

Rowlett Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Commission Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, July 20th, 2022

7:00 PM

Municipal Building- 4000 Main St, Rowlett, Texas

1. Called to order at 7:00 pm

Present: Susan Urrutia, Mike Hernandez, Diana Moore, Kellie McKee, James Spencer, Phaleria Hollins, Michele Stoute-Smith, Terence Kessee.

Absent: JoAnna Phalen, Alicia Ceballos, Cynthia Manning

Staff: Munal Mauladad, Managing Director of Community Development and Engineering; Tara Bradley, Neighborhood Planning Supervisor; Lilyana Morejon, Neighborhood Planner II; Blake Margolis, Mayor; Pam Vierus, Parks and Recreation Special Events and Marketing Coordinator; Alex Koenig, Planning and Urban Design Manager.

2. Chair Select Voting Alternate

Commissioner James Spencer selected as the voting alternate.

3. Consider Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes

Motion: Vice-Chair Hernandez

Seconded: Commissioner Mckee

Motion carried unanimously

4. Citizen's Input

None

5. Celebrate DiverCity Event Discussion

- a. Pam Vierus, Parks and Recreation Special Events and Marketing Coordinator, Chairperson Moore and Tara Bradley, Neighborhood Planning Supervisor, discussed the DiverCity event. The Parks and Recreation Department will take care of logistics. The commission will focus on the event theme, activities, programming, and music.
- b. Chairperson Moore reached out to all Boards and Commissions to ask who would be interested in participating. Vice-Chair Hernandez spoke about KultureCity, the nation's leading non-profit on sensory accessibility. He would like the city to become a partner with this group. Commissioner Stoute-Smith continues to have conversations with restaurants to see if they wish

to participate at the event. Commissioner Hollins reached out to REV-UP Texas. REV-UP Texas works with people with disabilities, their family members, supporters, professionals, the public, and policymakers on issues affecting the integration of people with disabilities of all ages into every aspect of community living. She wants to help provide the differently-abled community education on voter registration. Commissioner Urrutia is looking for new marketing materials to promote the event.

6. Review Women's Equality Day Proclamation

- a. The Commission reviewed the Women's Equality Day Proclamation that will be presented to City Council August 16th.
- b. Commissioner McKee made a motion to approve The Women's Equality Day Proclamation as is, Commissioner Urrutia second, the motion passed unanimously.

7. Chiesa Road Project Discussion

- a. Munal Mauladad, Managing Director of Community Development and Engineering updated the Commission of the Chiesa Widening Project. She mentioned staff is currently conducting community outreach and working on capturing historical information of the area.
- b. Mayor Margolis would like to capture the history by interviewing the families and have the City's Creative Service Producer, Drew Rist involved in this process.

8. Committee Reports

a. Communications Committee

- I. Commissioner Spencer is working on various marketing outlets to give the Commission more exposure.

b. Community Outreach Committee

- I. Commissioner Urrutia informed that the presence at the 4th of July event was a success.
- II. Ms. Urrutia gave an update of the committee's progress with their strategic goals for 2022 that entails marketing and promotions.
- III. Chairperson Moore asked to have all the Commission's events and current news be sent through the city's Notify Me communication outlet.

c. Government Processes and Programs Committee

- I. Commissioner Hollins provided an update on what the Government Processes and Programs Committee has worked on this year. She mentioned voter education, website accessibility, mental health assistance for the community, the MLK Community Service partnership with the Rowlett Veterans Resource & Outreach Center (VROC) and the engagement with the Crisis Response Team.
- II. Chairperson Moore asked about the Equity Action Plan highlighted on the plan of work for this group. The committee mentioned continuous work on this.

d. Chairs Committee

- I. Vice-Chair Hernandez met with the Civilian Oversight Subcommittee. The subcommittee is making progress on the work they plan to execute. Mr. Hernandez would like to see collaboration between the newly formed City Council Public Safety subcommittee under this committee.
- II. Chairperson Moore mentioned that August 16th is the planned joint meeting with City Council. The Women’s Equality Day Proclamation will be read on that day as well.
- III. Chairperson Moore and Vice-Chair Hernandez will be meeting with the Chief of Police candidates to ask questions that relate to diversity, equity, and inclusion. She asked the Commission for input on questions to ask the candidates.

9. Update from City Council Liaison

- a. Mayor Margolis provided city-wide updates on news and events currently affecting our community.
- b. Boards & Commissions membership renewal is due early September.
- c. City Council will be appointing a Charter Review Committee. Committee members who share an interest can reach out to Mayor Margolis.

10. Update from City Staff Liaison

- a. Tara Bradley, Neighborhood Planning Supervisor provided updates on current new and events that the Neighborhood Planning team is working on, to include the second Neighborfest event taking place at Cedar Bridge Park, on Saturday, July 23rd from 7-9 pm.
- b. She also mentioned that members of the community would like to participate in planning next year’s Juneteenth event.

11. Public Announcements

None

12. Agenda Items for Future Meetings

- a. 2023 Trunk or Treat

13. Adjournment 8:42 pm



Diana Moore, Chair Date 8/17/22



Lilyana Morejon, Staff Date 8/17/22