



**Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting Minutes**  
**Wednesday, August 16, 2021**  
**6:30 p.m.**  
**Rowlett Community Centre**  
**5300 Main Street, Rowlett TX 75088**

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**PRESENT** Chair: Mike DeLatte, Vice Chair: Dolores Henning, Richard Kull, Donna Ferguson, Bernadette Hagmeier; Alternates: Rebecca Day, Kristy Andrade, Michael Schupp

**ABSENT:** Lonnie Cornwell, Derrick Culpepper, Anthony Scott, Eve Johnson

**VISITORS:** N/A

**STAFF:** Shelly Monroe, Sr. Administrative Assistant; Kari Pacheco, Assistant Director of Parks & Recreation

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1. Chairman Mike DeLatte called meeting to order at 6:32p.m.
  2. Consider approving minutes from the regular meeting held July 14, 2021.
    - A. Bernadette Hagmeier made a motion to approve the July 14, 2021 minutes.
    - B. Dolores Henning seconded the motion.
    - C. Approved 5 - 0.
  3. Citizen Input.  
No input.
  4. Discuss Parks and Recreation Advisory Board's annual boot camp.  
Mike DeLatte explained the meaning of the boot camp. After discussing the options for October dates, it was decided for S. Monroe to send an email with the available dates to obtain members availability. Members were asked to start thinking about what they would like to see covered during the boot camp.
  5. Discuss budget request for this board.  
Mike DeLatte stated there was going to be a budget request during the joint meeting with Council in July, but shortly prior to the meeting it was found out that the budget had already been decided. There have been state changes with budget deadlines. Members discussed the suggestion of asking for some funds for supporting the social media committee and the board who is sponsoring a few events per year. Both of these components are geared towards promoting parks and recreation. Mike DeLatte made a motion to request \$2,000 to \$5,000 for board event and activity expenses. Richard Kull seconded the motion. Approved 5 to 0.
  6. Urban Forestry committee update.  
Kristi Andrade reported the committee met today to discuss ideas for an Arbor Day event. This year the event will co-exist with the Neighborhood Summit that will be held on November 6, 2021. Tree planting will be in Pecan Grove Park. May look at asking for some funding for next year's Arbor Day event. The Parks Superintendent will attend the next meeting to assist with planning of this event.



7. Parks Board event updates.

- A. Scavenger Hunt - Donna Ferguson reported a good turnout for this first event. The majority of participants were family groups and the age ranges varied. Most attendees returned in the end for the twenty-five prize drawings. Feedback on the event was mostly positive. Next year the event should be held in a different month because weather was hot. As far as the setup, may look at possibly having separate clues for younger and older participants. Board members need to look at advertising the event at Kids Kingdom the week before event and more outdoor signage to promote event.
- B. The board's goals and objectives for promoting eco-tourism was referenced. Paddling event and trail scavenger hunt were held. The board was unable to have a booth at Kid Fish this year due to COVID. A star gazing event has not been arranged because of COVID. The nighttime hike will be a fall event possibly in November and briefly discussed ideas. Would like to look at a star gazing event but contact needs to be made with City Lights Astronomical Society for Students and Texas Astronomical Society to find out if they are even sponsoring events right now. Rebecca Day will coordinate with E. Johnson on the night hike and Richard Kull will follow up with star gazing.

8. Social Media subcommittee update.

Kristy Andrade reported the subcommittee met on July 9, 2021. The video on Shorewood Park video was released last week. Looking to cover Paddle Point Park and Lakeside Park next and discussions began on the possible layout for this next video.

9. Update from City Council Liaison, Blake Margolis.

- A. Blake Margolis was unable to be present but provided a written update. The Fiscal Year 2022 Proposed Budget has been presented to City Council. This budget considers available resources and allocates revenues to the highest strategic priorities identified in the City's 2018 Strategic Plan. This is the third straight year for a reduction in the monthly water and sewer bill. More information can be found on the city website.
- B. Due to the recent surge in COVID-19 cases, the Rowlett Office of Emergency Management will resume weekly reporting to the City Council. He is sharing updates on his Blake Margolis-Rowlett City Council, Place 1, Facebook page.
- C. A grand opening ceremony will be held on September 1, 2021 at 10:00am for the new Rowlett Fire Station 2. The new station is 20,000 sq ft compared to the 3,000 sq ft of the current station. This new station has a state-of-the-art Emergency Operations Center that will be utilized during major emergencies in the city and can also be used for community meeting space.

10. Assistant Director's Report

- A. Event calendars for August and September are available in each member's folder. Concert Series on Fridays is this month. The new Special Events and Marketing Coordinator, Pamela Vierus, started this week. Farmers Market cancelled for August due to difficulties obtaining sufficient number of vendors to commit on Saturday mornings since there are other neighboring farmers markets.
- B. Rowlett Community Centre suffered a flood on August 3, 2021. The damage is extensive. Due to this damage and the recovery now in progress, programs will need to be moved or cancelled during this time. We are asking for persons to be patient as decisions are being made for safety and to keep the recovery on track.



- C. Wet Zone had a good summer with high attendance and party reservations. The last day to officially close is August 14, 2021 after being opened from 1pm to 6pm. The Pooch Plunge will be held August 15, 2021 from 4p-7pm.
- D. Parks Division put in a bid to expand the "work yard" at Community Park for better security, storage, and mobility of the equipment. A Community Park soccer field survey is to begin next week.
- E. Heroes Bridge Memorial Park - Chris Kizziar presented information on a proposed alternative use for Scenic Point Park to City Council on July 20<sup>th</sup>. This work session is available for viewing on the city website. There is a foundation that will fund the project. They are requesting information on the original plans for Scenic Point Park and how they can tie into what exists and future plans. (Kristy Andrade exited meeting).
- F. Mike DeLatte asked about a cricket field. Kari Pacheco mentioned there has been some brief discussion about a possible location, but no decision has been made at this time.
- G. Mike DeLatte inquired about the project occurring at Waterview Golf Club. ATMOS is replacing a smaller pipe with a larger pipe.

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

12. Members of the Board may request topics for future agenda meetings.
- A. Mike DeLatte would like to discuss October board elections.
  - B. Urban Forestry update.
  - C. Boot Camp follow up.
  - D. Board events update.

13. Adjournment at 7:56 p.m.

  
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Mike DeLatte, Chairman

  
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Kari Pacheco, Parks and Recreation Assistant Director