rowlett Artist Exchange*
 - *Commission cancelled the Exchange scheduled for Tuesday, January 28 due to lack of promotion.*
 - *Next Exchange scheduled In April and JR. is currently working to promote event.*
- *Publicity*
 - *Working on promoting Rowlett Sings.*
 - *Jeff will contact staff when he is ready to post a Facebook Boost.*

8) Discuss current and future public art projects:

- *Jeff discussed sculpture maintenance needs; funds given for FY2020 are for cleaning/maintaining existing sculptures. JR. and Jeff will research to find a vendor to clean "Spirit of Rowlett".*
- *Laura reported the Friends of the Rowlett Library will continue to clean Mark Twain sculpture.*

- Deborah asked about purchasing sculpture for Animal Services; purchase on hold until maintenance plan is in place. Also, waiting to see if City of Rowlett receives "Asphalt Art Initiative Grant"; if not City has discussed completing project using public art funds

9) Public Announcements.

- Jeff informed Commission that Council Liaison Martha Brown will have a conference call on February 19 with the City of Dallas regarding their art share program. Jeff plans to join in on call, more information to follow.
- City Council elections are May 2, 2020. If anyone is interested in running, please contact the City Secretary's Office.
- Arts Advocacy Day is March 31, 2020. Staff asked if Commission would like to present proclamation for "Arts Advocacy Day" at the March 17, 2020 City Council meeting; consensus was to do proclamation. Jeff will email his copy from last year so Laura can prepare Staff Report.

10) 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) Young Artist Exhibit
 - b) Rowlett Sings
 - c) Writing Contest
 - d) Photography Contest
 - e) Rowlett Artist Exchange (RAX)
 - f) Publicity
- Discuss current and future public art projects
- Public announcements
- Future agenda items
- Adjourn

11) Adjournment

- Chair Jeff Winget adjourned the meeting at 7:47 p.m.

Approved by the Rowlett Arts and Humanities Commission:

Signature 

Date August 21, 2020