



**Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, January 13, 2021**

6:30 p.m.

**Rowlett Community Centre
5300 Main Street, Rowlett TX 75088**

PRESENT (remotely): Chair: Mike DeLatte, Vice Chair: Dolores Henning, Richard Kull, Eve Johnson, Derrick Culpepper, Donna Ferguson; Alternates: Rebecca Day, Michael Schupp

ABSENT: Anthony Scott, Bernadette Hagmeier, Lonnie Cornwell, Kristy Andrade

VISITORS: None

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

Due to the public health emergency and to conform with the social distancing requirements, the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board meeting was held via teleconferencing. The public was provided an opportunity to submit comments for a specific agenda item or general comment through citizen email address.

1. Chairman Mike DeLatte called meeting to order at 6:33pm.
2. Consider approving minutes from the regular meeting held December 9, 2020.
 - A. Eve Johnson made a motion to approve the minutes as written.
 - B. Dolores Henning seconded the motion.
 - C. Approved 6 - 0.
3. Citizen Input.

No input.
4. Rowlett USSSA annual presentation.

Mike DeLatte, President, presented information on the stats of teams by season and by year, income statement for revenue and expenses. The 2020 highlights include 1) the association provides a family environment, 2) 3rd most active USSSA park in North Texas, 3) largest sports organization in Rowlett, 4) offers tournament sponsorships, 5) hosted the Men's D State Tournament with 33 teams participating, 6) sent 6 teams to USSSA World Tournaments, 7) has a Wall of Fame, and 8) held the 3rd annual Toys for Tots Tournament with 716 toys. For 2021 year there will be a continued expanded city league format, continued partnership with DFW Fastpitch, expand vendor opportunities, have an ATM, continue giving Rowlett exposure on National USSSA committees. Explained the challenges COVID19 has imposed on the league. Other future challenges are rain out and how turf fields could be a solution, asset deterioration, field maintenance, the increased cost of doing business such as umpires, trophies, shirts, softballs, etc.
5. Update from City Council liaison, Blake Margolis.

Blake Margolis is unable to be present, although S. Monroe will forward an email to members from him on the 2021 Bond projects, COVID vaccine and a couple other items.
6. Social Media subcommittee update.

Derrick Culpepper reported the subcommittee met on January 11, 2021. There will be a feature of 1 park per a month. Kenwood Park will be this month. This project is in process.



February will cover Twin Star Park and March will be Katy Railroad Park. The video will be posted on Facebook and YouTube.

7. Dan Robert's Environmental Learning Center update.

Dolores Henning reported there was a design presentation by Lake Flato presented to City Council on December 15, 2020. There is no other update to report at this time since Keep Rowlett Beautiful (KRB) will now be discussing the fundraising options. KRB board meetings are held the 2nd Monday of each month at 7:00pm. If you would like to attend the KRB Board of Directors meeting, please email them at info@keeprowlettbeautiful.org and get sent a Zoom meeting invite.

8. Operations Manager's Report

- A. Aaron Cleaver has been appointed as the Parks and Recreation Director.
- B. Due to COVID19 and staff meeting once a month to review the status of events and programs, the Lakeside Leisure is being designed & published differently. Usually the Lakeside Leisure is printed and includes information for winter, spring and summer. Starting in January there is no printing since there are no events to distribute the magazine and there is little people traffic at the Rowlett Community Centre. January Lakeside Leisure is posted on the Parks & Recreation webpage and on the Facebook page, as well as Friday@5 there is a scan option that will bring you directly to the magazine.
- C. On January 5th City Council approved \$10,000 for the shade structure at Isaac Scruggs Park and \$25,000 for a pavilion and grills at Kenwood Heights Park through the Community Development Block Grant.
- D. In January 2020 the City of Rowlett was accepted as a member of the AARP Livable Communities Network to work on being an age-friendly community. The focus is for seniors and the Senior Advisory Board is holding listening sessions on Jan 26 at 1pm and Jan 28 at 6:30pm as part of this project. Discussions will focus on transportation, housing and social participation. If you would like to attend, let S. Monroe know and she will provide you with detailed information.
- E. Partnered with Keep Rowlett Beautiful for a pollinated bed by Coyle House and help with some of the landscaping. They want to speak at the next meeting to share some ideas on how to highlight Coyle House.
- F. Not able to host the Little Sweetheart Dance but looking at some options including postponing the dance to the springtime.

9. Public announcements by members of the Board and/or staff can be made.
No announcements.

10. Members of the Board may request topics for future agenda meetings.
No agenda items requested.

11. Adjournment.

- A. Eve Johnson made a motion to adjourn at 7:25pm.
- B. Richard Hull seconded the motion.
- C. Unanimous by all those present to adjourn.


Mike DeLatta, Chairman


Kari Pacheco, Parks and Recreation Operations Manager